

# Phylo – THE TRADING CARD GAME

Move over Pokemon and Top Trumps – whether you enjoy collecting and playing with trading cards, or are a complete beginner, but you love the Museum and the natural world, then the Phylo trading card game is perfect for you.

Take a look at [phylogame.org](http://phylogame.org)

Here you can print out a starter deck or, if you prefer, you can choose your own favourite plants and animals and build your own unique deck. Once you have some cards – you need 24 to get going – take a look at the rules and start playing. It's that simple.

The aim of the game is to create card networks – a bit like connecting dominoes – to build an ecosystem. **Species cards** can be linked by common terrain (desert, underwater, rainforest), climate (temperate, tropical, arctic) and food needs (carnivore, herbivore). You can also challenge (and upset) a player's ecosystem with **event cards** such as habitat loss, a severe drought or migration of species.

Right now, there's around 200 cards available, but with continual input from scientists, artists and gamers you can discover a new card on the website almost every day and everything is free.

Especially for *Second Nature* readers, the Museum and the Phylo project have created a special starter deck showing creatures (species) you can find in the galleries or Wildlife Garden. One species can be found at The Natural History Museum at Tring – do you know which one? Just look for the Natural History Museum link on the website, download it, and see if you can find all the creatures when you next visit.

Want to get more involved? You can contribute images to the Phylo project. Upload your images onto your Flickr account, then add them to one of three groups on the website: illustration, photography or school. To set up a free Flickr account, please visit [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)

See this  
issue's poster  
for 36 cards to  
cut out and start  
playing with



WIN

£30 of Museum vouchers to spend in the Museum shops or online

The iconic blue whale in *Mammals* is a huge life-size model. Send us a drawing of this awesome mammal and, if your picture is chosen, you will see it featured on the blue whale trading card, as well as winning £30 of gift vouchers.

Entries must be submitted on a landscape A4 sheet of white paper. Please do not write anything on the drawing, but include the details requested below on a separate piece of paper.

Please send your drawing with your name, age, address and Membership number to *Second Nature*, Membership Office, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD.

Send your entries in before 31 March 2011.

With thanks to David Ng,  
Special Projects and Innovations