

Look Out for the Lionfish!©

The Deck

The Seas the Shoal deck is used. Take four cards of each numbered sea life 1-12. Also take 1 lionfish card from the deck. There should be 49 cards. 4 cards for each of number 1-12 = 48 plus 1 lionfish card.

Object of the Game

The goal is to form and discard pairs of cards and not to be left with the lionfish card at the end.

The Deal

Any snorkeler shuffles the cards and deals them around, one at a time to each snorkeler, until all the cards have been handed out. Snorkelers do not need to have an equal number of cards.

The Play

Each snorkeler removes all pairs from their hand face down. If any snorkeler has three-of-a-kind, they remove only two of those three cards. The dealer then offers their hand, spread out face down, to the snorkeler on the left, who draws one card from it.

This snorkeler discards any pair that may have been formed by the drawn card. The snorkeler then offers their own hand to the snorkeler on their left. Play proceeds in this way until all cards have been paired except one - the lionfish, which cannot be paired - and the snorkeler who has that card is the Lionfish.

Fish Stories

If any snorkeler is found to have discarded two cards that are not a pair, causing three unpaired cards instead of one to remain at the end, the snorkeler who made the mistake loses and becomes the Lionfish.

For even younger snorkelers

Six species are used instead of all twelve sea life species. There always needs to be 1 lionfish card. So there would be twenty-five cards in the deck instead of 49.



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