

Pip's Garden Adventure: A Phonics Challenge

Learning objective: To identify, read, and use words containing the /sh/ sound represented by 'ti', 'ci', and 'ssi' as per the Year 4 curriculum.

Read the passage about Pip the caterpillar's garden adventure. Look carefully at the words highlighted in bold. Answer the questions below using your knowledge of phonics and spelling patterns.

Pip the caterpillar was having a **special** day in the garden. He found a **delicious** leaf to snack on while he sat in a comfortable **position** on a rose petal. He watched a talented **musician** playing a flute nearby, which made Pip smile. Later, Pip had an **official** meeting with Bea the honeybee to have a **discussion** about the flowers. Pip shared his **precious** nectar with her, and his happy **expression** showed how much he enjoyed their time together.

Word bank: special · position · delicious · expression · official · musician · discussion · precious

1. Find two words in the passage that use 'ti' to make the /sh/ sound. Write them below. (2 marks)

2. Why is the word 'discussion' spelled with 'ssi' instead of 'ti'? Explain the rule you use to identify these sounds. (2 marks)

3. Look at the word 'delicious'. Identify the suffix and explain how it changes the sound at the end of the root word. (2 marks)

4. Use the word 'official' in your own original sentence about a forest adventure. (2 marks)

5. Sort these words into a table based on their ending: 'special', 'expression', 'musician', 'mission'. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the caterpillar having a 'special' picnic with Bea the honeybee.
Label: Label your drawing with three words from the word bank that contain the /sh/ sound.



Extension challenge: Can you think of three more words that use 'ci', 'ti', or 'ssi' to make the /sh/ sound? Write them down and check them in a dictionary to ensure they are spelled correctly.