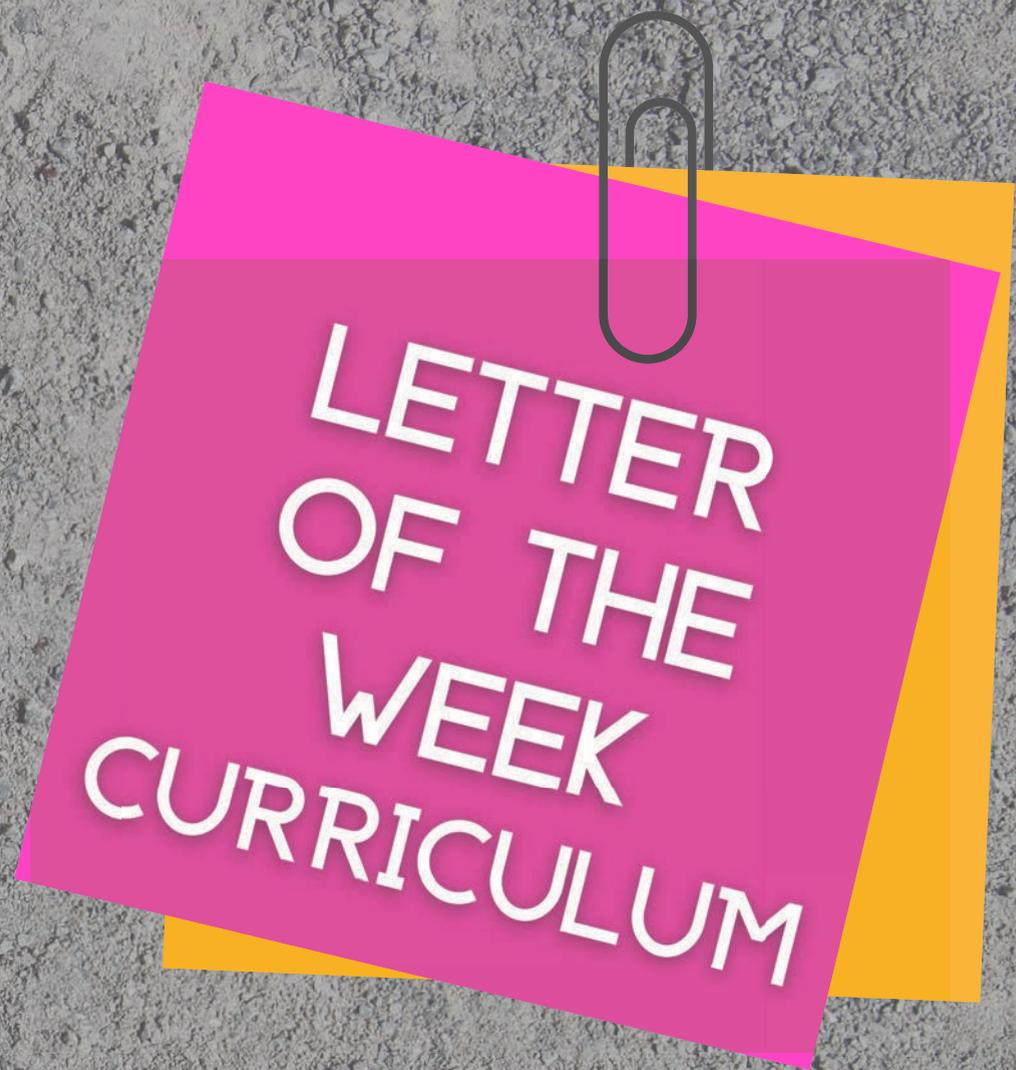


Special Ed



ALSO INCLUDES GOOGLE SLIDES





These letter of the week units are something I created and started using in my classroom. I had students with significant challenges and most were non-readers. We spent one week per letter.

This bundle includes 26 units, one for each letter of the alphabet. Each unit has a 5-day lesson plan. There are daily group and individual activities for a lesson lasting 30-45 minutes.

Each unit has the same activities. This repetition helps students focus on the content and not how to do the activities.

Scroll on to see examples of each activity.



All units have
printable AND
digital
versions

Table of Contents

Worksheet Pages	Activity
4-5	Alphabet board
6-24	Letter Z book
	Group Activities
25-30	Circle map
31-32	Scavenger Hunt
33-35	Paper plate game
36	Craft: Zinger Bottles
37-40	Picture Recipe: Zucchini Muffins
	Individual Activities
41-44	Circle map
45-48	Sorting activities
49-50	Letter collage
51-63	Preposition booklet
	Bonus Activities
64-84	Social story: ZZZZ Going to Bed
85-87	Your bedtime routine
88-89	Terms of Use

Each unit has a table of contents. There are 5 group activities and 5 individual activities, one of each is done each day. They are in both a print and digital format.

Letter of the Week Lesson Plan

Preparation

- Print out a alphabet board for each student to use throughout unit
 - Laminate or place in page protector
- Books
 - Print out, laminate, and bind
 - There are 2 books: one for the letter of the week and one social story
 - You can also use the link in the digital activities to the movie version you can show rather than printing out the book

Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
 - a. For more info, read more here:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
 - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make your own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:
 - a. I often complete the activity myself and often laminated it for easy review that I could use year after year.
 - b. My copies were also helpful as either a model for students who needed more support or as a way for more advanced students to self-check their work.
3. *Options for Use:* Turn any activity into a reusable file folder activity by laminating and adding Velcro.
 - a. For more info, watch this video here:
<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Making-File-Folder-Activities-3474240>



4. *Reteaching*
 - a. Often, my students do not learn everything the first time around. It is uncommon for me to re-teach the entire sequence of lessons below a week following the assessment.
 - b. To add variety, I try to mix it up a little
 - i. Use black and white copies rather than color (I also like to use black and white copies home for "homework" or extra copies for Mom and Dad.
 - ii. Do the activities as a group activity rather than individual worksheets.
 - iii. Switch the order of the activities
 - iv. Try to add more videos, or find a related book to add more interest, engagement and hopefully access more prior knowledge
 - v. There are a lot of things you can do with the vocabulary board, see this video:
<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Storyboards-An-Easy-Tool-to-Add-to-Your-Lesson-1954805>
 - c. After going through the material twice, if needed, I usually opt to move on regardless of the performance on the assessment.
5. *YouTube and other videos:* I was a big proponent of adding as much visual media as I could to my lessons. I would encourage you to search YouTube or other video libraries your school uses for short movies to reinforce the main points of the lesson.
6. Check out this blog post I wrote for even more ideas and activities for using the alphabet board, vocabulary board or vocabulary cards:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2019/01/14/awesome-activities-to-do-with-vocabulary-boards-and-cards/>
7. If you have students who struggle with cutting, or scissors are not a safe option, then be sure to check out this blog post where I walk through how to complete different types of cut and paste worksheets without having to do any cutting at all.
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2020/04/27/no-scissors-allowed/>

There are detailed lesson plans with suggestions on how to make this curriculum most successful. I typically had 6-8 students with one other adult to help with the lesson. All my students had significant behavioral and learning challenges.

Remember, there is another pdf with directions and links to digital activities for this unit.

Color version

Letter F

Letter of the Week Unit

By
Christa Joy
Special Needs for Special Kids



In separate files, you will:

- Black and white version of this unit
- 5-day lesson plan
- Directions and links to digital activities

Each unit comes in 2 separate files. One is completely in color and one is completely in black and white.

Quick Look

Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet song• Book• Class circle map• Individual circle map
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet song• Book• Class scavenger hunt• Individual sorting activity
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet song• Book• Paper plate game• Letter collage
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet song• Book• Craft• Preposition book
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alphabet song• Social story• Social story activity• Snack recipe

The lesson plans contain:

A quick look at what you will do each day. Each letter of the week unit is meant to last 5 days of instruction.

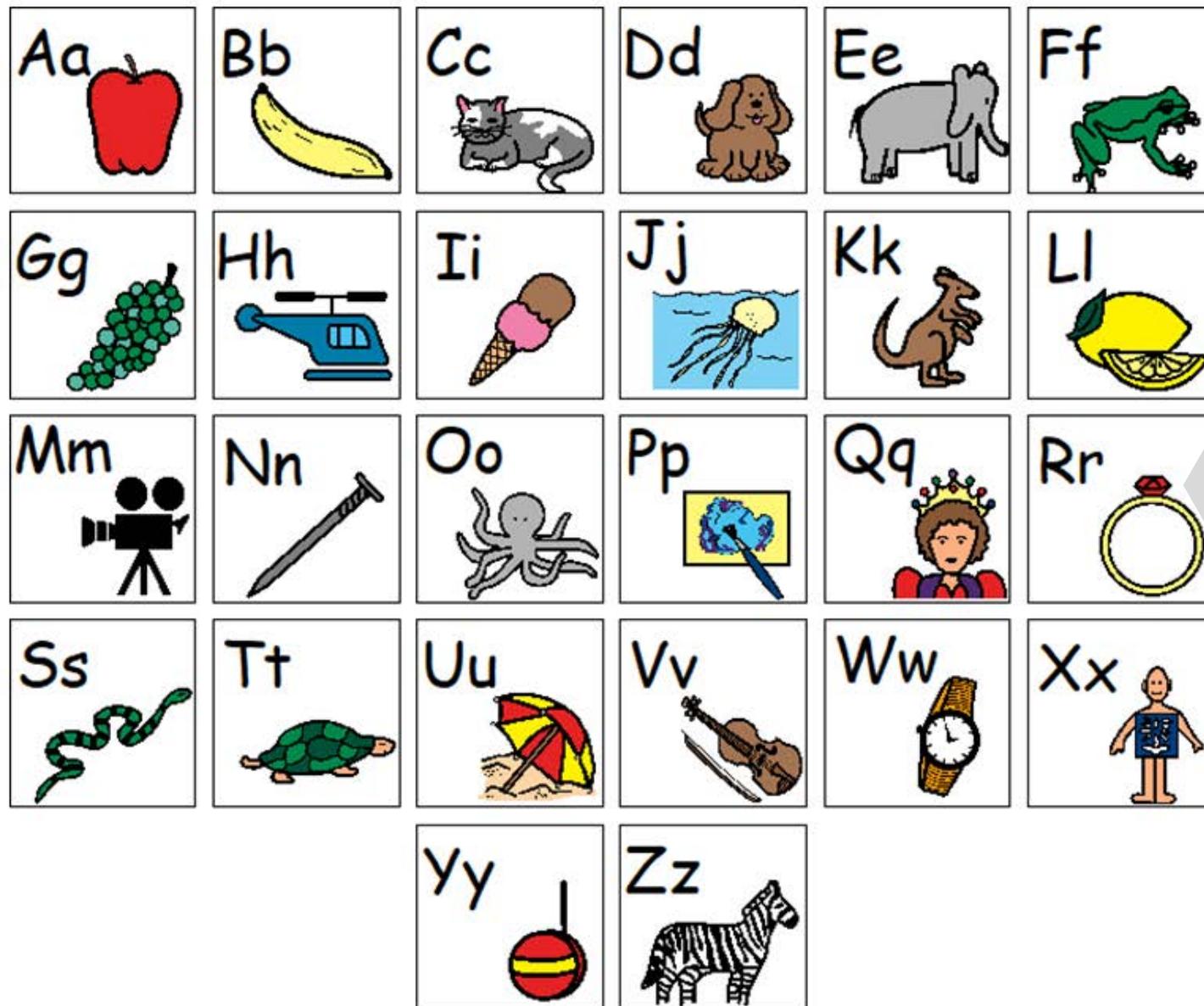
Day 2

Activity	Notes	Materials
Sing alphabet song	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Using your favorite alphabet song, sing along using the alphabet board.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students should point to each letter as they singSpecial attention is paid to finding the letter of the week as well as past letters learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SongAlphabet board
Read the book: Letter of the week (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read through the story, asking lots of questionsContinue to make connections between book and alphabet board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">BookAlphabet board
Group activity (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Scavenger Hunt (See activity for detailed directions)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students will go around the room looking for the letter of the week and objects that start with that letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Letter of the week cards
Circle map review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review the circle map completed yesterday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Circle map completed yesterday
Individual activity (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Do the sorting activity<ul style="list-style-type: none">Choose to use either picture symbols, actual letters in different fonts or BOTH!!Use color coding if needed for additional support (answer key included)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sorting activityScissorsGlue
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Each student shares their finished sorting activity with the group using the communication method of their choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed activityCommunication devices

The lesson plans contain:
Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run including group and individual activities.

This unit comes with an alphabet board.

Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.



Tips on how to use in the unit!!



Jaguar starts with J.

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids



Jumping rope starts with J.

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

Each unit comes with a 20 page book for that letter. It has photos and simple, repeatable text.

Each daily lesson is started with this book.

Watch
the movie
on the
Letter V



The Letter V

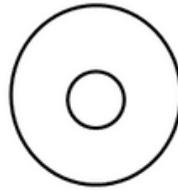
By Christa Joy

If you do not want to print the book out, there is a link to a movie version (mp4 file) that you can play in a google slide online or project. It is read aloud and has automatic page advancement.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

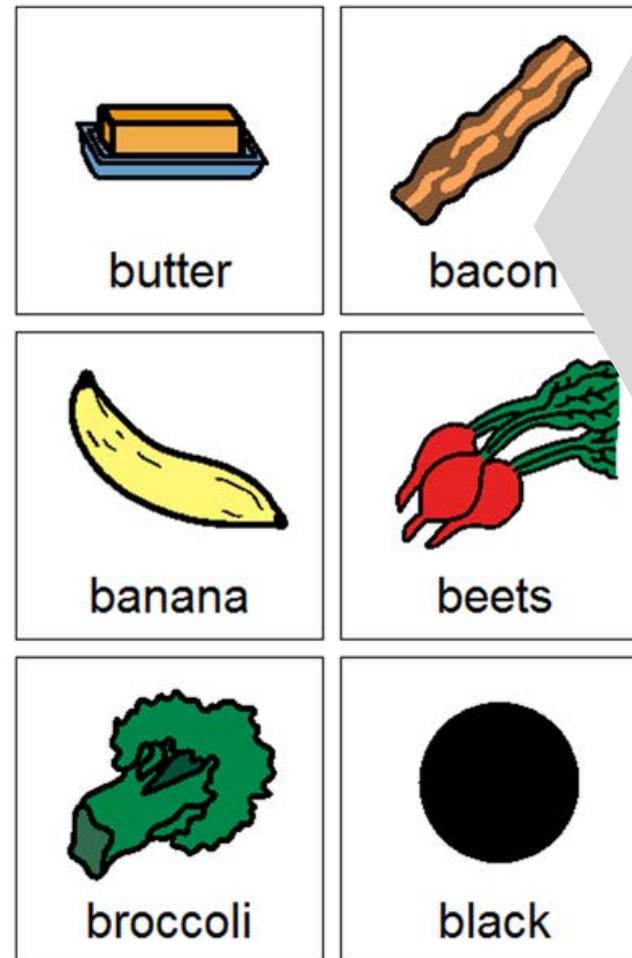
- CLASS CIRCLE MAP
 - SCAVENGER HUNT
 - PAPER PLATE GAME
 - CRAFT
 - PICTURE RECIPE
-
- EACH GROUP ACTIVITY COMES WITH DIRECTIONS AND A LIST OF MATERIALS NEEDED
 - EVERY UNIT HAS THE SAME ACTIVITIES

Class Circle Map



- Preparation
 - Draw a large circle on a piece of poster board (I used a class trash can)
 - Either laminate or apply pieces of hook Velcro in random places within the circle
 - Cut out follow pictures, laminate and attach loop Velcro if using
- Directions
 - Place a post-it note in center of the letter of the week
 - Distribute prepared letter card symbols to the students.
 - Have them take turns bringing up cards and adding to circle
 - When complete, re-name all pictures in the circle
 - There are enough cards to use different cards throughout the week

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Day 1

The class circle map comes with directions and suggestions for modifications. There are 30 large picture cards included.

Class Scavenger Hunt

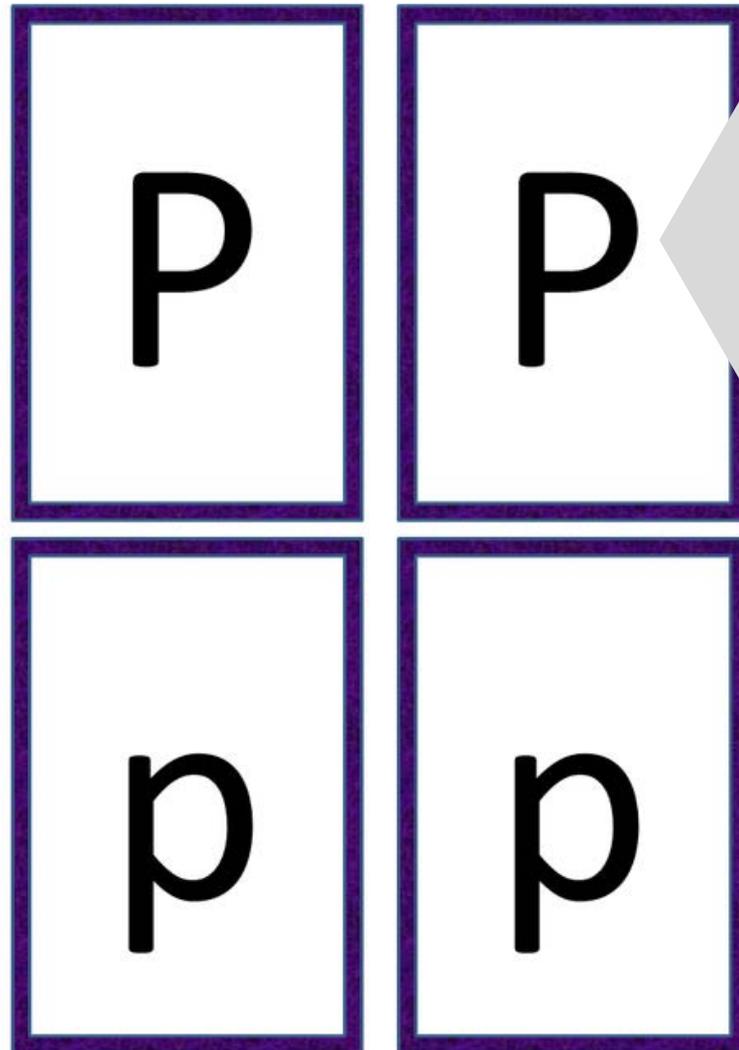


- **Preparation**
 - Print out as many copies of the letter card as you think you will need. Laminate for durability.
 - Place the letter cards on various things around the room that start with the letter of the week
- **Directions**
 - Have students walk around looking for items that start with the letter of the week
 - Once students find the letter label, they should attempt to name the item they have found
- **Differentiation**
 - For students that need more structure, give them a piece of poster board with blank spaces to show them how many letter cards they should try to find
 - For students still struggling, have pictures of what items they are to find and see if they can match the object that starts with the letter to the picture
- For *5 different ways to do a scavenger hunt*, check out this blog post with free hunts to download:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2019/03/11/5-new-ways-to-use-a-scavenger-hunt-in-special-ed/>

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Day 2

The scavenger hunt also comes with directions and modification options.



Pick up the Plates



- **Preparation**
 - Print out as many copies of the letter cards as you think you will need. Laminate for durability.
 - Print out letter of the week pictures and “distracters”
 - Attach letters and pictures to inexpensive paper plates
- **Directions**
 - Spread the paper plates around the classroom or work area on the floor
 - You can choose to either place them upside down for variation 1 or right side up for variation 2
 - Variation 1
 - Students take turn picking up a plate and bringing it back to their seat
 - The student gets to keep the plate if it is the letter of the week or a picture that begins with the letter of the week
 - Whoever has the most plates at the end of the games wins
 - Variation 2
 - Student looks at plates and tries to only pick up one that has the letter of the week or a picture that begins with that sound
 - Student gets to keep the plate if correct.
 - Whoever has the most plates at the end wins
- **Differentiation**
 - For students that need more struct week and the pictures that start w background color. That way stude cue to the correct answer.
 - Or, eliminate the distracters all tog

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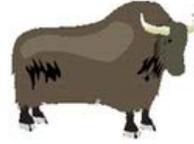
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Day 3

The paper plate game gets kids up and moving around. This was my students' favorite game!



Yarny Yak



- This craft is specifically designed for students with severe disabilities to enable them to complete it as independently as possible.
- This craft also addresses the sensory needs many of our students have.
- Print out the yak silhouette onto cardstock
- Apply glue to interior of silhouette
 - Either student or teacher should apply the glue depending on the learning level of your students
- Give students a pile of clipped pieces of yarn to spread on the glue
 - Allow your students to do the snipping if they are able. Rubber band a wad of yarn together to make it easier for students to cut. This also gives them more sensory input (tactile and visual) than just snipping a single piece of yarn into smaller pieces.
- For the eyes, give students a cotton ball colored with black spot
- Differentiation
 - Again, consider outlining border or yak with hot glue to give students a tactile border of where yarn should go



Day 4

Each week has a craft that is specifically designed so students can do much of it independently.

Zucchini Muffins

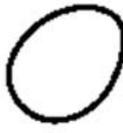


- Preparation
 - Print out ingredient labels and affix to ingredients prior to lesson
 - Depending on the learning level of your students you can either pre-measure the ingredients so they are just dumping in what is in the containers, **or**
 - Allow your students to measure out the correct amount (good for older students especially)
 - Review and address any food allergies
 - Depending on learning style of your students, either print a class copy of the recipe directions or make a copy for each student
 - *For students that are visually overwhelmed, cut apart the recipe and mount each step on a separate index card*
 - You will need access to an oven
- Directions
 - As a class make muffins following the recipe

Ahead of time, you will want to make up the flour mix:

- 3 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg

Ingredient Labels

 grated zucchini	 butter
 sugar	 egg
 vanilla	 flour mix

Recipe

1. Mix together:
 -  1 1/3 cups 
 - 2** 
 - 2 teaspoons 
2. Melt butter
 -  2/3 cups 
3. Mix in:
 -  3 cup 
 -  2/3 cups 
4. Mix in:
 -  

Recipe

5. Pour into sprayed muffin tin
 -  
6. Bake at 350 for 25 minutes
 - 

Day 5

Each week has a simple picture recipe that is done on day 5 as the last activity of the week.

INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES

- CIRCLE MAP
 - SORTING ACTIVITY
 - COLLAGE
 - CRAFT
 - ACTIVITY TO GO WITH A SOCIAL STORY
-
- EACH INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY COMES WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR DIFFERENTIATION
 - EVERY UNIT HAS THE SAME ACTIVITIES

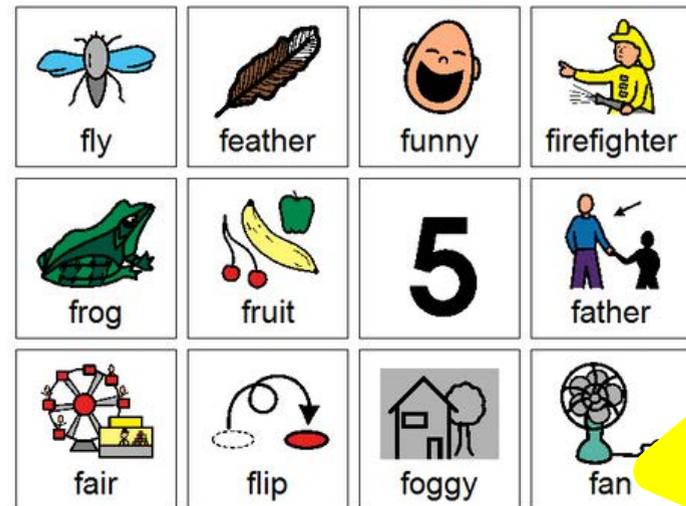


Day 1

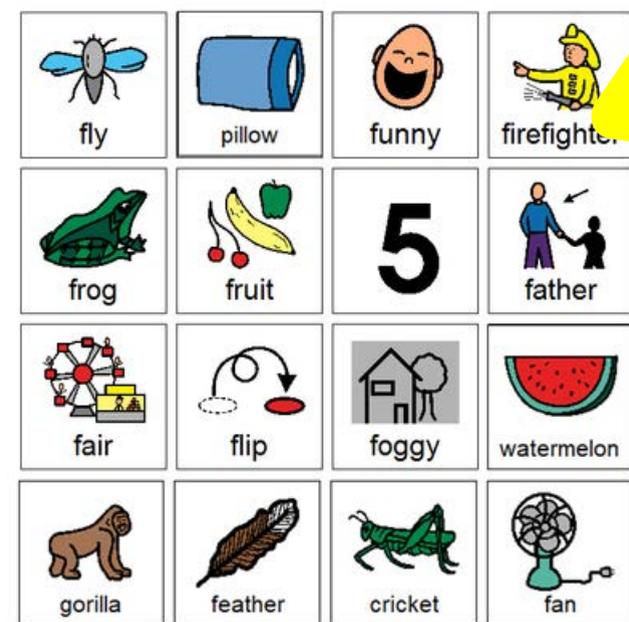
Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers

An option that has wrong answers mixed in students will need to set aside.



Cut out pictures below and paste in circle map only if the start with the letter F.

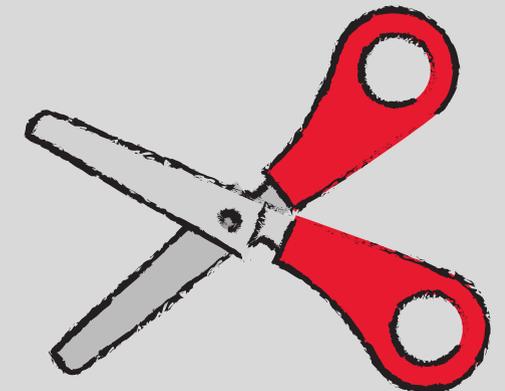


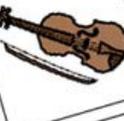
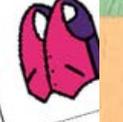
Day 2

There are sorting activities.

One sort uses pictures and one uses letters in various fonts.

Directions for differentiation are included.



S,s		V,v	
			
			
			
			
			
			

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S,s		V,v	
s	S	v	V
ſ	Š	v̂	V̂
ſ	Š	V	V
s	S	v	V
S	S	v	V

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Letter K collage



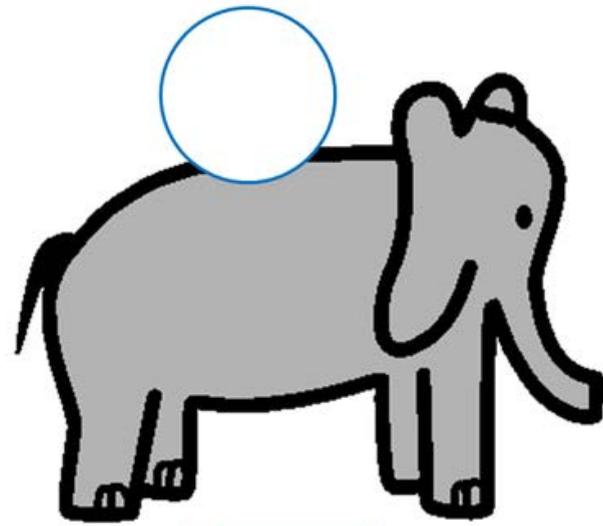
- Directions
 - Print out one copy per student of the upper-case letter template on cardstock
 - Paint the interior of the letter J with white glue
 - Empty Kool-Aid powder into a cup
 - Let students sprinkle powder onto interior of letter template
- Differentiation
 - Different types of Kool-Aid will have different scents and colors. FUN!
 - For students that have a hard time pouring things, make a small hole in the Kool-Aid envelope so powder will come out slowly when held over paper

Day 3

Students make a collage using a letter template and an item for that letter of the week. There are modifications and ways to differentiate included.

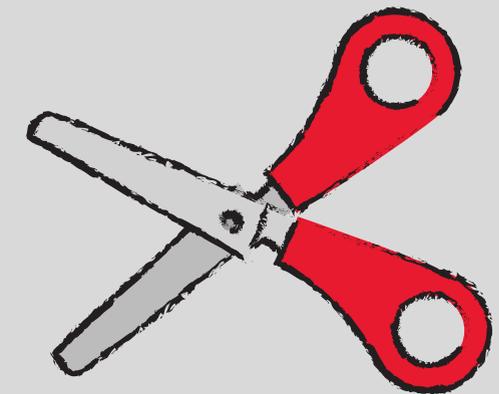
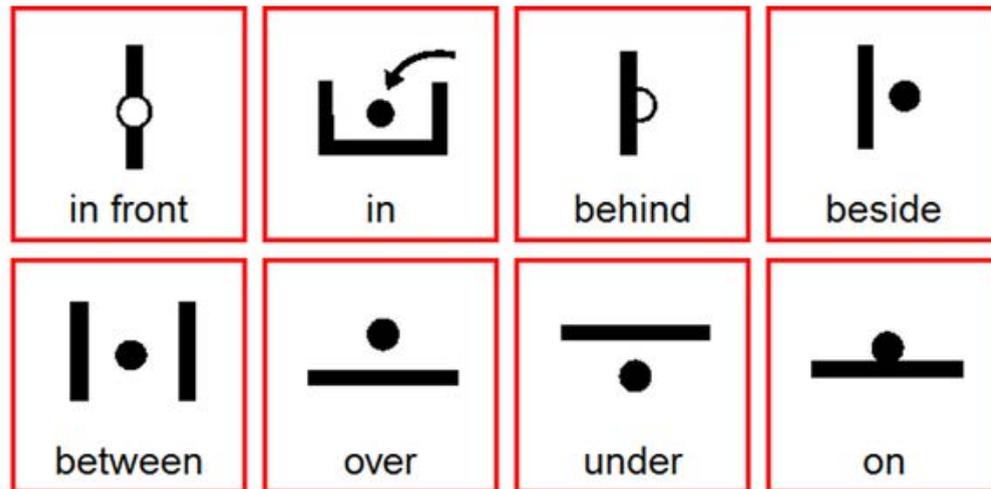
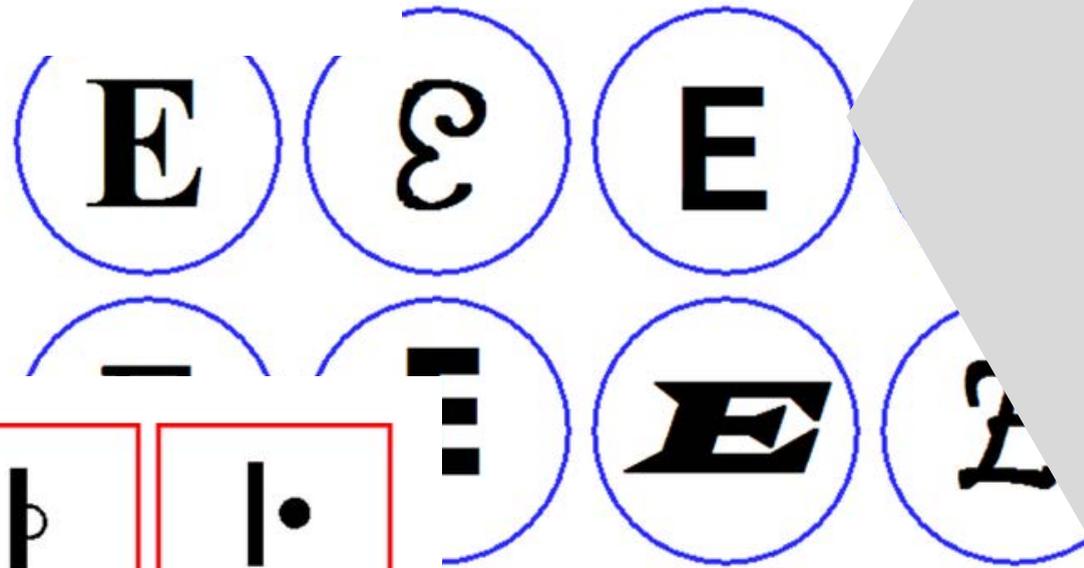


Day 4



The letter E is the elephant.

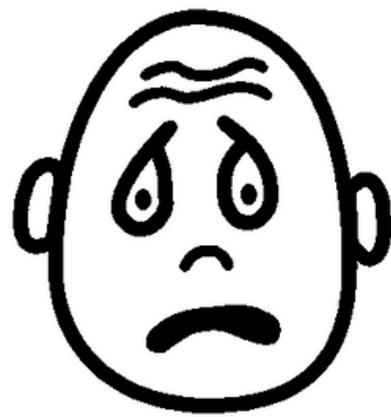
Students complete a preposition booklet indicating where the letter of the week is located in relation to various objects.



But sometimes things change.



Change can be scary.



Page 5

There are things I can do to help me deal with changes.



Page 6

Day 5

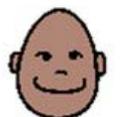
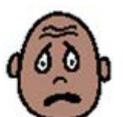
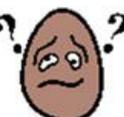
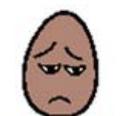
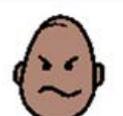
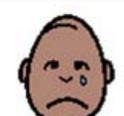
Each unit has a social story that has photos and simple text and relates to that letter of the week. It also comes in a black and white booklet.

Change Makes Me Feel

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Emotions to use on previous page

 okay	 afraid	 confused	 curious
 disappointed	 excited	 frustrated	 happy
 mad	 nauseated	 sad	 surprised
 terrible	 uncomfortable	 upset	 worried
 great			

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There is an individual activity that relates to that social story. Directions and modifications are provided.

DIGITAL ACTIVITIES

- CIRCLE MAP
- 2 SORTING ACTIVITIES
- CIRCLE ALL THE OBJECTS STARTING WITH THE LETTER OF THE WEEK
- PREPOSITION BOOK
- ACTIVITY TO GO WITH A SOCIAL STORY

- THERE ARE 2 SETS OF SLIDES.
 - ONE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENTIATED WITH COLOR
- BOTH BOOKS ARE EMBEDDED AS MOVIES INTO THE SET OF SLIDES

Watch the movie about the letter I



The Letter I

By Christa Joy

Watch the movie about Listening

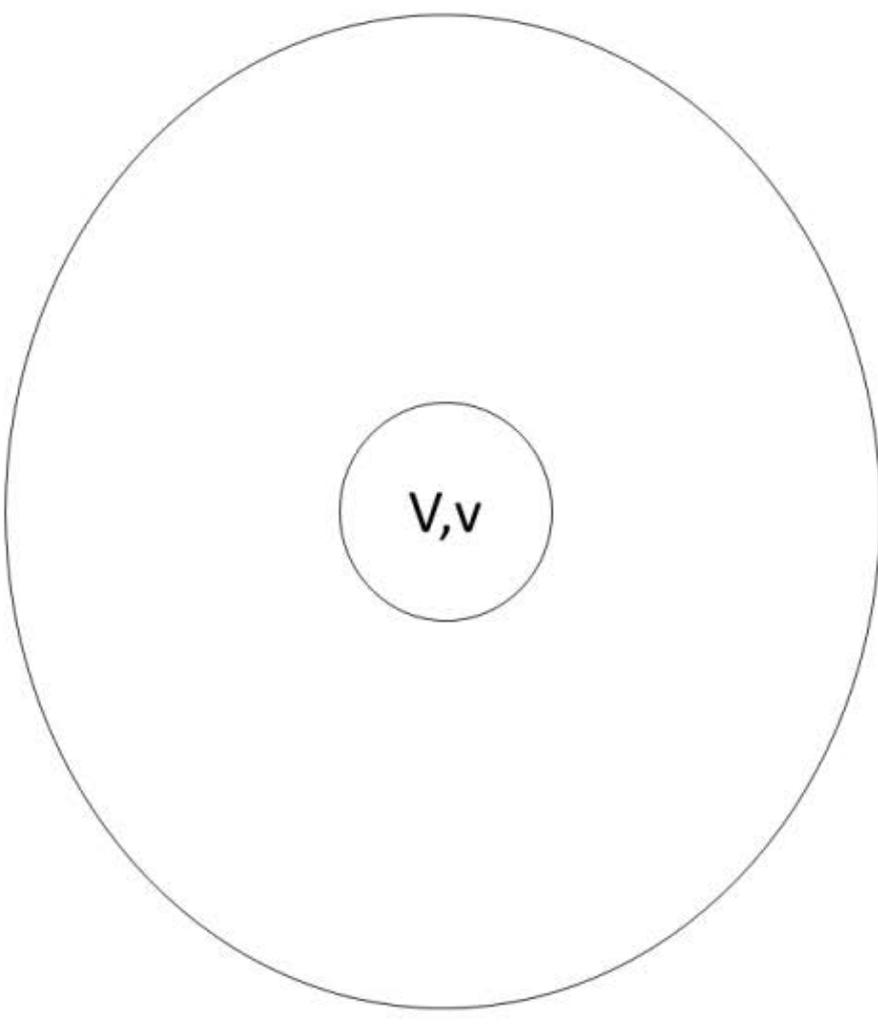


Listen



By
Christa Joy

Students can watch the movies of both the letter of the week book and the social story.



Place the pictures in the circle map that start with the letter V.

 vote	 visit	 volunteer	 van
 vampire	 veteran	 van	 visor
 vest	 vegetables	 vanilla	 visor

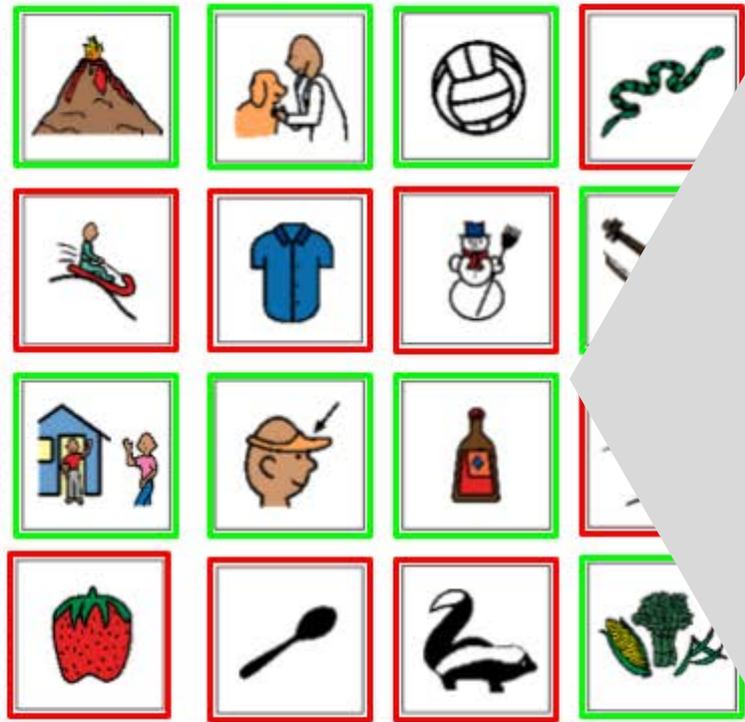
Each activity is set up so students can click and drag answers. No typing is required.



V,v

S,s

Sort the following into the correct column depending on what letter they begin with.



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The second set of slides uses color for differentiation and extra support for students who may need it. Mix and match slides from both sets to make the perfect set for each student.



I realize there will be some students out there unable to do cutting activities. I have a blog post with ways to complete activities without a pair of scissors!!

[Click Here to read more!!](#)