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## Phoneme Finders: Tiny and Tricky

Minibeasts are small animals or 'creatures' living all around us, like ants. Creature is a long word isn't it! 'Minibeast' comes from a long word too – 'miniature beast'. We can break the word down to sound it out:

m/i/n/i/a/t/ure

We can then say each sound and slowly blend the word together:

m / in / i / at / ure mini / at / ure miniature

The phoneme 'ure' is often at the end of words, like 'pure'. Can you break down the following words and match them to their drawing?

picture vulture

nature treasure









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We can use this method to break down really long words too! This story has a few long words with 'ure' in them. Sound them out when you reach them and then see if you can work out their meanings!

Peter the spider was fed up with his web. The temperature in the web was too cold! He wanted to feel the hot sun! He wanted to go on an a dventure to see the world! He got down from his web and set off across the room. He passed a chair and table and lots of other furniture until he got to the open window. Outside looked warm and sunny. "My future will be bright!" Peter said as he squeezed out of the window and started his new life in the garden.

What does 'temperature' mean?

how hot or cold things are or how low or high things are

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What does 'adventure' mean?

an after school club or a fun trip to see something

What does 'furniture' mean?

animals and plants or things in a room or house

What does 'future' mean?

your life from now on or your dinner

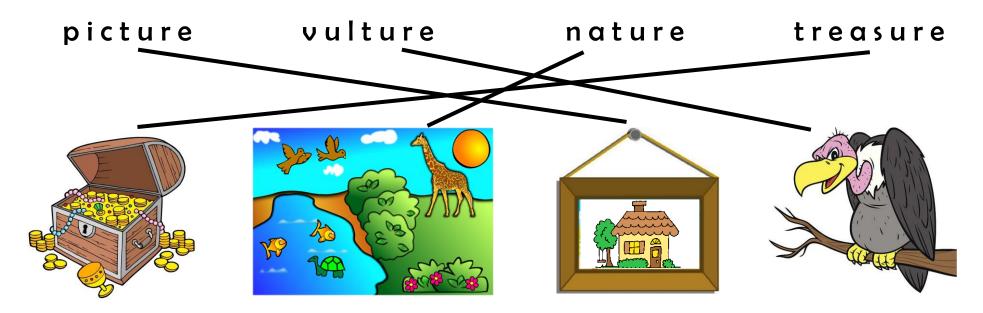
Thinking time...

Can you think of any other words with 'ure' in them? What do they mean?

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## Phoneme Finders: Tiny and Tricky Answers



What does 'temperature' mean? 'how hot or cold things are' What does 'adventure' mean? 'a fun trip to see something' What does 'furniture' mean? 'things in a room or house' What does 'future' mean? 'your life from now on'

Other words with 'ure' in them include: pure, sure, measure, figure, mixture, secure

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## **Guidance for Parents**

This reading activity should help your child practice their phonics. This activity is aimed at early readers i.e. KS1 who are able to sound out and read simple texts. It is designed to practice reading/'decoding' and comprehension skills to help with understanding new texts.

The focus is on the 'ure' phoneme/sound as in 'pure' or 'surely'. This is represented by the 'ure' grapheme/letters. This is taken from the national curriculum. If your child's school uses the 'Read Write Inc' phonic scheme, this phoneme is from Set 3 and is called 'sure, it's pure'. This phoneme is quite rare in short words, hence the focus on building confidence decoding longer words. In each case, the word should be sounded out by the learner and then blended to form a word. Then you should encourage them to discuss what it means. In the first activity, most learners will be familiar with the given words. Successfully reading the words in the story in the second activity should be praised to help build confidence. Children should work through words with the 'ure' phoneme, but if they struggle with others then help them as needed, as reading words with the target phoneme and the act of decoding is the key aim here. For example, if they pronounce 'warm' to rhyme with 'harm' then this can either be gently corrected or ignored.

Children should read through the text with your help, aiming to understand the meaning of the words and sentences as they read them. They should then identify the correct definition from the listed options. Most learners will have heard these words used before and they can use their own knowledge to help them. Where have they heard the word 'temperature' before? Encourage them to explain how they know the answers and what text is their evidence. This skill of skimming and finding evidence/retrieving information from a text will be very important as they become more confident readers.