

# **Rules of Play**

#### **Contents**

25 blue-backed cards showing one circus animal (elephant, horse, dog, bear, or tiger) in one of five different colors (red, blue, green, yellow, purple)

25 yellow-backed cards (four circus animals in four different colors)

# **Object**

One colorful circus animal is missing from each yellow card. The first player to find the missing animal collects the card. The player with the most cards wins.

# Setup

Before playing, look over all of the cards and notice that there are five different circus animals: an elephant, bear, dog, horse and tiger. Also note that the animals come in five different colors: red, blue, green, yellow and purple. Separate the cards into two decks based on card back color and shuffle them separately. Stack the yellow cards face down in the middle of the playing area. Scatter the 25 blue cards face up around the yellow deck so that the animals are visible to all players.



# **How to Play**

The youngest player turns over the top yellow card and places it face up on top of the pile to reveal a picture of four circus animals in four different colors. Without taking turns, all players scramble to figure out which animal and which color is missing from the picture.

The first player to slap the correct card containing the missing animal in the missing color collects the face up yellow card. Then, that player turns over the next yellow card to start a new round.

For example, if the turned-over card shows a yellow tiger, a blue bear, a red dog and a green elephant, which animal is missing? There is no horse, and there is no purple. So hurry and find the



Note: Throughout the game, the single animal cards always stay in place, face up in the same position in the playing area.

#### **Ending the Game**

When the last yellow card has been turned over and the last matching animal has been found, all players count up their cards. Whoever has the most wins.

#### A Word From Gamewright

One of the wonderful things about the circus is that it offers excitement and entertainment for children as well as for adults. On a much smaller scale, *Big Top* does the same. At one level, young players are drawn to the game's colorful theme and simple play structure. On another level, there's something about the visual perception element that offers an appealing challenge to adults. So step right up and enter this five-ring circus of fun for all ages!

# - The Gamewright Gang

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