Go to the Dam Boardgame

A summer monsoon rain has filled the dam near Jan's house with water. Jan's Grandpa Sam and Grandma Kim live just down the road from Jan. They have invited Jan, her sister Gret, and their dog Tup to hike to the dam for a picnic. Grandpa Sam will bring his pig Pam.

Summer in the desert is hot so the hikers must stop from time to time to rest. Jan brings a book so she can read to Tup whenever they take a break. Pam the pig likes to be read to as well, but she is also very curious and playful. She likes to wander here and there to see what she will find. She also likes to play pretend.

Before they go to the dam, Grandpa and Grandma have a few errands they must do. First, they must get a Pig Yum for Pam to have at the dam. Then they must go to Quin and Dave's house. The boys are on vacation with their parents and their dog Bade. Grandpa and Grandma are feeding the boys' pet bugs and their cat. Then they must stop at the Vet Hospital to say hi to Liz and Chad the cat.

The hike from the Vet Hospital to the dam is long. Tup and Pam may get bored. There are also a lot of cactus with sharp pokies. They must be careful that they don't run into a cactus and get stuck.

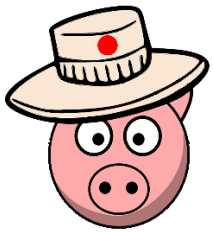
Playing the Game

Choose your character. Are you Jan, one of her friends, or maybe one of Tup's friends? Make a stack of Tup cards and a stack of pig cards.

Start at the green dot by Pam's Mud Pen. Roll the die (that's what one dice piece is called) and move that many dots forward. Make sure to bring Tup with you.

Tup will stop along the path so you can read to him. When you get to a dot with Tup, pick the top Tup card and read it. You can also use cards from the Pre-Reading materials or you can make up Tup cards for math problems, questions to answer, or other activities.

If you land on a dot with Pam the Pig, pick a card with her picture on the back. Pam is very curious and friendly, so she just might join you when you follow the directions on the card. If your card has her picture, follow her and wait there until your next turn. There's a good chance she'll wait with you.



The game can be over when everyone gets to dam. If you have adults with you while you're at the dam, enjoy a nice cool swim. Look and see how many summer tadpoles you can count. Enjoy the water because soon the hot desert sun will dry it up.

You can quit now, you can turn around to take Pam back to her Mud Pen, or you can stay at the dam just a bit longer and read more to Tup. Whatever you choose, Tup hopes you'll read to him.

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