

St. Matthew's "Go Fish!"

Here's a step-by-step guide on how to play Go Fish with a standard deck of cards:

Players:

- Ideal for 2 or more players.
- Best with 3-6 players.

Objective:

- The goal is to collect sets of four cards of the same rank (e.g., four Kings, four Aces).

Setup:

1. Deal Cards: Shuffle the deck and deal 5 cards to each player if there are 3-4 players. If there are more than 4 players, deal 7 cards each.

Game Play:

1. *Starting the Game:* The player to the left of the dealer goes first.
2. *Asking for Cards:*
 - On your turn, ask any one opponent if they have a card of a specific rank that you already have at least one card of in your hand. For example, "Do you have any Queens?"
 - You must have at least one card of the rank you are asking for. If the player you ask has any cards of that rank, they must give all of them to you.
3. *Go Fish:*
 - If the player you ask does not have any cards of the requested rank, they say "Go Fish!".
 - You then draw the top card from the deck and add it to your hand.
4. *Completing Sets:*
 - If you receive a card from another player that completes a set of four cards of the same rank (e.g., four 5s), place the set face-up in front of you on the table.
5. *Ending Your Turn:*
 - Your turn continues until you do not get the card you asked for when you "Go Fish".
 - Play passes to the next player clockwise.
6. *Winning the Game:*
 - The game ends when all sets of four cards (books) have been collected.
 - The player with the most sets (books) at the end of the game is the winner.

Additional Rules:

- If you run out of cards in the draw pile, shuffle the discard pile (except for the top card) to form a new draw pile.
- Players can only ask for ranks they already have at least one card of in their hand.

Tips:

- Encourage players to pay attention to what cards others are asking for and collecting to strategize their own requests.
- The game involves memory and strategy, making it both fun and educational for children.

Enjoy playing Go Fish! It's a classic game that's great for building social skills and keeping everyone entertained.