

## Instructions

2-6 players

## Top Invasive Species

1. Deal all the cards out equally.
2. Players should hold their cards in a face-up stack so they can only see their top card.
3. The starting player chooses one attribute, everyone reads out the attribute value from their top card. Whoever has the highest value wins all the cards in that round.
4. The cards are collected by the winner and placed at the bottom of their stack.
5. Whoever won the cards then leads the next round, choosing any attribute to challenge on.
6. If a player runs out of cards they are out. The winner is the person who collects all the cards.

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7. In the event of a tie, all the players place their top cards from the round in the middle of the table.  
A next round is played (led by the same player as the previous round). The winning player of this round gets the cards from the round and the pile of cards from the last round.

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## Attributes

### Invasive score (0 - 10)

The overall invasive impact of the species.

### GB distribution (0 - 10)

The extent the species has spread across GB.

### Aggression (0 - 10)

The aggressiveness of the animal. Aggression can be an indicator of how invasive a species may be.

### No. young

The number of offspring produced or eggs laid per brood.

### From home

The distance the species is from its home / native range, in kilometres (km).

## Oak processionary moth



### Fact file

The caterpillars of this invasive moth can eat all the leaves off an oak tree.

The hairs on the caterpillars contain an irritant that causes skin rashes, eye irritation and breathing difficulties for humans.

Invasive score 6

GB distribution 1

Aggression 9

No. young 300

From home 1,500km

## Top Invasive Species

## Pink salmon



### Fact file

Occasionally found in GB but arrived in greater numbers in 2017 – possibly from stocked fish in Norway or Russia.

When spawning may disturb areas used by sea lamprey as nests and pearl mussels.

Invasive score 2

GB distribution 2

Aggression 1

No. young 1,900

From home 6,000km

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## Red-necked wallaby



### Fact file

Wallabies can be found on the Isle of Man where they escaped from a zoo and an island in Loch Lomond, where they were deliberately introduced.

More of an oddity than a threat at present.

Invasive score 1

GB distribution 1

Aggression 2

No. young 1

From home 15,000km

## Top Invasive Species

## American mink



### Fact file

Semi-aquatic mammal with dark brown or black fur, narrow snout and often a white chin patch.

Eats most things it finds and is primarily responsible for the decline of water voles.

Invasive score 9

GB distribution 9

Aggression 7

No. young 8

From home 5,000km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Asian hornet



### Fact file

A new arrival to GB via flowers, fruit and garden items. Larger than our native wasps - up to 3cm in length!

A highly aggressive predator which kills native honey bees.

Invasive score 9

GB distribution 1

Aggression 10

No. young 1,000

From home 9,000km

**Top Invasive Species**

## American Bullfrog



### Fact file

A large frog that predates on small pond creatures and carries an amphibian fungal disease. It's tadpoles are huge - four times larger than native tadpoles.

The bullfrog call sounds like a cow!

Invasive score 3

GB distribution 1

Aggression 2

No. young 20,000

From home 5,000km

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## Pacific oyster



### Fact file

Introduced to GB to be farmed for aquaculture (fish & shellfish farming).

It is one of the most globalised non-native species and can be found in countless countries around the world.

Invasive score 1

GB distribution 4

Aggression 0

No. young 60 million

From home 9,000km

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## Canada goose



### Fact file

Introduced to GB as an ornamental bird on estates and ponds.

They are very damaging to grasslands, pastures and crops through grazing and trampling - and are also a risk for plane collisions!

Invasive score 4

GB distribution 9

Aggression 2

No. young 9

From home 4,000km

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## Chinese mitten crab



### Fact file

Gets its name from its pincers which are covered in fine hairs - making it look like it is wearing 'mittens'.

Arrived in GB in the ballast tanks of ships and then released into several GB rivers.

Invasive score 8

GB distribution 3

Aggression 6

No. young 1 million

From home 8,000km

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## Grey squirrel



### Fact file

Originally released in GB by the Victorians.

They pose a threat to native red squirrels by outcompeting them for food and by spreading a Parapox virus which is deadly to native red squirrels.

Invasive score	6
GB distribution	8
Aggression	3
No. young	8
From home	5,000km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Killer shrimp



### Fact file

Despite being smaller than a 20p coin, this is a vicious predator that kills other water invertebrates.

It is easily spread on fishing gear, boats and wellies, so cleaning gear and good biosecurity is essential.

Invasive score	9
GB distribution	1
Aggression	10
No. young	200
From home	2,500km

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## Rainbow trout



### Fact file

Introduced from North America for fish farming and for recreational angling.

When released into rivers and lochs they compete with native fish species for food and habitats.

Invasive score	5
GB distribution	4
Aggression	2
No. young	8,000
From home	7,500km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Marsh frog



### Fact file

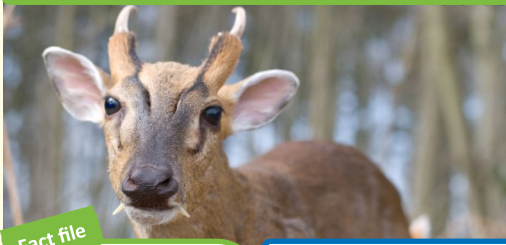
Most were introduced in GB as pets that escaped or were released into the wild.

Despite mainly eating invertebrates, can eat native fish, other amphibians or even young birds!

Invasive score	2
GB distribution	1
Aggression	3
No. young	1,000
From home	2,000km

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## Muntjac deer



### Fact file

Introduced in GB to deer parks and estates.

In dense populations they cause severe damage to trees and wild flowers.

They have two small tusks that make them look like vampires!

Invasive score	5
GB distribution	5
Aggression	1
No. young	1
From home	8,000km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Harlequin ladybird



### Fact file

Arrived in GB by flying across the English Channel and also by hitchhiking on imported fruit, flowers and vegetables.

They compete with native ladybirds for food and also eat their larvae.

Invasive score	6
GB distribution	5
Aggression	5
No. young	4,000
From home	7,000km

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## Red-eared terrapin

**Fact file**

A very popular pet in the 1980s, many were deliberately released into the wild when owners got bored with them.

They predate on native amphibians, insects and fish. They also disturb nesting birds.

Invasive score	2
GB distribution	1
Aggression	2
No. young	0
From home	6,500km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Ring-necked parakeet

**Fact file**

Originally brought to GB as a pet, a number escaped from captivity and established in the wild where they compete with native birds for food and nesting sites.

A population of these birds live in Glasgow!

Invasive score	3
GB distribution	4
Aggression	2
No. young	4
From home	7,500km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Sika deer

**Fact file**

Very common in northern Scotland. They both escaped from captivity and were deliberately released into the wild.

Cause damage to trees and vegetation and hybridise with native Red deer.

Invasive score	5
GB distribution	3
Aggression	2
No. young	1
From home	9,000km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Common pheasant

**Fact file**

Introduced for sport shooting, a massive 35 million birds are released in the British countryside every year.

They can conflict with native wildlife, damage farm crops and cause many traffic accidents!

Invasive score	4
GB distribution	10
Aggression	1
No. young	12
From home	8,000km

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## Rabbit

**Fact file**

Introduced by the Romans, there are an estimated 40 million rabbits in GB.

Rabbits have a huge negative economic impact - damaging crops and trees, costing hundreds of millions of pounds a year.

Invasive score	10
GB distribution	10
Aggression	1
No. young	20
From home	1,500km

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## Zebra mussel

**Fact file**

A small freshwater mussel - 2-4cm long - which attaches to solid surfaces and forms dense colonies.

Colonies clog water pipes and filters, foul boat hulls and lock-gates and interfere with fishing gear.

Invasive score	7
GB distribution	3
Aggression	1
No. young	1 million
From home	7,000km

**Top Invasive Species**



## Topmouth gudgeon

Image—Environment Agency

**Fact file**

Bought as pets for aquariums but escaped or were released into rivers.

Although small (up to 11cm) they impact on native species through competition, predation and carry diseases and parasites.

Invasive score	8
GB distribution	1
Aggression	4
No. young	3,000
From home	8,500km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Ruffe

Image—Environment Agency

**Fact file**

It is thought to have been introduced into Loch Lomond in 1982 by pike anglers as discarded bait.

The ruffe can compete with other species for habitats and food and eats the eggs of native fish species.

Invasive score	7
GB distribution	3
Aggression	4
No. young	200,000
From home	3,000km

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## Alpine newt

Image—NNSA Anevlisme

**Fact file**

This newt - native to central Europe - can become a threat to native newts and amphibians as it displaces them from their habitats. It is also a carrier of chytrid fungus which affects native amphibian species.

Invasive score	4
GB distribution	1
Aggression	2
No. young	500
From home	1,500km

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## New Zealand flatworm

**Fact file**

Brought to GB in the 1960's in the soil of imported plants.

Predates on native earthworms by wrapping their bodies around them and secreting digestive mucus to dissolve them before consuming them.

Invasive score	4
GB distribution	3
Aggression	8
No. young	100
From home	18,000km

**Top Invasive Species**

## American signal crayfish

**Fact file**

Very difficult to remove once it is established. Predates on native aquatic species, eats fish eggs and burrows into riverbanks destabilising them. Carries crayfish plague which is deadly to native crayfish species.

Invasive score	7
GB distribution	4
Aggression	6
No. young	400
From home	5,000km

**Top Invasive Species**

## Ruddy duck

**Fact file**

Brought to GB for private bird collections but escaped into the wild. Has been controlled and now less than 100 birds in the GB.

Threatens the endangered white-headed duck by interbreeding with them.

Invasive score	4
GB distribution	5
Aggression	1
No. young	10
From home	8,500km

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