

The adjective **small** tends to be overused. Try out some of the synonyms listed below to add variety to your writing.

a person's age

infant

junior

young

a person's size

petite

short

slim

puny

slight

small in size

diminutive

miniscule

pocket-sized

little

miniature

tiny

mini

minute

small amount

inadequate

meagre

scanty

limited

paltry

of little importance

insignificant

petty

trivial

minor

slight

unimportant

negligible

trifling

feeling small

ashamed

humiliated

unimportant

embarrassed

stupid



Instead of repeating **small** in the following passage, you might use some of the synonyms discussed opposite

“

“Oh look, it’s horrible!” screamed Michelle.

“It’s only a ^{*little*}~~small~~ spider,” said Clare, “it won’t hurt you!”

“I’ve been scared of spiders since I was ^{*young*}~~small~~,”

explained Michelle. “I’ve never liked them, even the ^{*tiny*}~~small~~ ones frighten me.”

“You shouldn’t still be scared of them at your age,” scoffed Clare. “It really is quite silly.”

“It may be a ^{*trivial*}~~small~~ matter to you,” replied Michelle, “but to me it’s very serious!”

“I don’t mean to make you feel ^{*embarrassed*}~~small~~,” Clare assured her,

“but only a ^{*paltry*}~~small~~ number of spiders are dangerous. This one is more scared of you than you are of him!”

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