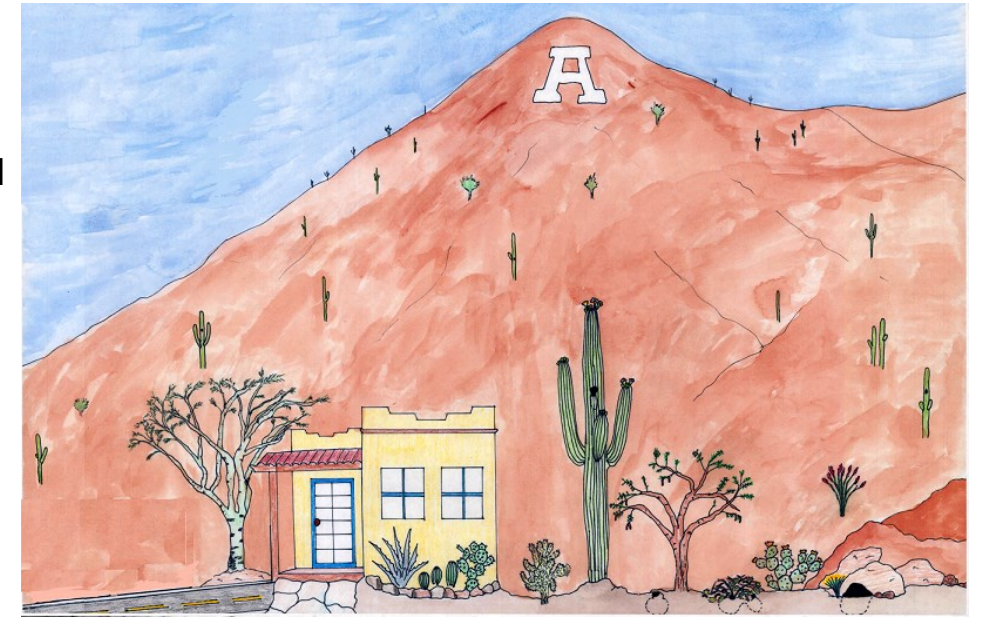


# Teacher Instructions

This game board represents A Mountain, a famous landmark in Tucson, Arizona. It is rich in desert plants like saguaro cacti and palo verde trees, as well as many animals.

There is another plant here that isn't from the Sonoran Desert. It is called buffelgrass. People brought it here to feed cattle and prevent soil erosion, but it has become invasive. It is a threat to the desert because it outcompetes native plants for water and soil nutrients and takes over habitat that normally supports a great diversity of desert life. In addition, buffelgrass creates fuel that can carry hot, deadly fires. Most of our native plants are not adapted to fire. In contrast, buffelgrass thrives on fire. If a fire occurs in an uninvaded desert setting, it burns out quickly, but if fire starts in a buffelgrass-invaded desert, it will spread rapidly as far as this fire-loving grass will carry it.



This game shows how buffelgrass spreads, why it is a problem, and what we can do about it.



We recommend making enough sets of the game for all students in your class to play in groups of 4-6 players

Prep—

- 1) Print the game summary, rules, game cards and dice from the Buffelgrass Game Components and Rules template (separate document on 8.5 x 11 inch paper). We recommend printing them in color and onto card stock to make the game components last longer.
- 2) Cut the Animal, Plant, Buffelgrass Seeds, and Buffelgrass Plant cards out along the dotted lines.
- 3) Prepare dice if not using store-bought dice (one die per game set.)
- 4) Print the game board from this document (four panels can be printed onto 11 x 17 inch sheets of paper, then laminated, or glued onto poster board.) Start overlaying the Game Board Panels at the Lower Left Panel and proceed in a counter clockwise fashion. Follow the instructions on each panel to cut out or keep edges for overlapping and adhering together. Save the Upper Left Panel for last and align the cacti and mountain edges to make the game board complete.
- 5) Trim outer edges to make the game board perfectly rectangular (optional.)

Play—

Have students lay out the games and follow the rules of play as listed on the Buffelgrass Game Rules sheet.

**Game Board Lower Left Panel.** Cut this paper strip away and overlay completely onto the Upper Left Panel 's bottom border. Line up the pictures evenly to make a seamless image, and glue or tape securely.



**Game Board Lower Left Panel.** Cut this paper strip away and overlay completely onto the Lower Right Panel border. Line up the pictures evenly to make a seamless image, and glue or tape securely.



**Game Board Upper Left Panel.** Keep this strip and align the cacti and mountain edges from the Lower Left Panel's and Upper Right Panel's borders. Save for last to glue or tape down once aligned.

Save for last to align and fix. Cut this strip off and overlay onto the left edge of the upper Right Panel. Tape or glue down.

Game Board Upper Right Panel. Keep this border for overlaying the Upper Left Panel. Overlay Lower Right Panel on lower edge.



Game Board Lower Right Panel. Cut this paper strip away and overlay completely onto the Upper Right Panel's bottom border. Line up the pictures evenly to make a seamless image, and glue or tape securely.



Keep this tab. Line up Game Board Lower Left Panel here and glue or tape.