## FASTS Slorus <br> The fast race game by Friedemann Friese for 2-5 lazy Sloths

## THE SLOTH RACE STORY

You are Sloths - cuddly, lazy, and (oh well) slothful.
All Animals (including humans) like to take vacations, so everyone is together at a country resort. You Sloths are sitting around in your beloved trees, of course, while all the other Animals are running throughout the resort. You want to look around, too, and traveling around the resort to pick up tasty Leaves would be great — but running around yourselves is just too tedious. All the other Animals are having fun, and you want that, too, but...you are so slothful.

And then you have an idea: You'll let yourselves be carried around by the other Animals, thus getting around nicely. The other Animals have so much energy that they will gladly carry you. They aren't slothful! Which of you Sloths will be the first to get through the entire country and be victorious? You are ambitious, but so lazy!

## GAME COMPONENTS

## Your copy of Fast Sloths contains:

- A two-part \& double-sided giant Game Board
- 5 Sloth Boards (one for each Sloth)
- 5 wooden Sloths (one for each Sloth)
- 45 wooden Leaves ( 9 for each Sloth)
- 34 Animal Discs (for 12 Animal Species)
- 120 Cards (10 each for 12 Animal Species)
- 1 sticker sheet (for Animal Discs and wooden Sloths)
- 1 Overview Sheet
- This Rules Booklet



## THE IDEA OF THE SLOTH RACE

Fast Sloths is a race game that at its core is a classic pick-up-and-deliver game - except that you yourselves are the cargo being delivered. You are being carried along the whole way and never take a single step on your own!

You always play with 6 out of 12 different Animal Species, and you can place the giant Game Board in 4 different combinations. On a turn, you draw 2-3 Cards of different Animal Species from the top of their face-up decks, then you play as many Animal Cards as you like of a single Species. Each Animal Species provides a different type of movement or interaction with you, with ants carrying you along in a chain, or the elephant throwing you with its trunk.

Fast Sloths is a game free from randomness that evolves only through the interaction between the players, doing so without any "take that" mechanisms except for you snatching an Animal from under the other players' noses because you need to use it yourself.

Each race offers new challenges for you to get to the different trees faster than the other Sloths. Enjoy all 256 different combinations, each with countless starting positions of the Animals on the Game Board...

## BEFORE THE FIRST GAME

To prepare the wooden Tokens and Discs before the first game, you need to place the Sloth stickers on both sides of the Sloth Tokens and the Animal stickers on one side of all the Animal Discs.

Place the Cards and Discs of each Animal Species in a separate ziplock bag.


## GAME PREPARATION FOR THE FIRST GAME \& SOME BASICS

So you can start the race in Fast Sloths, against your lazy Sloth nature, you need to prepare some game components.
As shown in the big picture, place the two-part Game Board onto the table, and place your Sloth Boards and Sloths in front of yourselves.

In your first game, you play with the following six Animal Species: The Donkeys (3 Discs),
The Unicorn (1 Disc), The Crocodiles (2 Disss), The Elephants (2 Diss), The Eagle (1 Disc) and The Ants ( 10 Discs).
As shown in the big picture, place the Animal
Discs onto their given starting spaces of the


Do not worry about the other 6 Animal Species and different Game Board configurations.
We will explain these details after you finish your first game of Fast Sloths.

Each of the 6 Animal Species has their own Card Stack with 10 Cards. Each Stack of Cards is placed face up with all Cards in ascending order from low to high.
Example: The Cards of the Donkey are Stacked as follows:


Topmost Card ...
.... bottommost Card.
Not all Animal Species have these values, some of them prefer their own values. But they always have 10 Cards!

The big picture shows the game preparation for 3 Sloths!

As Sloths, you are only interested in collecting your own Leaves. For each Sloth participating in the race, place one of their Leaves each on all of the $\mathbf{9}$ trees on the Game Board.

$\square$

Determine the starting Sloth, who will start the race in a few moments.
But first, you all choose your starting trees. Of course, you choose a tree to start, because you collect your first Leaf even before the race starts! Remember, you are all lazy, and trees are your homes.

The last Sloth chooses their starting tree first (this is only fair, that the last Sloth starting in the race can pick the best starting tree). Then, the other Sloths choose another empty tree in reverse play order.
Place your Sloth Token onto the chosen tree, and place your Leaf from that tree onto the leftmost space of your Sloth Board.

You start with no Cards in your hand!

Before explaining the rule details on the next pages, we will give you some more basics.
During the race, you will never move yourselves. You are lazy Sloths, barely motivated to collect the Leaves... on the space, you are hanging in a tree.

Instead, you use the Animals to carry you around. To do so, you collect and play the Cards of the 6 Animal Species to move their Discs as far as possible across the Game Board. At the start you only get low valued Cards, $s 0$ the Animals will be slow. As you take one Card after the other from the top of the Stacks, their values will increase, and the Animals will speed up.

Unfortunately, after you take the first 10 Cards, the Animals will slow down again drastically. After playing Cards of an Animal Species, you place these Cards again face up by ascending value below the matching Stack. Thus, you never shuffle these Card Stacks, you only cycle through them during the game.

The Game Board shows seven different landscape types:
resort, forest, hill, 성 mountain, river, bridge. The different Animal Species only move across certain landscape types, as you can see on their Cards. The paths connecting the resorts are only for the Human, all other Animals ignore them!
The most important spaces for you as Sloths are the tree spaces, which are on resorts, forests, and plains:
8. Your Sloth Boards give you an overview of your actions.

In the column below the rightmost Leaf, you can check how many Cards you will draw, and how many Cards you can keep in hand at the end of your turn.
Each time you pick up the next Leaf, these values will get"worse". You can draw less Cards, must discard one of them... and you can keep less and less Cards in your hand.

Remember, getting Leaves is great, as you will win the race if you collect 8 of them before your opposing Sloths do it!

## HOW TO PLAY

Most important: In this race, you are the Sloths, so when we write "you", we always mean the Sloth Tokens. We use the term "Animal" exclusively for all the Animals (and Human) carrying you around.
Additionally, let us introduce Ronald. As you will read on the next pages, if Ronald understands the rules, really everybody will understand them. Years of experiences are $100 \%$ proof!
"YES, Ronald, really everybody. Thank you for asking (again)..."
Now, let us begin!
After choosing your personal starting trees, and collecting your first Leaf, you start the race.

Beginning with the starting Sloth, you always take turns in clockwise order.
There are 8 more Leaves for every Sloth on the Game Board. In this race, you only need to pick up 7 more of your Leaves, thus you can ignore one of them and still win the race! Try to find your personal best route from tree to tree, to visit "nearly" all the areas on the Game Board.

As you are carried around by the Animals, it is very important to keep their positions in mind. As the other Sloths use the same Animals to carry themselves around, these "stupid" Animals tend to move, and are not always exactly there, where you need them... or where you originally planned them to kindly be.

On your turn, you always play the following three steps:

## 1. Draw new Cards from different Animal Stacks (obligatory)

"YES, Ronald, you MUST do this. As it is always good to have more Cards, there is also no reason at all to pass on this."

## 2. Let an Animal carry you around (optional)

"YES, Ronald, you CAN pass on this. Still, as this is the only way to win the race, you usually want to do this during most turns."

## 3. Check your hand limit (obligatory)

"YES, Ronald, you MUST do this. Even if you do not like being required to discard Cards, as more Cards are better, you still need to follow our rules."

When one of you collect your $8^{\text {th }}$ Leaf, finish the round, so all Sloths have the same number of turns. Then, you determine the winner, and take a well deserved break from all this racing!

## YOUR TURN

Your Sloth Board always shows how many Cards you must draw, that an Animal can carry you, and how many Cards you can keep in hand. The column showing the current values is always directly below the rightmost Leaf.

## 1. DRAW NEW CARDS FROM THE DIFFERENT ANIMAL STACKS



As you start your first turn with a Leaf, you check the first column of your Sloth Board (A). The first row shows the number of Cards you must draw. At the start of the game, this is 3 Cards (B).

Draw the topmost Card of 3 of the 6 different Animal Stacks. Take these Cards in your hand. You cannot draw 2 (or more) Cards from a single Animal Stack. And you are not allowed to check the Stacks of Cards. You always only see the topmost Card of each Stack.
"NO, Ronald, you cannot draw 2 Donkeys. 'Different Animals' really means different Animals!"

After collecting the second Leaf © (and later in the game after collecting more Leaves), after taking the Cards in your hand, you must discard 1 Card of your choice from your hand (D). Place this discarded Card face up below the matching Animal Stack, so you will draw it later again.
"YES, Ronald, you must discard that Card. And NO, you cannot simply draw less Cards as shown on your Sloth Board. YES, it makes a difference to draw and discard, as all Animal Stacks should be in motion."


Example: The purple Sloth already collected 2 Leaves. At the start of its turn, it draws 3 Cards: 1 Donkey, 1 Crocodile, and 1 Eagle, and takes the Cards into its hand. Then, it must discard 1 of its Cards, and chooses 1 Unicorn, which it already had in hand.

## 2. LET AN ANIMAL CARRY YOU AROUND

## 2.


Now, you can choose to let an Animal carry you toward the other trees to collect the delicious Leaves. The second row on your Sloth Board reminds you of this (A). Remember that this step is voluntary, so you can pass. If you do so, please continue with step 3!
If you do not pass, play as many Cards of 1 Animal Species, adding up all their movement points. Move 1 Animal Disc of that Species by using the total sum of movement points.
"YES, Ronald, you really can only play Cards of 1 Animal Species, even if you usually have Cards from different Species in your hand. And even if there are several Discs for certain Species (e.g. 3 Donkeys), you must choose 1 of their Discs to move it around."

As you add up the movement points, sometimes you have 10 or more points at hand. Thus, an Animal Disc may run across 10 or more spaces during your turn. Ultimately. this is a race game, so if the Animals run around like crazy, we Sloths are OK with this.

Basically, use the following rules for moving an Animal Disc:
a) You can move any Animal Disc, there are no personal Animals for you!
"NO, Ronald, even if you always play with Elephants, in this race the other Sloths can move them, too."
b) For 1 point, you can move the Animal to the next adjacent space in any of the 6 possible directions, but only onto the landscape types listed on its Cards. Animals using the bridges, can only move on or off a bridge from the two directly adjacent land spaces! And only the Human follows the paths connecting resorts!


Example: The Unicorn moves on resorts, hills, plains, mountains, and across bridges.
c) You can move the Animal back and forth on the same spaces, as long as you spend the movement points. You can also move the Animal through a space occupied by another Animal Disc (you still spend that movement point), but it cannot stop there. The Animal can stop on a tree space with Leaves.
At the end of the movement, there cannot be 2 Animals on the same space. As a Sloth, you ignore such a restriction. On each space, there is always room for 1 Animal and any number of Sloths.
d) Once during the movement, the Animal can pick you up on its space or an adjacent space. The adjacent space can be a landscape type the Animal does not normally move through! Picking you up is free, it does not cost any movement points! If an Animal only crosses the river on the bridges, it can only pick you up there from the bridge or the two directly adjacent land spaces!
e) After picking you up, the Animal will carry you around until you either decide to stop early or use all movement points. Either will end the movement of the Animal!
f) At the end of its movement, the Animal drops you on a space of your choice, either onto the space of the Animal or an adjacent space. Same as picking you up, dropping you is free, it does not cost any movement points! Thus, you can never stay on the Animal to block it for the other Sloths. If an Animal only crosses the river on the bridges, it can only drop you there on the bridge or the two directly adjacent land spaces!
g) As shown on your Sloth Board, as a Sloth you sit on resorts, forests, hills, plains, and on bridges. You never want to be dropped on mountains or in the river. Animals can carry you across these landscape types, but cannot drop you there!
"NO, Ronald, even if you can swim or breath in thin air, as a Sloth you do not want to be dropped into the river or on a mountain."


Example: The purple Sloth plays 3 points for the Unicorn. The Unicorn moves 1 space (1.) and picks up the Sloth (2.) It carries the Sloth onto the bridge (3.). For the last point, the Unicorn cannot leave the bridge, as that space is occupied by an Ant. Thus, the Unicorn ends its movement on the bridge, and drops the Sloth onto the space with the Ant 4.), adjacent to the exit of the bridge.
h) When the Animal picks you up on a tree space, or walks on a space with a tree while carrying you, you collect your Leaf "on the go", even if the Animal continues to carry you to more spaces. If the Animal drops you on a space with a tree, of course you also collect your Leaf.
Immediately place the Leaf onto the leftmost empty space of your Sloth Board.
i) As soon as you are dropped, both you and the Animal stop to move, even if you still have movement points to spend. These points are lost.
j) At the end of this step, place all played Cards in ascending order face up

Those are the basics you need to know for the race.


Example: The green Sloth plays 3 points for the Crocodile. The Crocodile picks up the Sloth (1.) and carries it to the tree (2.) The Sloth collects its Leaf "on the go" (3.), before the Crocodile carries it one more space 4. Then, it drops the Sloth onto the forest (5.).

Important: Of course, all Animal Species have their own special abilities. These special abilities can contradict the basic rules, and always have priority!
"YES, Ronald, always follow the special rules, they allow stuff you really want to use to get ahead in the race!"

For your first game, please check the special abilities for the 6 Animal Species of this race in the chapter "The 12 Animal Species".

## 3. CHECK YOUR HAND LIMIT



This step is really easy. You need to check if you have too many Cards in your hand.
Check the column directly below your rightmost Leaf. The third row of the column shows your hand limit. During the first few turns, as long as you only have one or two Leaves, you can keep 7 Cards in your hand (A).
If you have more Cards in your hand than allowed by the hand limit, you must discard excess Cards from your hand. Choose the Cards you need to discard, and place them face up below the matching Animal Stacks. If you discard several Cards of the same Animal Species, place them in ascending order face up below the matching Animal Stack.

If you collect Leaves during the second step of your turn, your hand limit can change!

## WINNING THE RACE

When you collect your $8^{\text {th }}$ Leaf, finish your turn. In very rare cases, you may be able to collect all 9 Leaves, overachieving the goal of the race like an Animal (not as lazy as a Sloth).

The other Sloths, in clockwise order, continue the round, until all Sloths have played the same number of turns.

Now, the Sloth among yourselves with the most Leaves wins the race.
If there is a tie regarding most Leaves, the tied Sloth among yourselves with the highest total sum of movement points in hand wins the race. Simply add up all the points from all Animal Species on the Cards in your hand.
If there is still a tie, you are all far too lazy to care. Take a break and enjoy your collected Leaves!

## PREPARATION OF ALL FOLLOWING GAMES

After finishing your first game, you learned all basics of Fast Sloths. For all following games, please use these easy changes during preparation:

- Different Game Board: Choose 1 of the 4 different Game Board configurations by flipping the two parts of the Game Board.
- Different Animal Species: Choose 1 Animal Species of each of the following 6 pairs (this guarantees 64 different combinations of 6 Animal Species):


The Donkeys ORThe Rabbits


The Unicorn OR The Human


## The Rabbits (3 Discs) - purple

The Rabbits are fast runners on the plains.
Independent of the number of Cards you play for the Rabbit, add 2 movement points to your total of points.
The Rabbit only moves through plains.


## The Unicorn (1 Disc) - pink

The Unicorn is unique and always wants to be seen. Thus it will never hide itself in the forest. As it is smug, too, it avoids running long distances.
The Unicorn moves through resorts, hills, plains, and mountains. It moves across the bridges to cross the river!
You can only play a single Card per turn to move the Unicorn.


## The Human (1 Disc) - rose

For the Human, a relaxing holiday must be in resorts only ... Their slogan: You can see all the nature "on the run".
For every 3 movement points, the Human moves along a path from a resort directly to the next resort without stopping in between.

YES, Ronald, even if the yellow path is missing on the bridges, the Human runs across them to the next resort.

The Human picks you up either on or adjacent to a resort space, or while moving adjacent or on a space with a path. It only drops you on or adjacent to the resort space.


Example: The yellow Sloth plays 6 points for the Human.
For 3 points, the Human moves along the path to the first resort (1.), and for the remaining 3 points to the second resort (2.) While moving on the second path, the Human picks up the Sloth (3.) After stopping on the resort, the Human drops the Sloth onto the tree space, where the happy Sloth collects its next Leaf (4.).


## The Crocodiles (2 Discs) - green

The Crocodiles are good swimmers, but also move through the riverbanks.
Independent of the number of Cards you play for the Crocodile, add 1 movement point to your total of points.
The Crocodile moves through the river and directly adjacent riverbanks, if these are resorts, forests, and plains. It ignores the restrictions of entering and leaving the bridges.
The Crocodile cannot cross hinterland borders (borders, which are not next to river spaces).


Example: The shortest way for the Crocodile to get to the other side of the peninsula is moving 4 spaces 1. It cannot cross the hinterlands border between the two plains, as that border is not next to a river space (2.).


## The Dolphin (1 Disc) - blue

The Dolphin is the fastest Animal in this area. Sadly, its movement is restricted to the river.
The Dolphin moves through the river, thus it ignores the restrictions of entering and leaving the bridges.
As all tree spaces are on land, you cannot collect a Leaf"on the go" while being carried by the Dolphin.


## The Elephants (2 Discs) - gray

The Elephants are big and can easily walk through the river. As they have strong trunks, they can throw you a few extra spaces. Independent of the number of Cards you play for the Elephant, subtract 1 movement point from your total of points.
The Elephant moves through plains and the river, thus it ignores the restrictions of entering and leaving the bridges.
At the end of its movement, the Elephant throws you up to 3 spaces with its trunk, so you are flying this distance. To be clear, the Elephant drops you anywhere between its own space and up to 3 spaces away! It cannot throw you across mountains, but of course it can throw you like a curve ball.
If you fly across a tree space, you cannot collect your Leaf! You can only collect a Leaf while on the ground. Thus, if you are dropped on a tree space, you can pick up the Leaf.


Example: The yellow Sloth plays 3 points for the Elephant (subtracting 1 for a total of 2 movement points).
The Elephant picks up the Sloth (1.) and moves 2 spaces through the river, ignoring the restrictions of the bridge (2.).
At the end of its movement, it throws the Sloth 2 spaces to the tree space, so the happy Sloth can collect the Leaf (3.) By throwing the Sloth 3 spaces, it would have flown above the tree space, missing its Leaf.


## The Giraffes (2 Discs) - yellow

The Giraffe has an advantage with its long neck.
The Giraffe moves through plains and the river, thus it ignores the restrictions of entering and leaving the bridges.
With its long neck, the Giraffe picks you up and drops you again up to 2 spaces away. To be clear, the Giraffe does this anywhere between its own space and up to 2 spaces away. It cannot pick you up and drop you across mountains, but it can curve its neck. If the Giraffe lifts you across a tree space, you cannot collect your Leaf.


Example: In their respective turns, the Giraffe can pick up the yellow Sloth across the river (1.) , and the green Sloth by curving its neck (2.).
Even if the purple Sloth is also 2 spaces away, the Giraffe cannot pick it up, as it cannot reach across the mountains (3.).


## The Eagle (1 Disc) - light blue

The Eagle is like a taxi, really! I fyou call it, it comes for a price and picks you up, independent of the distance to come to you.
As opposed to all other Animals walking on ground, the Eagle flies during its movement. Only if it lands (and when none of you is moving it) it stays on resorts, forests, hills, plains, mountains, and bridges.
The Eagle flies across all landscape types!
You must play at least 6 movement points to activate the Eagle. Then, independent of where its Disc is staying, move the Eagle to your space or a space adjacent to you, even if there is another animal on that space. Then, the Eagle picks you up.
Then, the Eagle flies up to 6 spaces while carrying you, before it lands again on a space without another animal. Then, the Eagle drops you on its space or an adjacent space.
If you fly across a tree space, you cannot collect your Leaf! You can only collect a Leaf while on the ground. Thus, if the Eagle picks you up on a tree space, if it lands on a tree space, or if it drops you off on an adjacent tree space, then you can pick up your Leaf.


Example: The purple Sloth plays 6 points for the Eagle, so the Eagle flies across the Game Board to the adjacent space of the Sloth (1.) It picks up the Sloth and flies 6 spaces adjacent to the next tree space (2.) where it drops off the Sloth, which then collects its next Leaf (3.).


## The Mountain Goats (2 Disss) - ivory

The Mountain Goats are fabulous climbers, so walking through the mountains is simple for them.

The Mountain Goat moves through resorts, forests, hills, plains, and mountains. It moves across the bridges to cross the river!
The Mountain Goat enters or moves through mountains for 0 movement points.
After spending its last movement point, it cannot enter an adjacent mountain anymore.
"NO, Ronald. Even if entering the mountain does not cost a movement point, if you spend all points, the Mountain Goat stops."


Example: The Mountain Goat moves for 1 point onto the hill next to the mountain 1. Then, it enters the mountain area and moves to the rightmost mountain space for 0 points 2. . Finally, for moving onto the adjacent forest space, it needs 1 point (3.).


## The Ants (10 Discs) - dark red

The Ants act as a team, which first try to organize themselves into chains, and second will carry you around.


First, move the Ants: As opposed to most other Animals, first you move any number of Ants without them carrying you.

The Ants move through resorts, forests, hills, and plains. They move across the bridges to cross the river!

For 1 movement point each, you move any number of Ants of your choice space by space.
Second, the Ants carry you: After movement, for 1 point each, a chain of Ants picks you up and carries you to a space adjacent to them or on one of their spaces. Thus, if you have several points to spend, and several ants or chains of ants are close to each other, each of these chains picks you up one after the other. Each Ant only does that once, so you cannot use the same Ant twice in the same turn.


Example: The green Sloth plays 5 points for the Ants. For the first 2 points, two Ants each move 1 space 1.) \& 2. Then, for 1 point each, the two chains carry the Sloth to the tree (3.) \& 4.), where it collects its Leaf. Finally, for the last point the Ant carries the Sloth down to the hill (5.).


## The Orangutans (6 Discs) - brown

The Orangutans have long and strong arms. When they are sitting in the right places, they can throw you across some distance.
First, move the Orangutans: As opposed to most other
 Animals, first you move any number of Orangutans without them carrying you.

Orangutans move through forests and hills.
For 1 movement point each, you move any number of
Orangutans of your choice space by space.
Second, the Orangutans throw you: After movement, for 2 points each, an Orangutan picks you up and throws you up to 3 spaces, so you are flying this distance. To be clear, each Orangutan drops you anywhere between its own space and up to 3 spaces away! It cannot throw you across mountains, but of course it can throw you like a curve ball.
If you fly across a tree space, you cannot collect your Leaf! You can only collect a Leaf while on the ground. Thus, if you are dropped on a tree space, you can pick up the Leaf.


Example: The purple Sloth plays 6 points for the Orangutans. For 1 point, an Orangutan moves 1 space (1.).
Then, for 2 points, it picks up the Sloths and throws it 3 spaces next to the other Orangutan (2.).

For another 2 points, that Orangutan picks the Sloth up and throws it onto the tree space (3.) There, the happy Sloth collects its Leaf.

As the movement now ends, the Sloth cannot spend its 6 th movement point.

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