

How to Play

You are playing as a team and trying to help the water vole reach her burrow. She needs a clear pathway without any dangers.

Spin the spinner.

If the spinner lands on water, grass or rock, place the picture piece showing either water, grass or rock anywhere on the board.

If the spinner lands on the American mink, remove a water piece from the board (if there are no water pieces on the board, spin again to continue play).

Grass and rock pieces stay on the board, once placed.

Game ends when all grass and rock pieces have been placed on the board or within a specified time limit.

To win the game, there must be a clear stream of water from the left side of the board to the right – i.e. the water hexagons must be next to each other and cannot be blocked by grass or rocks. It is possible that the game ends and you do not win.

THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CHARITY

American mink are a non-native introduced species and they eat water voles. The water vole's usual defence of diving underwater and kicking up a screen of dirt doesn't deter the American mink. Sometimes the water vole is not even safe in the burrow as a female mink can fit into the burrow and then wipe out the entire family. American mink are currently being controlled.