

A game for
2 - 5 players
by Stefan Feld

It HAPPENS..



Object of the game

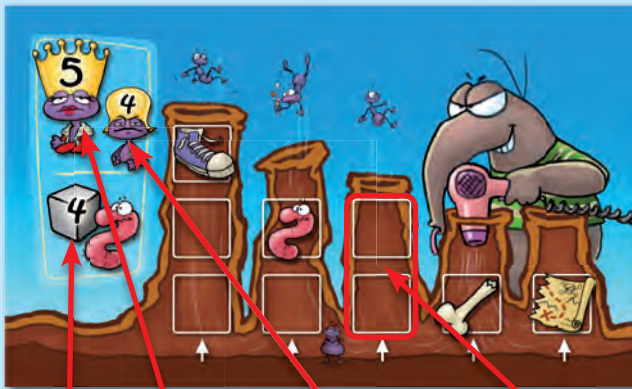
Anton the adventurous anteater is looking for food. Being curious by nature, he pokes his long snout in every termite mound he comes across. In doing so, he unearths not only termites and worms, but also odds and ends. The termites'

Queen and her General are Anton's main objects of desire because they are worth the most victory points. The players act as Anton. Who will use their dice best and win the game?

Game components

- 12 termite mounds – large cards with 5 columns each used for foraging. Each card also shows a worm space and the victory points gained by the best player (Queen) and second best player (General).

- 24 worm tiles



Worm space

Victory points for Queen

Victory points for General

Column used for foraging

- 32 lost and found tiles – showing all kinds of artifacts which the anteater finds in the termite mounds.

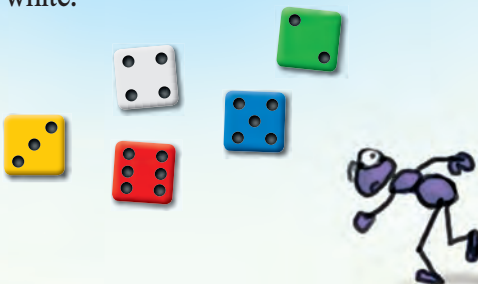


- 24 victory point tiles – values ranging from 2-9.



- 1 rules leaflet

- 25 dice – 5 each colored yellow, red, green, blue, and white.



Setup

Place the **worm**, the **lost and found** and the **victory point** tiles face up on one side of the playing area, sorted by type.

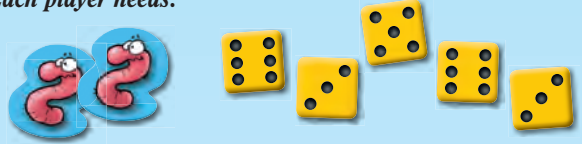
Shuffle the **termite mounds** and stack them face down next to the tiles.

Each player takes **5 dice** of a color of their choice and **2 worm tiles** from the common supply.

The hungriest player starts the game.



Each player needs:



Playing the game

The game lasts for **4 rounds**.

The top **three** termite mounds are revealed and placed face up in the middle of the playing area at the beginning of each round. The corresponding victory tiles are placed beside each mound.

A player performing their turn rolls **one** of their dice and places it on a **free** space on one of the three mounds, keeping the same number just rolled face up in position on the mound.

Follow these rules when placing your die:

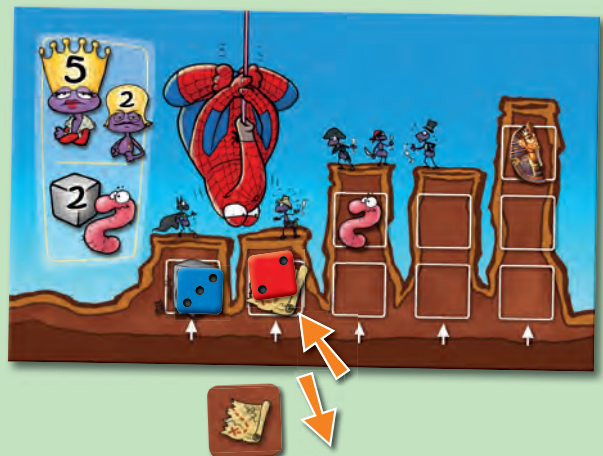
- No more than **one** die is allowed on any space.
- A player's **first** die on a mound **must** be placed in the **leftmost** free column.
- The die **must** be placed in the **lowest** free space of the column.
- Each player is restricted to **one** column only on each mound. No other player is allowed to place their dice in this column.

If a player is placing their die on a space depicting an item or a worm, then the player takes either the matching item tile or a worm tile from the common supply. The players keep any such tiles acquired face up in front of them. These tiles are worth **victory points** at the end of the game.

Worm tiles may be exchanged for performing a bonus **special action** during a player's own turn. In order to perform **one** special action, the player must return **one** of their worm tiles to the common supply.



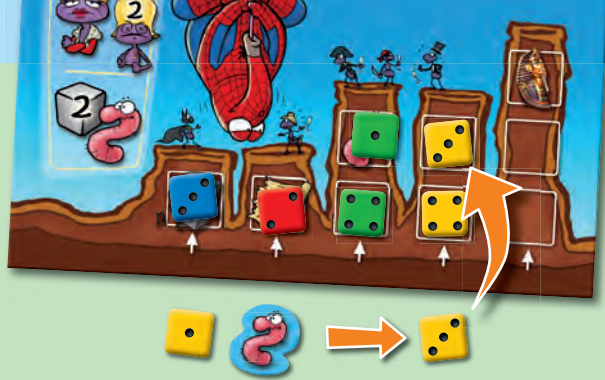
Example: It's Green's turn and she must place her die. She cannot place it on any occupied spaces, because only 1 die is allowed on each single space. She may not place in the first two columns because these are claimed by other players. She must place her die on the lowest space of the third column because she has to place it on the lowest space of the leftmost free column.



These are the two **special actions**:

- The player may **reroll** their die. They may do this as often as they want, but have to return one of their worm tiles for each reroll. If the player does not want to spend another worm tile or cannot do so they must accept their last roll.
- The player may **pass**.

After a player has ended their turn the next player in clockwise direction performs their turn.



Yellow had rolled "1". Because that is not sufficient to reach the highest total on this mound he decides to discard one worm and roll again. This time he rolls "3" and places his die on the mound.

When all dice have been placed or no more dice can be placed according to the rules the round ends and **each termite mound is evaluated separately**:

Please note: If a player cannot place any more dice without breaking the rules their turn is skipped for the remainder of this round.

Evaluation of termite mounds

The player with the **highest total** of their dice numbers on a **single mound** receives the victory point tile for best player (Queen).

The player with the **second highest total** of their dice numbers on a **single mound** receives the victory point tile for second best player (General).

In case of a tie, the victory point tile is awarded to **that one** of the players concerned whose dice are the furthest left on this mound being scored.

The players keep their victory point tiles **face down** in front of themselves.

If any player's total exactly matches the **number** given in the **worm space** of a single mound, they receive **1 worm tile**.



Evaluation example of a mound:

Blue does not gain anything!

Red matches the number of the worm space so he takes a worm tile from the supply.

Green's total is second best on this mound so he takes the General's tile (2 victory points).

Yellow has reached the highest total (7) so she gains the Queen's tile (5 victory points).

After all three termite mounds have been evaluated all players retrieve their dice. The three termite mounds are removed from the game and the next three are revealed. The next player in clockwise direction becomes the new start player.

You are now ready to play the next round.



End of the game

The game ends after four rounds have been completed. The **final scoring** is done now.

Each player counts their victory points:

- Each type of item of which the player owns **more than one** is worth.....**5** victory points
- Each worm tile is worth.....**1** victory point
- Each victory point tile is worth its imprinted value

Additionally, the player owning the **most different** types of items gains **10** victory points.

In case of a tie for the **most different types** of items all players concerned gain **10** victory points each.

The player with the most victory points is the best ant eater and winner of the game.

If there is a tie for the most victory points then that player of those concerned is the winner who owns the most Queens. If there is still a tie between those players, that player of those concerned is the winner who owns the most Generals. If there is still no winner, that player of those concerned wins the game who owns the most worms.

Example: Yellow has collected the following tiles:



<i>2 maps, 2 sneakers:</i>		
<i>5 victory points per type;</i>	$2 \times 5 =$	<i>10 VP's</i>
<i>1 bone, 1 eyeglasses, 1 speaker:</i>		<i>0 VP</i>
<i>zero points;</i>		
<i>3 worm tiles:</i>	$3 \times 1 =$	<i>3 VP's</i>
<i>Queen's tiles:</i>	$9 + 5 + 4 =$	<i>18 VP's</i>
<i>General's tiles:</i>		<i>3 VP's</i>
<i>Total:</i>		<i>34 VP's</i>

If no other player has collected more than 5 different items she gains 10 VP's additionally for having collected the most different types of items.

Rules for two ant eaters

The following rules changes apply for two players:

Both players agree on a **third color**. Both players take 2 dice of this third color **additionally**. This color belongs to an imaginary third player. Each player is now playing with **7 dice** total.

As long as a player is holding dice of both colors, they decide the color of the die they want to roll and place. The rules for placing dice remain unchanged!

No worm tiles may be used for the third color. Victory points are awarded to the imaginary player as usual when evaluating the mounds and doing the final scoring - they may even win the game!

