

Initial consonant cluster - squ

Purpose

- To read and identify squ- words and to recognise that sq (and q) is always followed by u.
- To read story (with help as needed) and highlight all words beginning with squ.
- Discussion may elicit
 - how many of these words are adjectives
 - the connection between words like squeeze, squidgy, squirm, squashy, etc.
- Reading and copying out the words will help learner to identify the 'u' in each word.
- Crossword provides reinforcement.
- Follow up with writing sentences.

Related resources from the same author

(all available on site)

- **Initial consonant clusters (set 1) sc, sm, sp, st** - includes phonic strips listening activity and a sc, sm, sp, st crossword.
- **Spelling quiz** (online Word worksheet) - sc, sm, sp, st.
- **Spelling cloze** - sc, sm, sp, st (interactive Word worksheet with drop down menus).
- **Initial consonant clusters (set 2) sc, sm, sp, st, sl, sn** - words and 'picture clue' cards.
- **Initial consonant clusters (set 3) tr, pr, dr, gr**
- **Crossword** - tr, pr, dr, gr.
- **Long e phonics sheets.**
- **Match sh or ch** - picture worksheets.
- **Criss-cross word puzzle** - sh or ch.
- **Yesterday's world** - th activities.

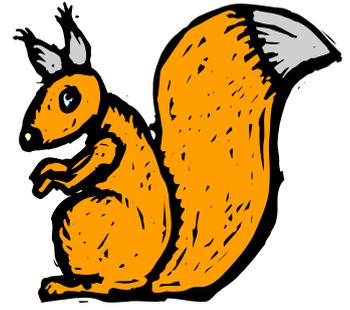
Main Curriculum References

Literacy

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Ww/E1.3 | - use basic sound-symbol association to help spelling, as appropriate for the needs of the learner |
| Ww/E2.2 | - use knowledge of sound-symbol relationships and phonological patterns (e.g. consonant clusters, vowel phonemes) to help work out correct spellings |
| Rw/E1.2 | - decode simple, regular words |
| Rw/E2.3 | - use phonic and graphic knowledge to decode words |

Invasion in the Forest

There was no doubt about it. Sergeant Sammy, the red squirrel, was in charge of the whole squad of animals in The Animal Squadron. Other animals had tried to gain control but they had not done so.



Simon the squid had tried to persuade the other animals that he was best for the job. "Look how many tentacles I have got," he said, "I would be able to reach out and squash all our enemies with one big squeeze! I should be in charge." But the other animals had not listened to him.



"No way," squawked Ozzie the Owl, "Sammy Squirrel is just right for the job."

Some animals had tried to persuade Micky the mouse to overthrow Sammy but he was too squeamish for the job. "No, no," he squeaked, "I hate to be a damp squib but I don't think it is a good idea. Sammy is just right for the job."

So Sammy was in charge. He made a plan to get rid of the grey squirrels who were trying to take over the wood. Three grey squirrels had been seen squatting in the big oak tree at the edge of the forest. They had attacked and killed poor old Molly the Mole - her squeals had been heard for miles around. Willy the worm had seen what had happened and he squirmed all the way across the forest to tell Sammy.



"Sammy," he had said, "I saw it all. They squeezed Molly until she was dead. She was squealing and crying. Then they tried to hide the body. They were squabbling with each other about what to do with her. It was horrible."

Sammy was very angry. He called together all of the other animals.

"Micky," he said to the mouse, "you are second in charge. You will lead a squadron to watch the grey squirrels. Now there is something I know about them that will help us get rid of them..."

Chapter Two



Armed with squeegee mops and buckets of water, Sergeant Sammy, Micky the Mouse, Darren the Deer, Ozzie the Owl, Billy the Badger and



Vincent Vole made their way to the giant oak tree. Simon the squid was with them, squashed into one of the buckets of water.

The plan was in hand. It was muddy in the forest and they squelched through the mud. It was a bright sunny day and they squinted against the sun in their eyes.

"We will soon be rid of those squatters," said Sammy.

The grey squirrels were asleep in the heat of the day.

Everyone knew they were lazy.



At the bottom of the oak tree, the animals put their plan into action. Squeegee mops were put into the buckets and loaded with ammunition. Grey squirrels hate water! Filling the mops until they were dripping, they plunged them into the hole where the grey squirrels slept! They squeezed out as much water as they could. They loaded their weapons again!



The grey squirrels woke up with a start! They squelched out of the hole. "Stop! Stop!" they squealed, "We are all squidgy."

As they jumped out of the hole, Simon the squid squirted them with ink! They were not grey squirrels any more but black ones! They squirmed out of the forest as fast as they could.

Chapter Three

The next day all the animal squadron met together in the square between the oak trees. They were squeaking with delight.

"Sammy," they said, "we want you to be Squire of the Forest forever and ever."

And so they all lived happily ever after.



squ words



The words below all appeared in the story. Read them and then copy them into the box beside the word and then answer the question below.

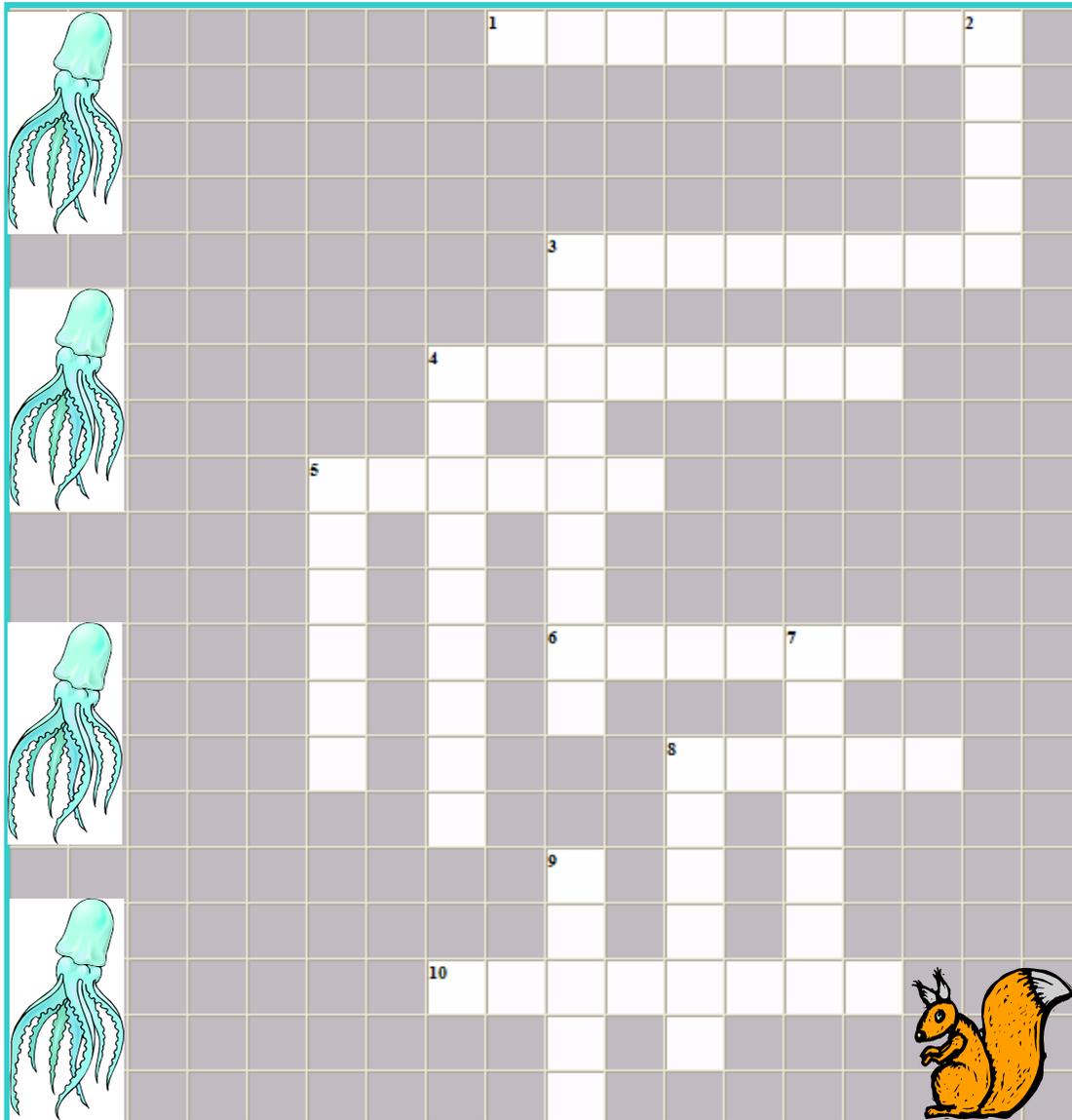
| | | | |
|-----------|--|------------|--|
| squirrel | | squad | |
| squid | | squadron | |
| squash | | squeeze | |
| squashed | | squeezed | |
| squeamish | | squib | |
| squatting | | squeals | |
| squatters | | squealing | |
| squeegee | | squelched | |
| squinted | | squabbling | |
| squidgy | | squeaking | |
| squire | | squeaked | |
| squirmed | | square | |
| squawked | | | |
| | | | |

Question What letter always follows the letters 'sq'?

Action Now look in a dictionary at words beginning with 'q'.

What letter follows "q"?

squ Crossword



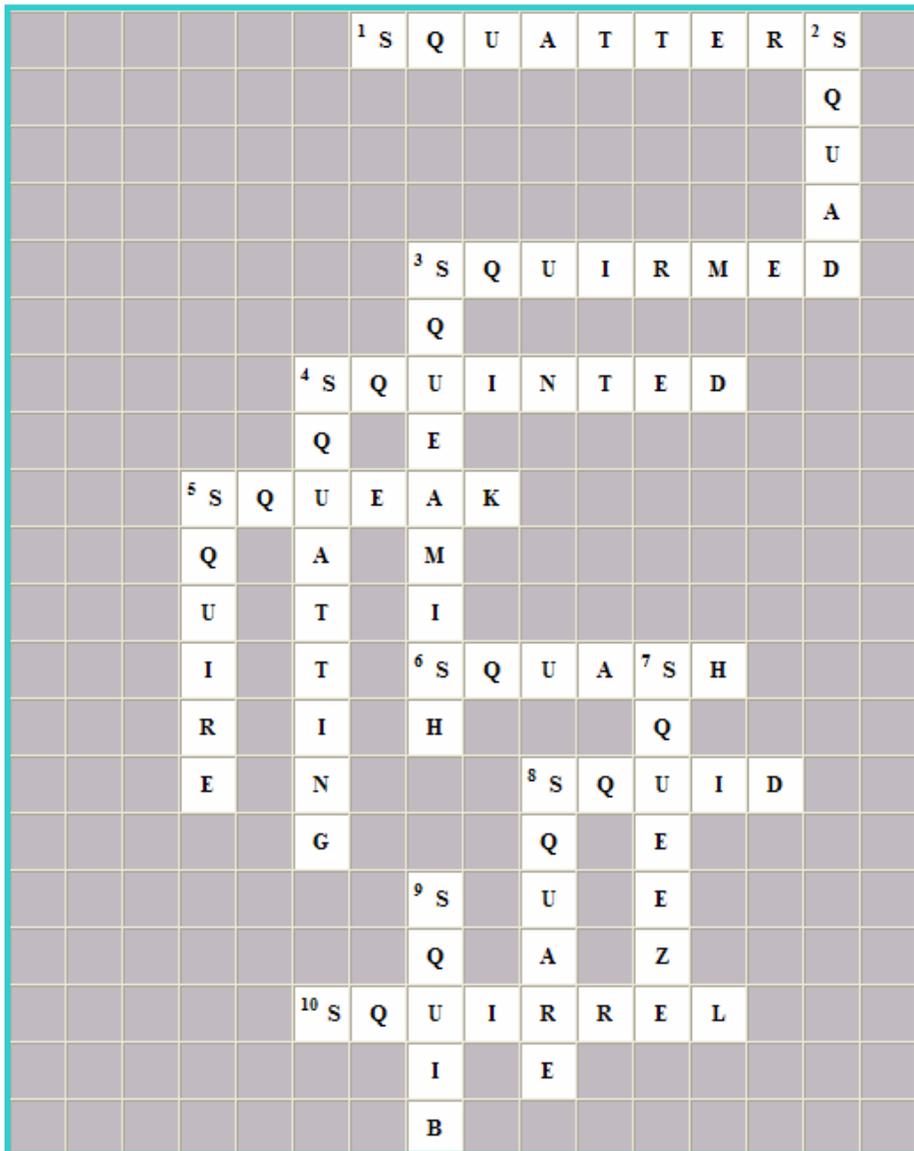
Across

1. people who live in a house illegally and who don't pay rent
3. fidgeted about
4. closed eyes tightly against bright sunlight
5. noise made by a mouse
6. orange cordial perhaps?
8. octopus-like animal
10. forest animal

Down

2. anagram of quads
3. doesn't like blood and gore
4. what the people in 1 across are doing
5. lord of the manor
7. hold very tightly
8. four-sided shape
9. firework

Answers - squ Crossword



Across

1. people who live in a house illegally and who don't pay rent
3. fidgeted about
4. closed eyes tightly against bright sunlight
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