

# Silent Letters

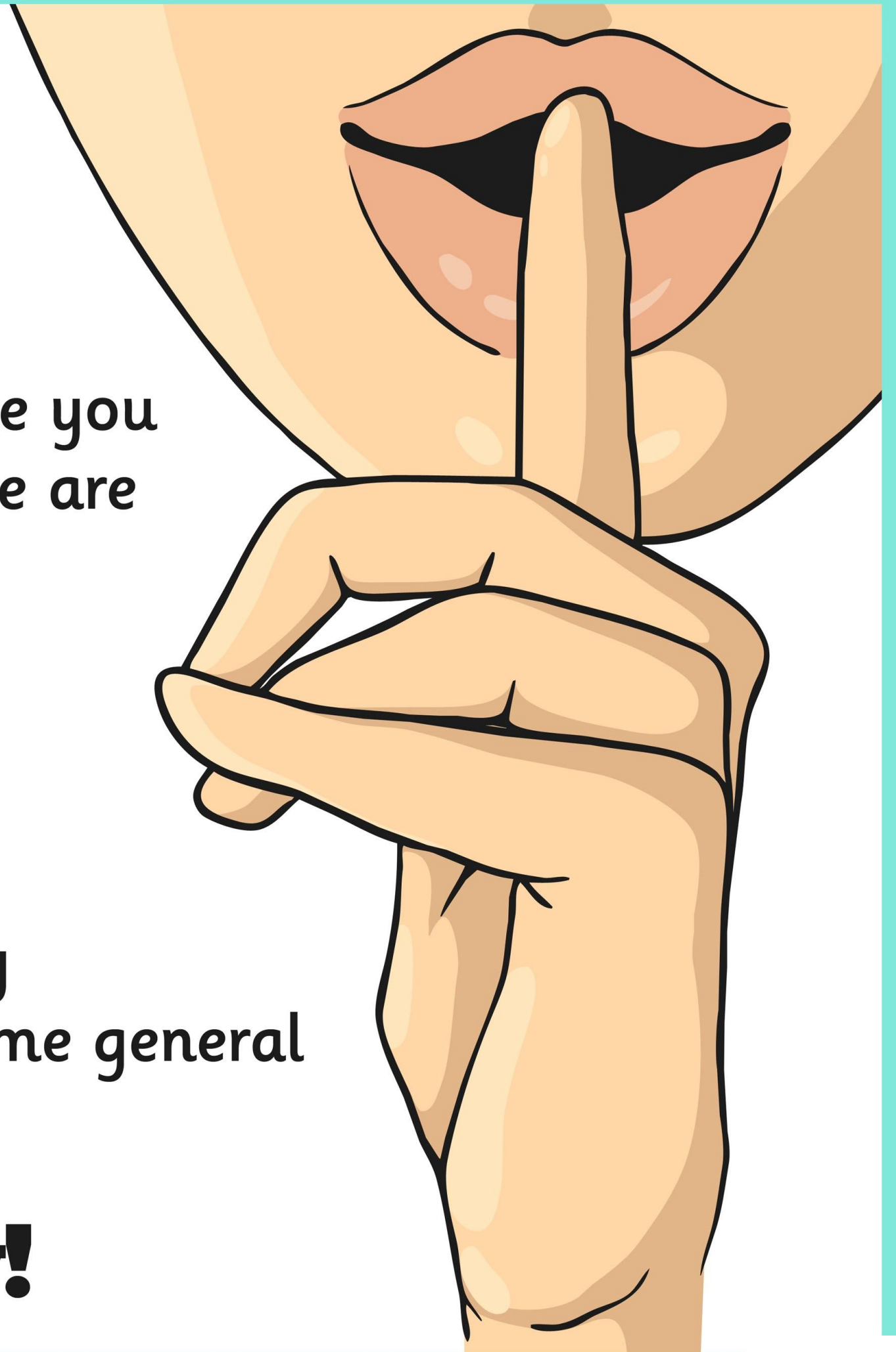
**Shhhhh!!!!**

Don't mention it to anyone, but have you noticed how many silent letters there are in English spellings?

If we can't hear them, how can we learn to spell them?

It's tricky and there aren't really any hard-and-fast rules, but there are some general **patterns** to look for.

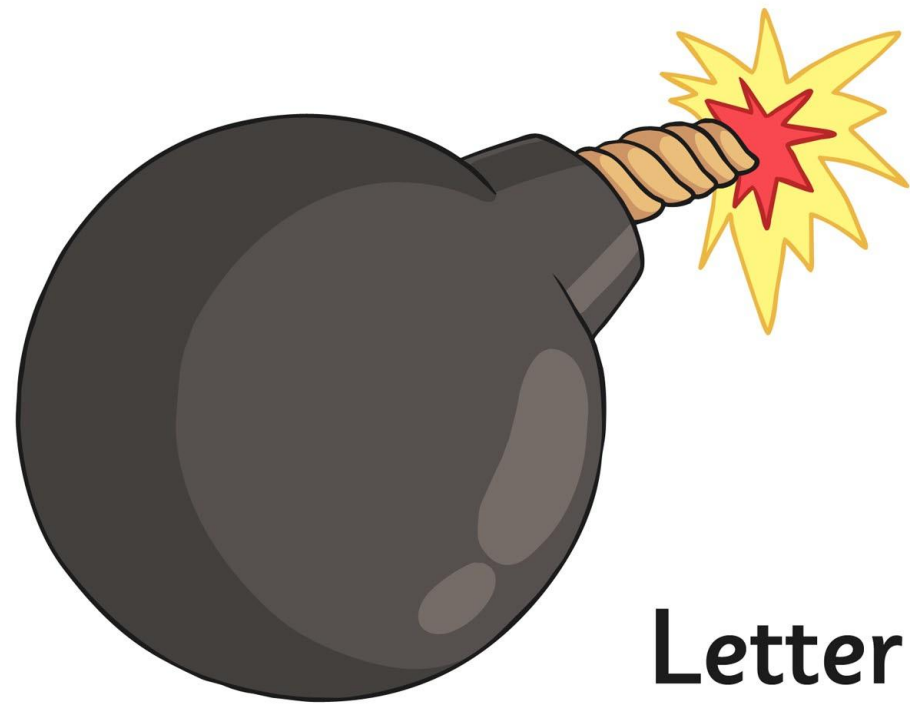
Just remember to do it **silently!**



# Silent Letter...

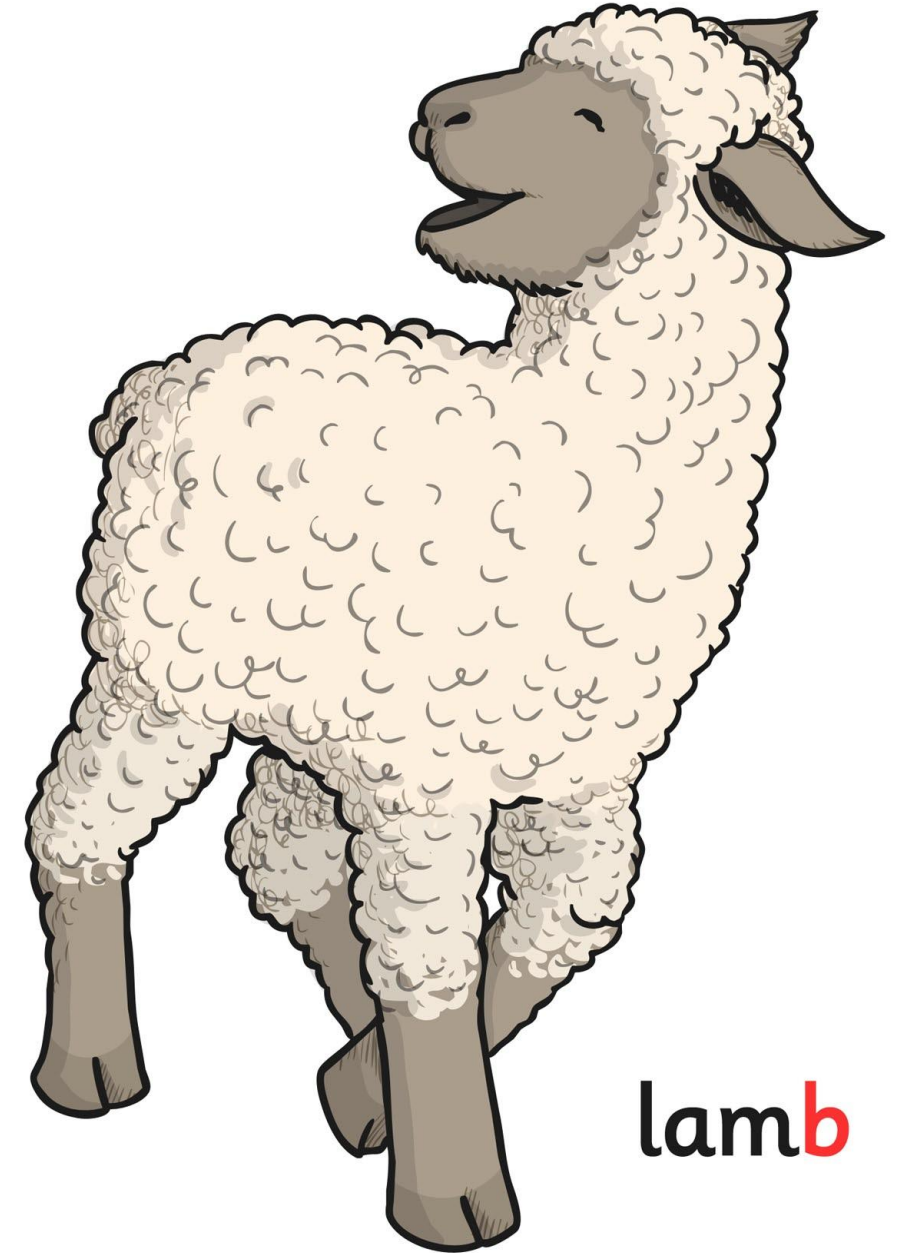


thumb



bomb

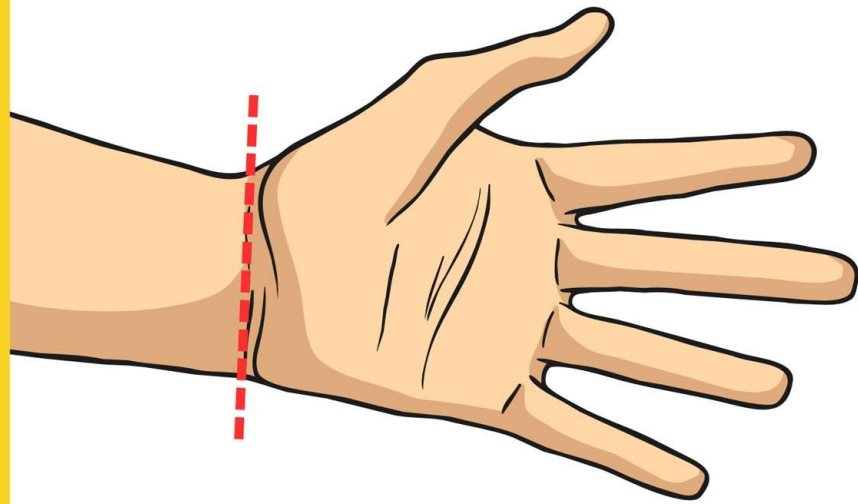
# B



lamb

Letter 'b' is often silent after 'm'.

# Silent Letter...



wrist



wrap

W



wrestle

Letter 'w' is often silent before 'r'.

# Silent Letter **H**

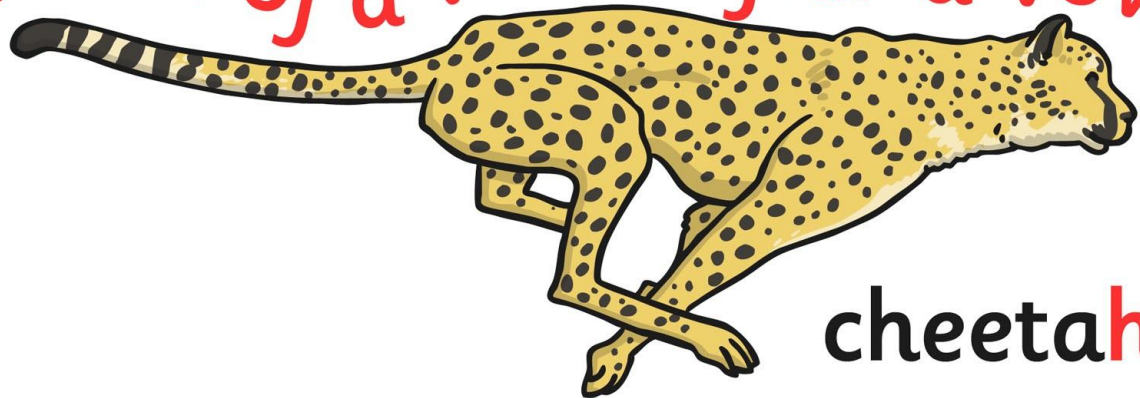
Letter 'h' is silent in lots of places.

between two vowels



veh**ic**le

at the end of a word after a vowel



cheeta**h**



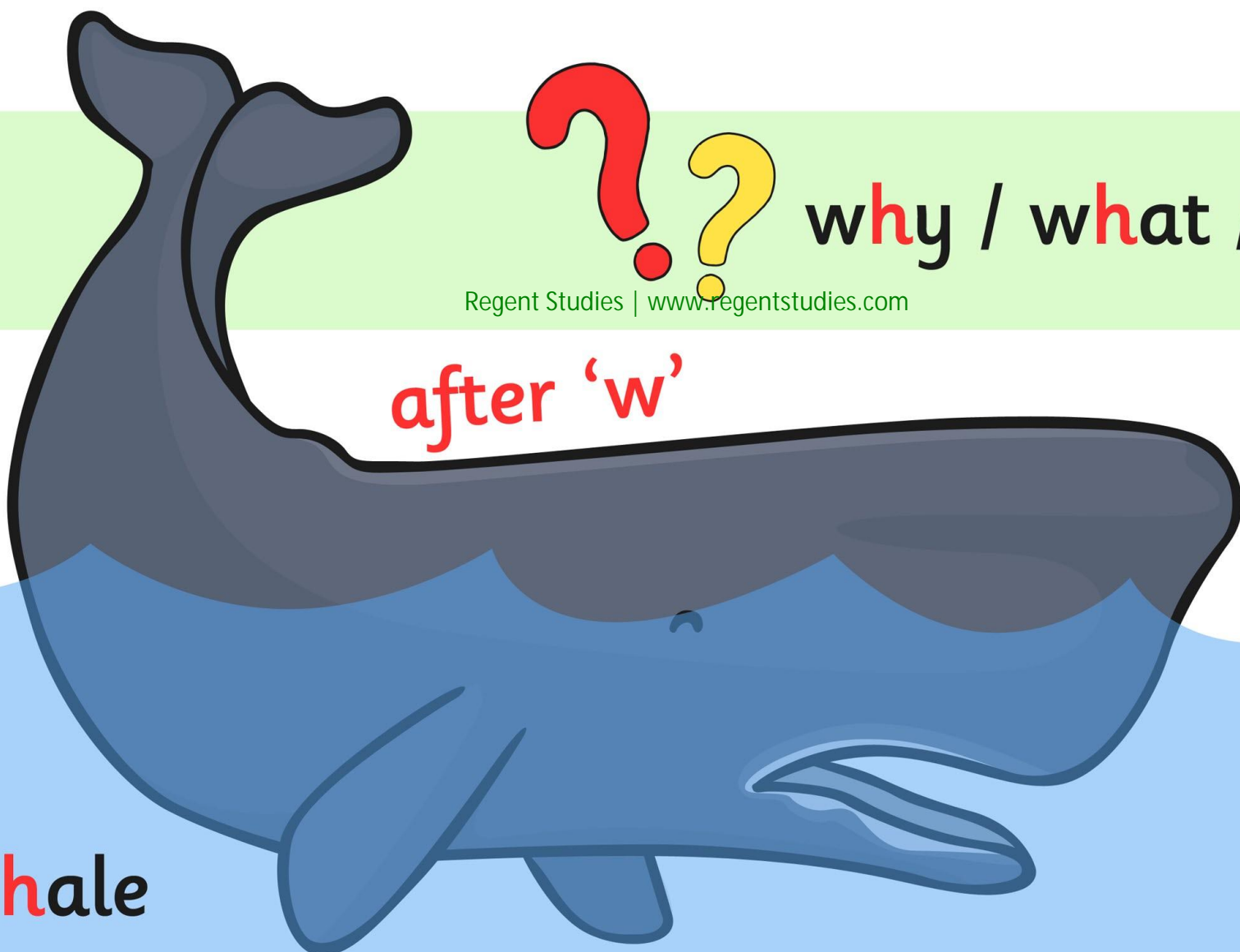
wh**y** / wh**at** / wh**en**?

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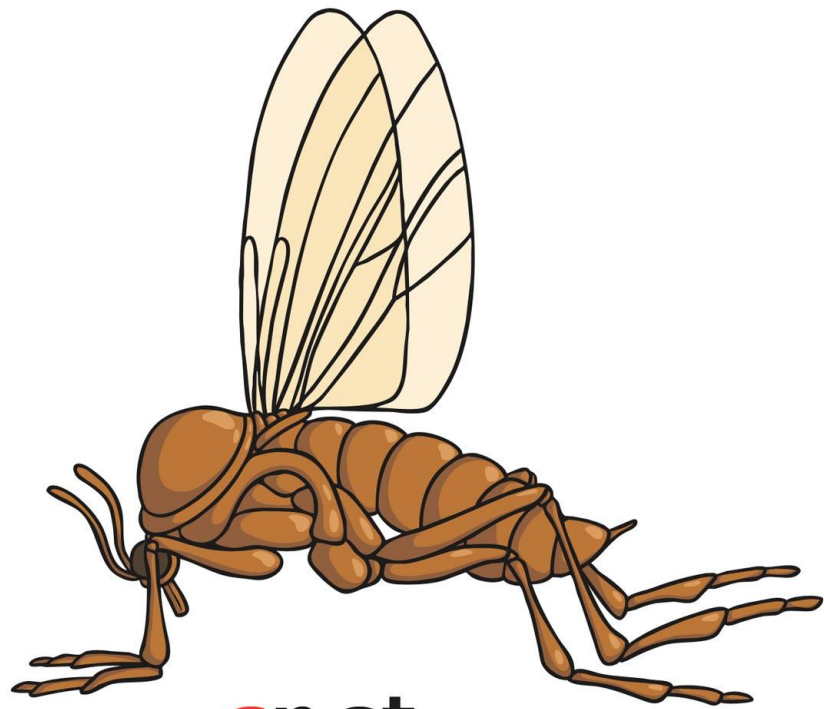
after 'w'



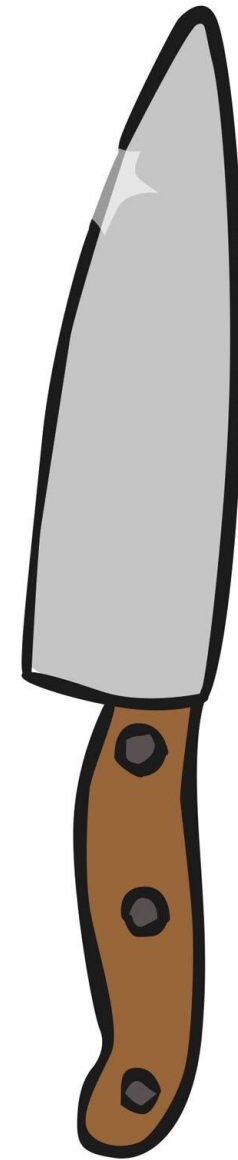
wh**al**e



# Silent Letter...



gnat



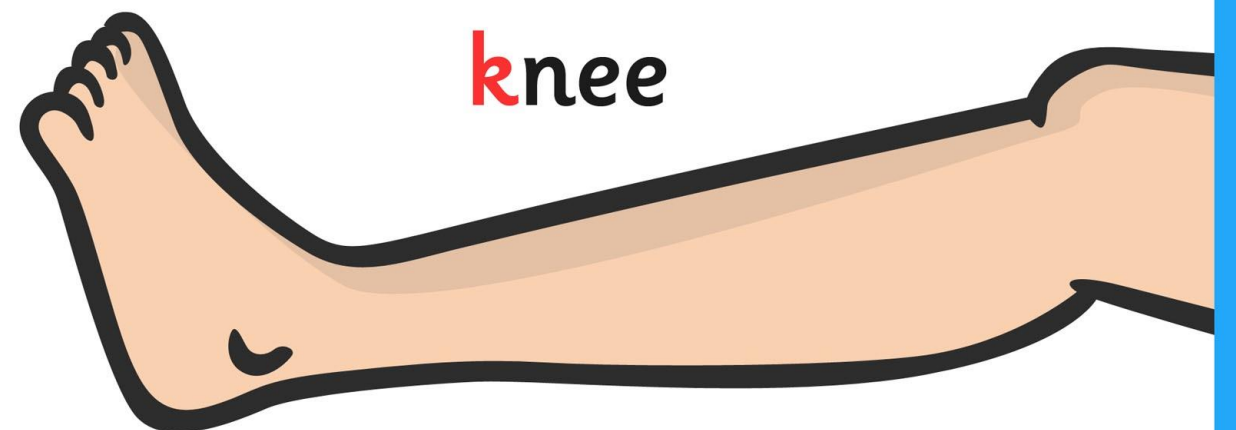
knife

**G** and **K**

These two letters are usually silent before 'n'.

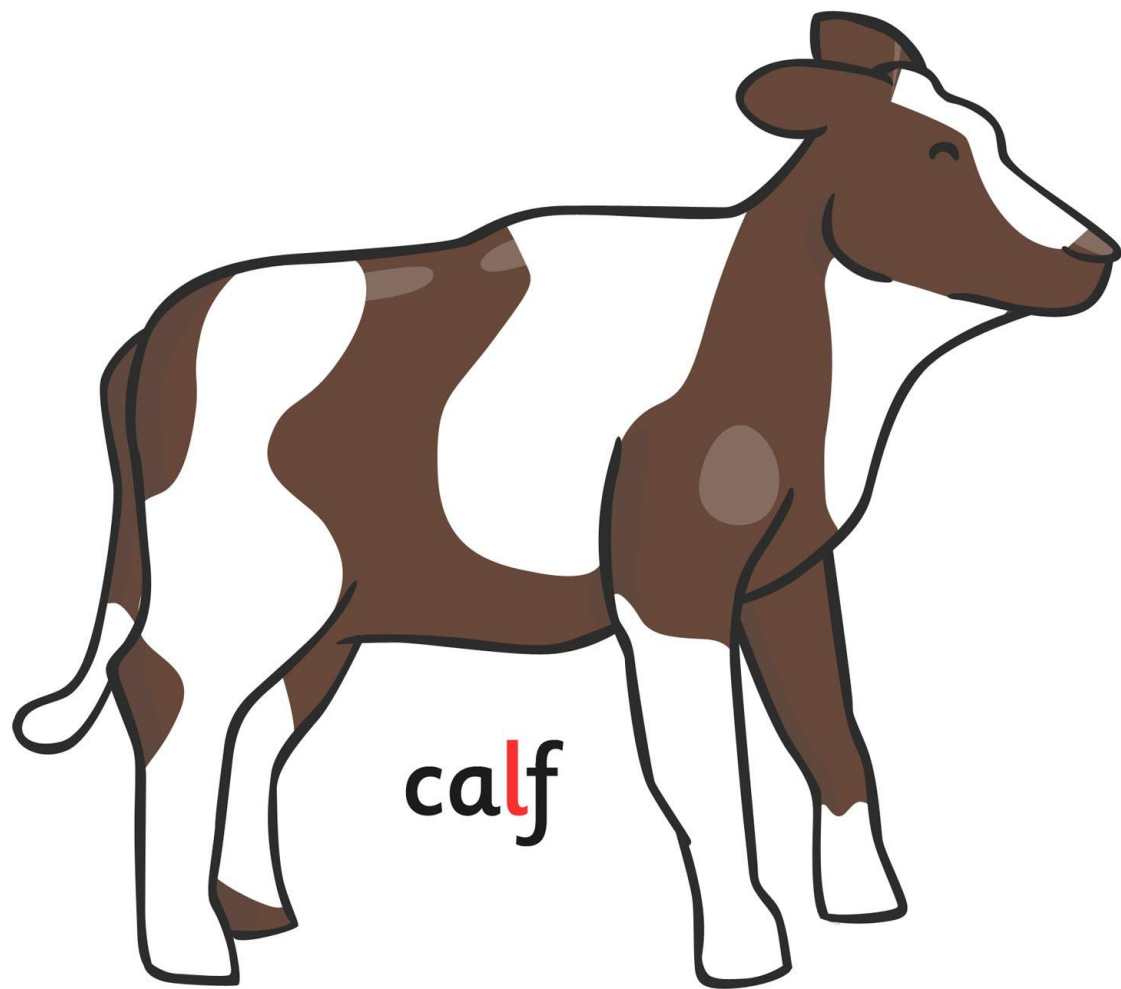


gnome

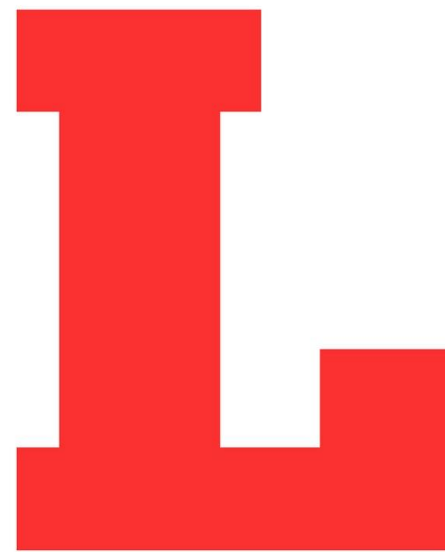


knee

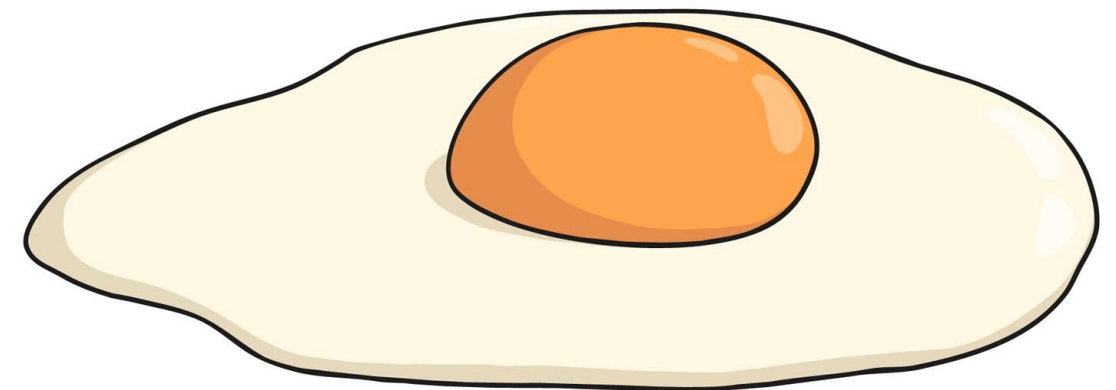
# Silent Letter...



cal**l**f



shou**l**d  
wou**l**d  
cou**l**d

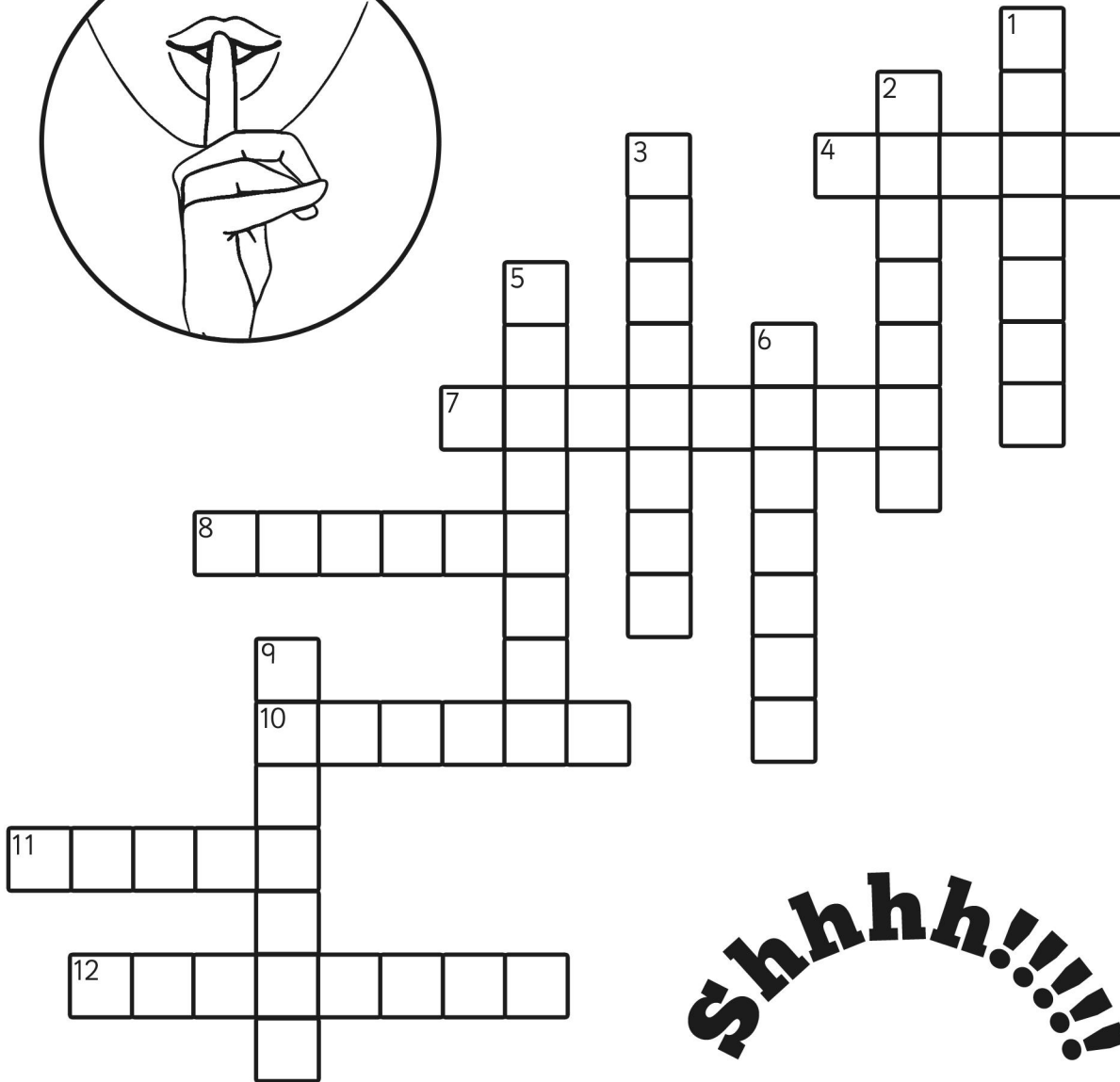
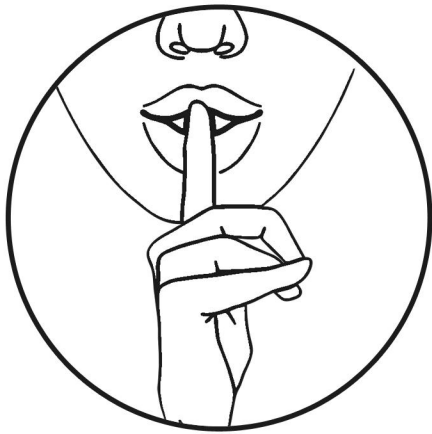


yo**l**k

Silent letter 'l' often follows the vowels 'a', 'o' and 'u'.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_



# Silent Letter Puzzle

## Across

4. This person stands outside the palace to protect the Queen.
7. A doctor will give you this if you're ill.
8. I went fishing and I \_\_\_\_ a huge shark!
10. A piece of land surrounded by water.
11. What's 40 divided by 5?
12. The only month with fewer than 30 days.

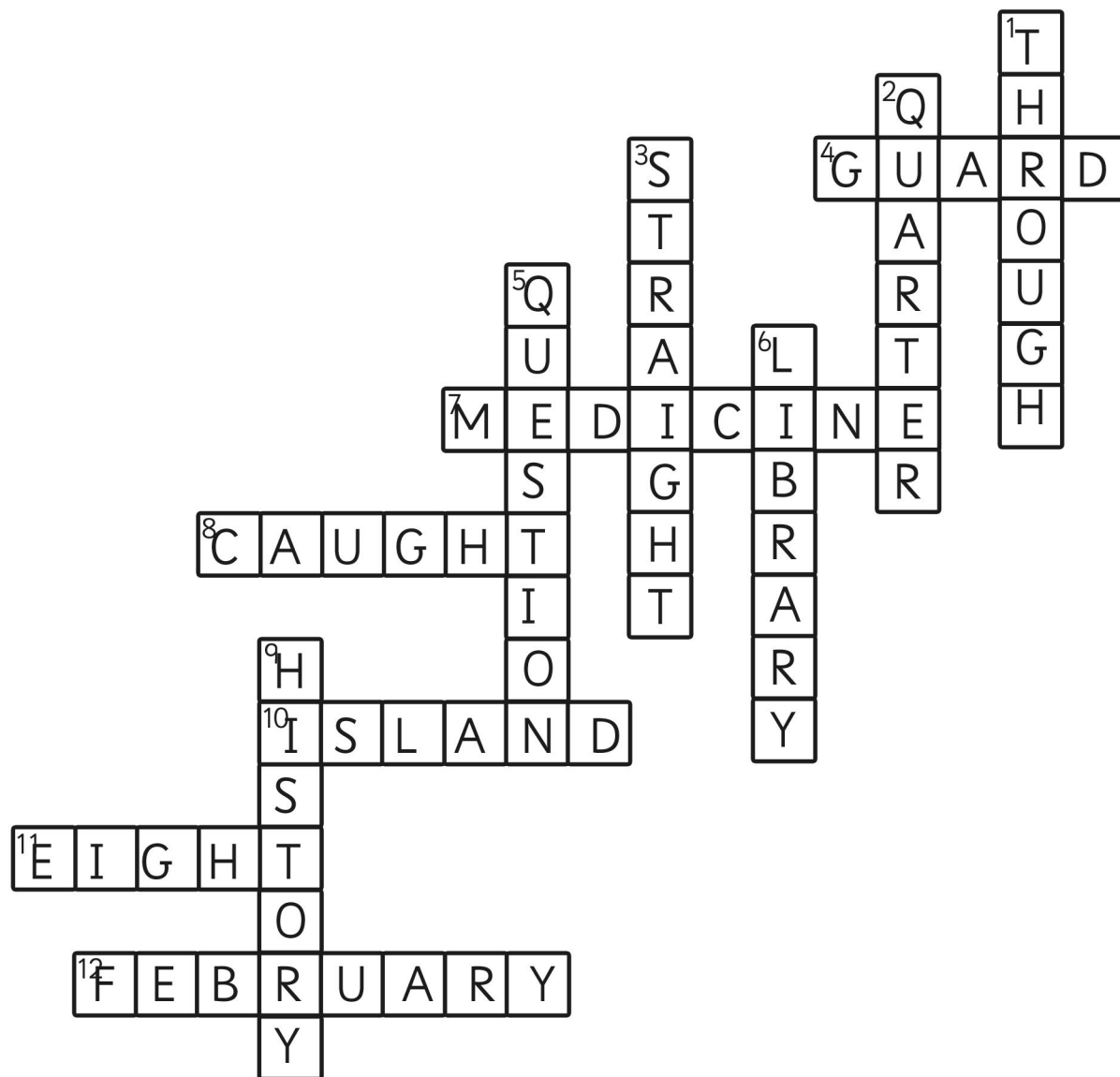
## Down

1. "Oh no! Swishy swashy grass! Can't go over it, can't go round it, we'll have to go \_\_\_\_ it!"
2. Four of this fraction makes one whole.
3. If a line isn't curved or bent, it must be \_\_\_\_.
5. If a sentence starts with who, what, why, or when, it's probably one of these.
6. Where can you borrow a book and find out all sorts of information?
9. This subject will help you learn about the Ancient Egyptians and the Victorians, for example.

**Shhhh!!!**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Answers

### Across

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Silent Letter Puzzle



A crossword puzzle grid with 11 numbered starting points for clues:

- 1: Down, 10 squares
- 2: Down, 8 squares
- 3: Down, 10 squares
- 4: Across, 10 squares
- 5: Across, 8 squares
- 6: Across, 4 squares
- 7: Across, 5 squares
- 8: Across, 15 squares
- 9: Across, 10 squares
- 10: Across, 6 squares
- 11: Across, 7 squares

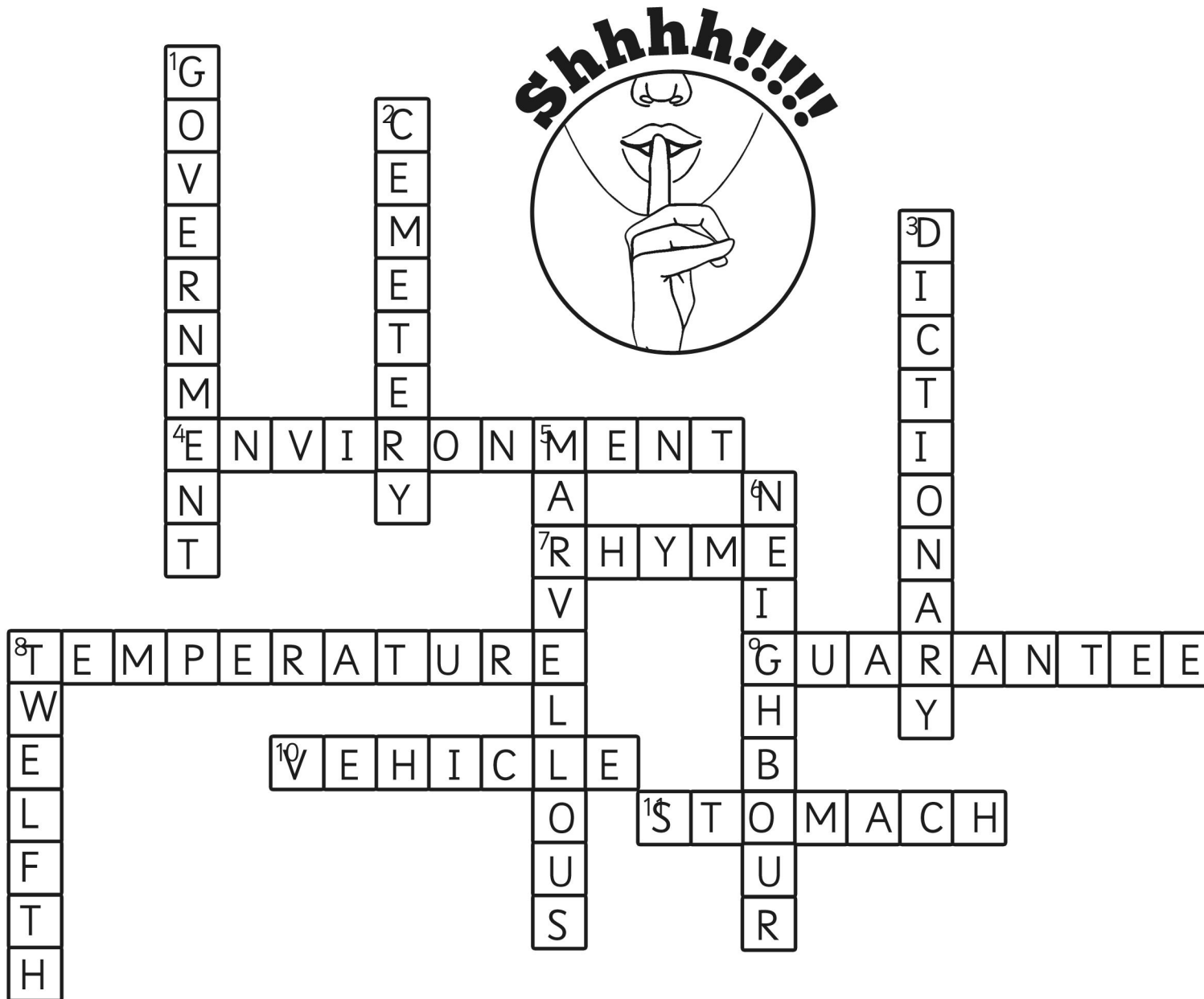
## Across

4. We can all help to look after the \_\_\_\_\_ by remembering to switch off lights and recycle paper.
7. If the end of two words sounds the same, like house and mouse, they are said to \_\_\_\_\_.
8. To find this value in degrees celsius, you use a thermometer.
9. When you buy something new, the shop will give you a \_\_\_\_\_. This is like a promise to replace the item if it goes wrong.
10. Cars, buses, lorries and motorbikes are all types of \_\_\_\_\_.
11. "Oh dear, I've eaten too much cake. I've got a \_\_\_\_ ache!"

## Down

1. The organisation which runs a country is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A place for burying the dead.
3. Do you need to check a word? Look in this book!
5. Roald Dahl wrote a book called "George's \_\_\_\_\_ medicine".
6. This person sits next to you in class or lives next door.
8. "On the \_\_\_\_ day of Christmas, my true love sent to me 12 drummers drumming..."

# Silent Letter Puzzle Answers



## Across

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actually

business

caught

different

*eight*

*eight*th

*enough*

*actual*

guard

guide

height

history

interest

island

knowledge

library

February

favourite

medicine

natural

naughty

ordinary

quarter

question



reign

separate

surprise

though

although

thought

through

weight

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eighth

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reign

separate

surprise

though

although

thought

through

weight

conscience

category

cemetery

conscious

desperate

accompany

dictionary

foreign

government

environment

guarantee

lightning

marvellous

muscle

neighbour

parliament

queue

rhyme

rhythm

secretary

stomach

temperature

thorough

twelfth



vegetable

vehicle

yacht

con**s**cience

cate**g**ory

cemet**e**ry

con**s**ciuous

desperate

accompany

dictionary

foreign

governnment

environnment

guuarantee

lighhtning



queue

rhyme

rhythm

secretary

stomach

temperature

thorough

twelfth

vegetable

vehicle

yacht