

Teacher
Notes

Foraging Badgers & Wriggly Worms

Outline

This is a new take on the old game of Snakes and Ladders with a few twists:

- badgers form ladders and worms play the snake;
- to move around the board, pupils will be required to answer a number of questions;
- to answer the questions, pupils will need to read an introduction to key badger facts sheet;
- to play the game, children will be required to read and understand detailed and slightly complex game instructions

Learning objectives

- To assimilate and recall knowledge and understanding on badgers from written text.
- To assimilate and sequence a range of instructions to play the game.

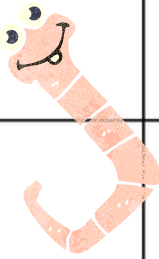
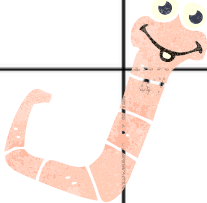

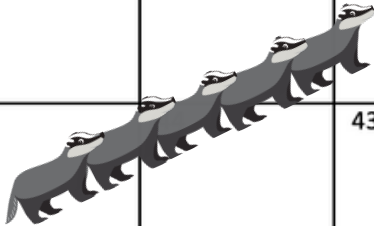

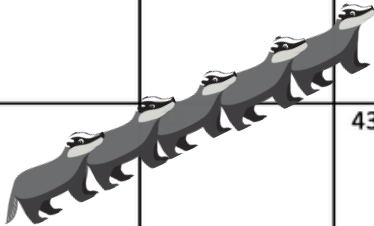
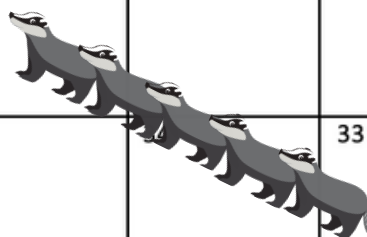

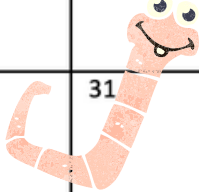
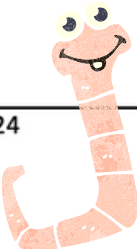
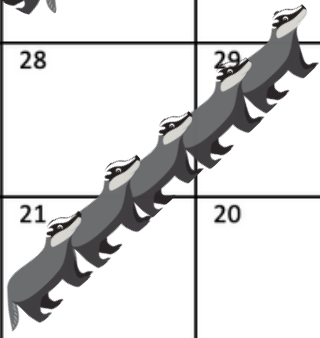
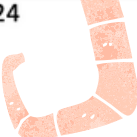


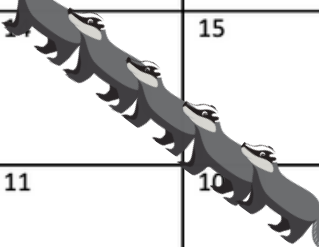
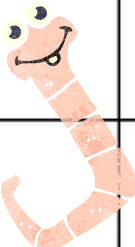

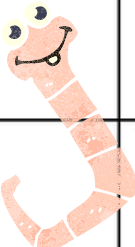

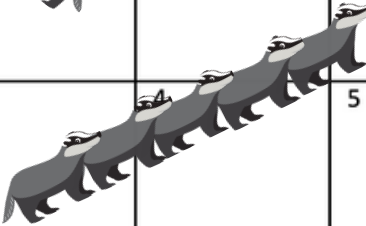
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KEY STAGE
1

Foraging Badgers & Wriggly Worms

A new take on Snakes & Ladders



60	59	58 	57	56	55
49	50 	51 	52	53 	54
48 	46	45	44 	43	
37	38 	39	40	41	42
36	35	34 	33	32	31 
25 	26	27	28	29 	30
24 	23 	22	21 	20	19
13	12 	15	16	17 	18
12	11	10 	9	8	7 
1 	2	3	4 	5	6

Foraging Badgers & Wriggly Worms

Before you start, read this sheet **and** the "Know your Badgers" sheet or ask an adult to help you.

Decide who will be Player 1 and who will be Player 2. Player 1 should take the Question sheet for Player 1 and Player 2 should take the Question sheet for Player 2.

The object of the game is to get your badger from the sett and into the field so that he or she can feed.



Whoever gets there first is the winner. You don't need to roll the exact number to finish.

You will need one die and 2 counters to play the game.

How to play

Roll a die.



Move forward the number of squares shown.

You now have to answer a question to move additional squares (though you do not have to answer if doing so will take you down an earthworm).

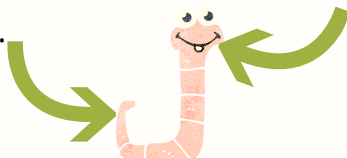
- If you get a 1, 2, or a 3, you have to answer a 1 point question.
- If you get a 4, you have to answer a 2 point question.
- If you get a 5, you have to answer a 3 point question.
- If you get a 6, you can choose what level of question to answer.

If you answer the question correctly, you move forward an additional square for a 1 point question, 2 squares for a 2 point question and 3 points for a 3 point question.

If you land on a badger's tail, you can go UP to the square where the top head in the clan lands.



If you land on an earthworm's head, you must go DOWN to the square where his tail ends.





Foraging Badgers & Wriggly Worms

Know Your Badgers!

Badgers (*Meles Meles* in Latin) are mammals. There are different types of mammals. Badgers belong to the group of mammals called **mustelids**. Weasels, stoats, pine martens and otters are also mustelids.

A badger's home is called a **sett**. Setts are mostly found in **woodland** or the steep banks of old footpaths and bridleways. Setts are made up of tunnels with 'nesting chambers' in which they sleep. Badgers dig these setts using their powerful front legs. Their front paws have **5 strong claws** on each paw. Badgers keep their setts clean.

Badgers mostly go to the loo above ground. They dig small holes called **dung pits**. Often these are some way from the sett. A collection of dung pits is called a **latrine**.

Badgers in Britain live in groups called **clans**. Males are called **boars**, females are called **sows**. The young are called **cubs**. Sows normally have **2 or 3 cubs** but may have more. Cubs are usually born in **February**.

Badgers have a **white stripe**, called a **blaze**, down the middle of their face.

Animals who eat meat only are called '**carnivores**'. Those who eat plants only are called 'herbivores'. Animals who eat both meat and plant matter are 'omnivores'. Badgers are **omnivores**, although their favourite food is **earthworms**. They will eat up to **200** of these a night. They generally like to find them in grassland. In **Autumn**, they eat even more food to fatten up before the cold winter.

Badgers come out at night. The word for an animal that comes out at night is '**nocturnal**'.

To see a badger, you generally need to be out late at night, very quiet and still. Make sure the wind is blowing into your face so that the badger can't smell you as a badger's **sense of smell is 700 times** better than yours! Good luck with your badger watching!!

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Questions for
Player 1
to ask

Foraging Badgers & Wriggly Worms

1 point questions

1. What colour is the blaze down the middle of a badger's face?
2. What is the correct term for a baby badger?
3. What is the correct name for a female badger?
4. What is the name of the badger in *Wind in the Willows*?
5. A badger can swim. True or False?



1 point answers

1. White
2. Cub
3. Sow
4. Badger or Mr Badger
5. True

2 point questions

1. How many cubs does a badger usually have? (a) 2 (b) 6 (c) 12
2. In what months are cubs usually born?
3. Was an old country term for badger? (a) brock, (b) brockle (c) badgie?
4. Up to how many earthworms does a badger eat per night? (a) 20 (b) 100 (c) 200
5. What is the correct name for a badger's toilet?



2 point answers

1. (a) 2 cubs normally
2. February
3. (a) brock
4. (c) 200
5. Dung pit or Latrine

3 point questions

1. What is the Latin name for badger?
2. What kind of mammal is a badger?
3. How many claws does a badger have on each front paw?



3 point answers

1. Meles Meles
2. Mustelid
3. Five

Questions for
Player 2
to ask

Foraging Badgers & Wriggly Worms

1 point questions

1. What is the name of a badger's home in the ground?
2. What is the correct name for a male badger?
3. Which House in the Harry Potter series has a badger in its emblem?
4. What is a badger's favourite food?
5. Badgers live alone. True or False?



1 point answers

1. Sett
2. Boar
3. Hufflepuff
4. Earthworm
5. False

2 point questions

1. What is the correct term for an animal that comes out at night?
2. What colour are the tips of a badger's ears?
3. How many times better is the badger's sense of smell than a human's?
(a) 100 (b) 700 (c) 1000
4. What's the correct name for an animal that eats plants and animals?
5. What is the correct name for a family of badgers?



2 point answers

1. Nocturnal
2. White
3. (a) 700
4. Omnivore
5. Clan

3 point questions

1. What kind of mammal is a badger?
2. In what season of the year are badgers heaviest?
3. How many badgers live in England?



3 point answers

1. Mustelid
2. Autumn
3. No one knows