

The Mystery of the Missing Flowers

All of the minibeasts in the garden gathered for the flower parade. They were all so excited to see the Queen Bee on her float, surrounded by the beautiful flowers from the garden. However, when the Queen Bee got to her float, there were no flowers to be seen! Someone had taken all of the flowers out of the garden!

As Detective Chief Inspector on the case, it is your job to find out which minibeast took all of the flowers. You have taken down the names and descriptions of 20 minibeasts who live in the garden. There are also five important clues that have been discovered.

To crack the case, you will need to solve each clue and check the information with the list of names. Will you be able to solve the mystery and find the flowers before the flower parade is over?

Good luck!



Minibeast Descriptions

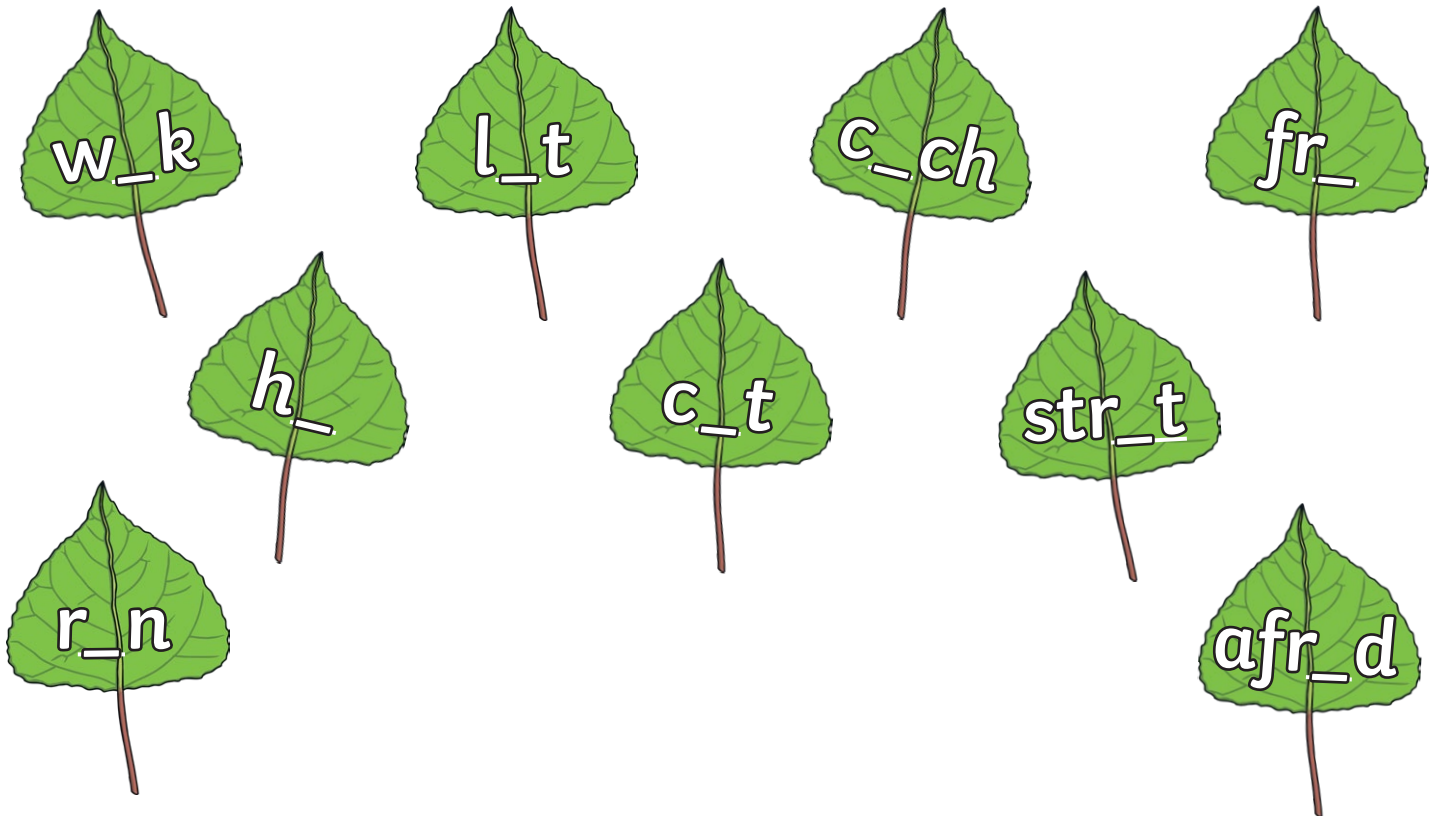
Type of Minibeast	Number of Legs	Number of Wings	Main Colour	Favourite Hiding Spot	Meat, Plants or Both?
ant	6	0	black	on the soil	both
bee	6	4	yellow	near the flowers	plants
beetle	6	4	black	under the rocks	plants
butterfly	6	4	red	near the flowers	plants
caterpillar	6	0	green	in the grass	plant
dragonfly	6	4	blue	in the grass	meat
earwig	6	4	brown	under the rocks	plants
flea	6	0	brown	in the grass	meat
fly	6	2	black	on the soil	both
ladybird	6	4	red	near the flowers	meat
locust	6	4	green	in the grass	plants
moth	6	4	brown	near the flowers	plants
scorpion	8	0	brown	on the soil	meat
slug	0	0	brown	on the soil	meat
snail	0	0	brown	in the grass	both
spider	8	0	black	near the flowers	meat
tick	8	0	brown	in the grass	meat
wasp	6	4	yellow	near the flowers	both
woodlouse	14	0	brown	under the rocks	plants
worm	0	0	pink	on the soil	both

The minibeast that took the flowers must be the _____.

Clue 1

They've Legged It!

Draw a line to match the word to the correct vowel grapheme. Make sure that you spell the words correctly. The vowel grapheme with the most matching words will show the number of legs the flower-stealing minibeast has.



ai

0

If **ai** is needed most, the minibeast has **no** legs.

ee

6

If **ee** is needed most, the minibeast has **six** legs.

igh

8

If **igh** is needed most, the minibeast has **eight** legs.

oa

14

If **oa** is needed most, the minibeast has **fourteen** legs.

The vowel grapheme with the most matching words is _____ so the flower thief must have _____ legs.

Clue 2

A Careful Look

Read the sentences below. Decide which suffix is needed to correctly complete the words. The suffix that is used the most will show you how many wings the flower-stealing minibeast has.

Sentence	-ing	-ful	-ly
The flies were buzz_____ around the garden.			
The weather was love_____ and the sky was blue.			
It was a wonder_____ day for all of the minibeasts.			
The minibeasts were extreme_____ excited to see the Queen Bee.			
Everyone was wait_____ to see the flower parade.			
The minibeasts were in a play_____ mood.			
The parade would be sad_____ spoiled without the flowers.			
The minibeasts prayed the flowers would be returned safe_____.			
They all hoped that the flower parade would be success_____.			
The Queen Bee brave_____ volunteered to find the flower thief.			

-ing

0

If **-ing** is used the most, the minibeast has no wings.

-ful

2

If **-ful** is used the most, the minibeast has two wings.

-ly

4





If **-ly** is used the most, the minibeast has four wings.

The suffix which is used most is _____ so the flower thief must have _____ wings.

Clue 3

Round and Round the Garden

By following the path of nonsense words, you will find out where the flower-stealing minibeast likes to hide.

Start					
quig	chip	queen	shell	thing	thump
perlain	sprain	sneak	beard	flower	bucket
flane	smofe	moush	cards	smart	glint
moonlight	pure	prie	flair	crept	spend
lantern	mue	spleam	shampoo	desktop	melting
handstand	lernaw	curfew	sandpit	helpdesk	sprout
carpet	whipher	kerneu	ploe	jauth	grunt
whisper	farmyard	lightning	market	harpey	spend
liquid	forget	windmill	smepe	plake	frost
jacket	blank	spring	berlone	shrink	scrap
		on the soil 	near the flowers 	under the rocks 	in the grass 

The flower thief's favourite place to hide is _____.

Clue 4

What a Load of Nonsense!

Read the words below. Decide if the word is a real word or a nonsense word. Count the number of real and nonsense words. The one with the most is what the flower-stealing minibeast eats.



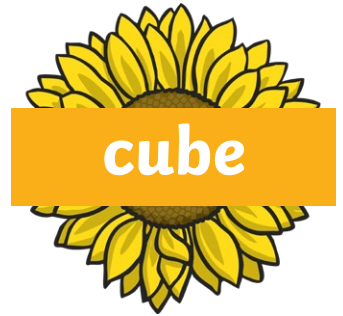
real
nonsense



real
nonsense



real
nonsense



real
nonsense

Plants

If there are more **real** words, the minibeast eats **plants**.

Meat

If there are more **nonsense** words, the minibeast eats **meat**.

Both

If there are the **same number** of real and nonsense words, the minibeasts eats **both**.



real
nonsense



real
nonsense



real
nonsense



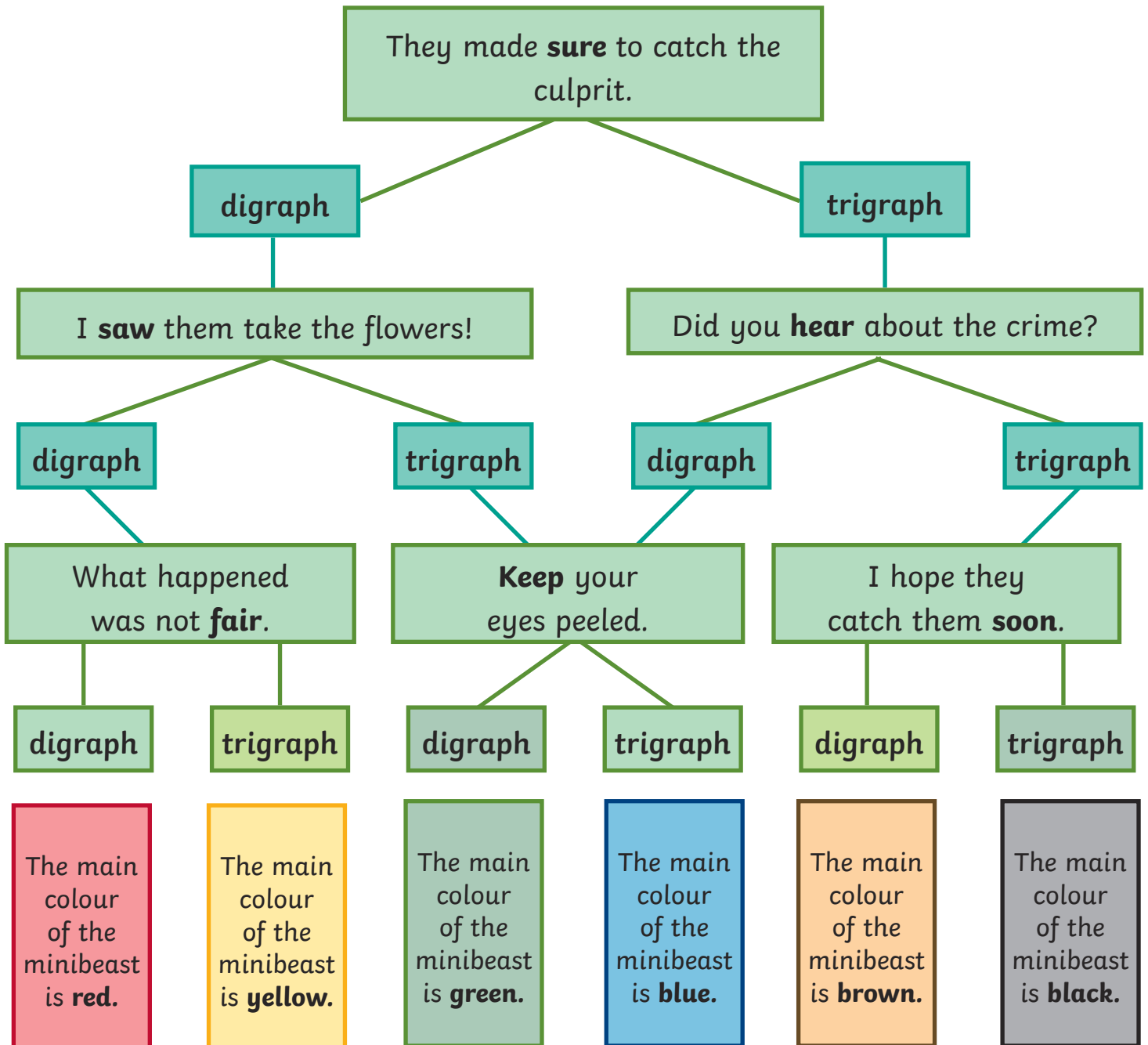
real
nonsense

There are _____ so the flower thief must eat _____.

Clue 5

Following the Clues

Follow the trail to find out what the main colour of the flower-stealing minibeast is. Decide whether the word in bold contains a digraph or a trigraph each time. Stay on the right path and catch the thief!



The main colour of the flower thief must be _____.

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Answer Sheet

Clue 1: They've Legged It!

ai	ee	igh	oa
rain afraid	week free street	light high	coach coat

The vowel grapheme with the most matching words is **ee** so the flower thief must have **six** legs.

Clue 2: A Careful Look

Sentence	-ing	-ful	-ly
The flies were buzz_____ around the garden.	✓		
The weather was love_____ and the sky was blue.			✓
It was a wonder_____ day for all of the minibeasts.		✓	
The minibeasts were extreme_____ excited to see the Queen Bee.			✓
Everyone was wait_____ to see the flower parade.	✓		
The minibeasts were in a play_____ mood.		✓	
The parade would be sad_____ spoiled without the flowers.			✓
The minibeasts prayed the flowers would be returned safe_____.			✓
They all hoped that the flower parade would be success_____.		✓	
The Queen Bee brave_____ volunteered to find the flower thief.			✓
	2	3	5

The suffix which is used most is **-ly** so the flower thief must have four wings.

Clue 3: Round and Round the Garden

The path of nonsense words is as follows:

Start					
quig	chip	queen	shell	thing	thump
perlain	sprain	sneak	beard	flower	bucket
flane	smofe	moush	cards	smart	glint
moonlight	pure	prie	flair	crept	spend
lantern	mue	spleam	shampoo	desktop	melting
handstand	lernaw	curfew	sandpit	helpdesk	sprout
carpet	whipher	kerneu	ploe	jauth	grunt
whisper	farmyard	lightning	market	harpey	spend
liquid	forget	windmill	smepe	plake	frost
jacket	blank	spring	berlone	shrink	scrap
		on the soil	near the flowers	under the rocks	in the grass

The flower thief's favourite place to hide is **near the flowers**.

Clue 4: What a Load of Nonsense!

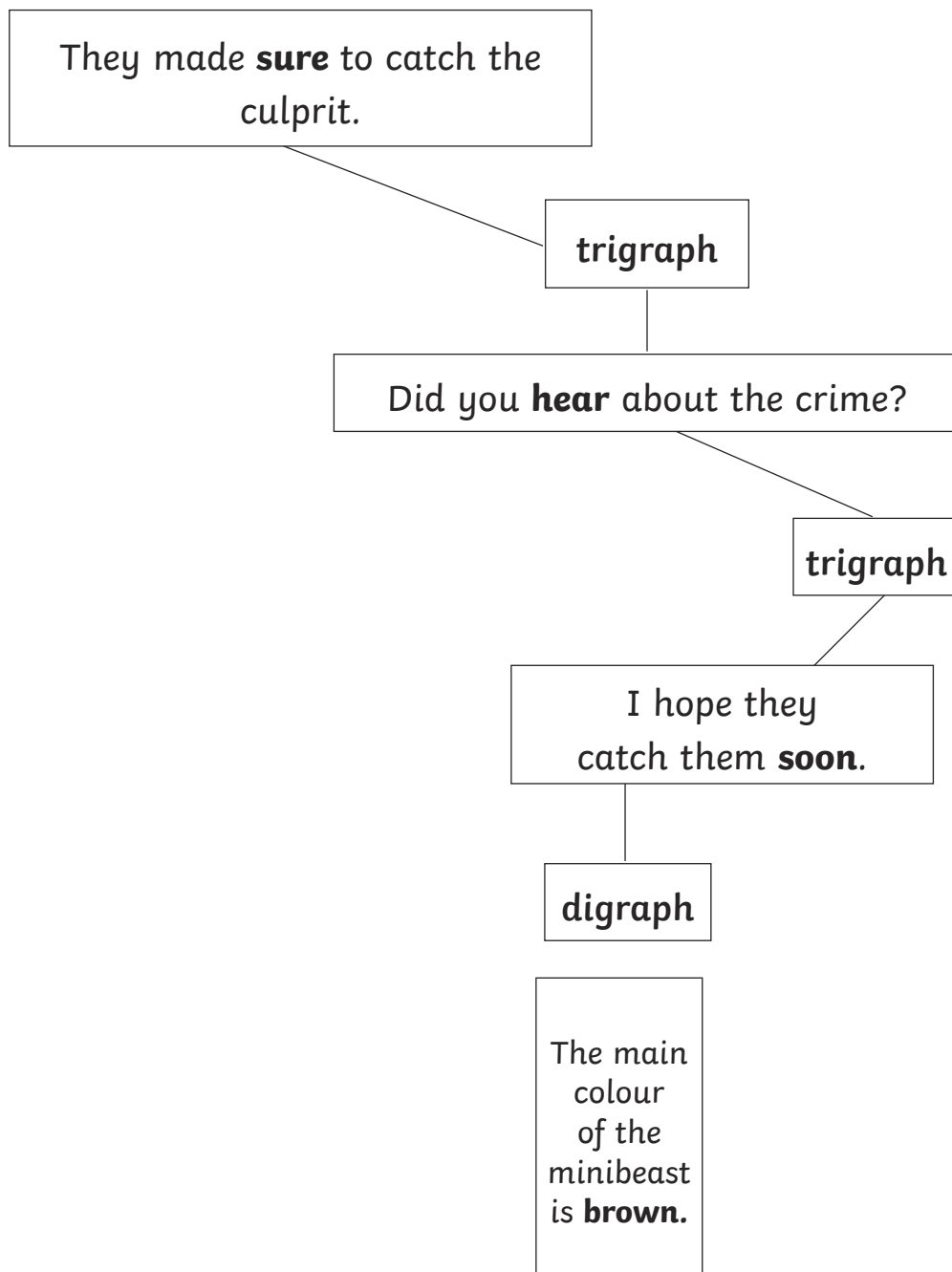
The words should be classified as follows:

real	nonsense
venue	taub
slide cube	birn
screw tears	phawd

There are 5 real words so the flower thief must eat **plants**.

Clue 5: Following the Clues

The correct path through the flowchart is:



The main colour of the flower thief must be **brown**.

The minibeast that took the flowers must be the moth.