

# **Surprise Island Boxcar Children #2**

**27 activities**

**5 questions for  
each chapter**



**Special Needs for Special Kids**



These novel units are something I created and started using in my classroom. I had students with significant challenges and most were **non-readers** (like my little guy). They were the best thing I ever did, and my students LOVED them.

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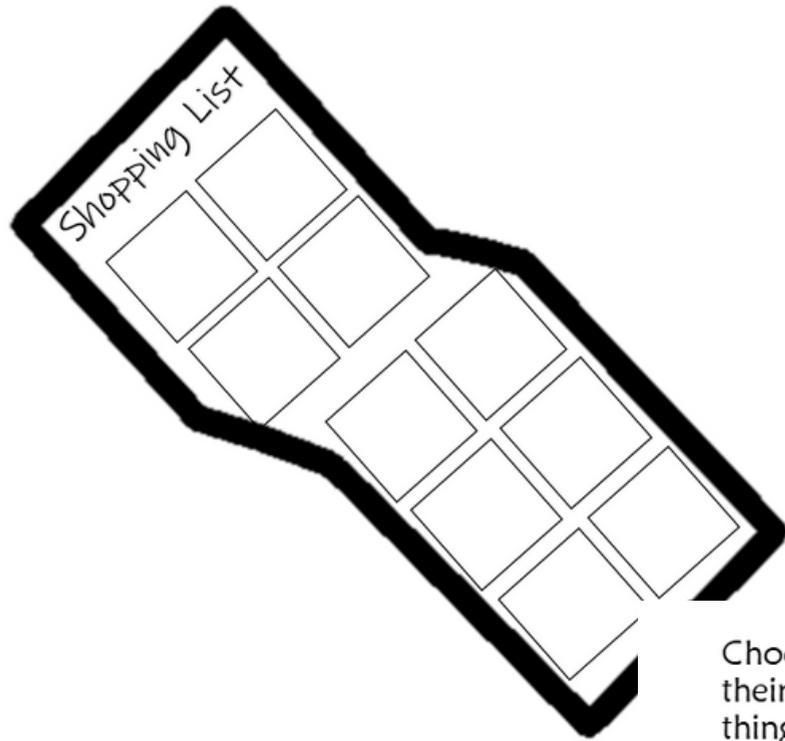
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This novel unit has **27 different activities.**

There are 1-2 activities for each chapter that are NOT comprehension based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

What are some things you think the children put on their list for things they want from the store?



Choose some things you think the children should put on their shopping list. Be careful!! You can only choose 10 things, so pick the best ones.



For example, the children must go shopping for things they will need on the island.

So, I have an activity where students will choose from a group of possible items. They can only choose 10 things to put on their list however.

## Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *Surprise Island* by Gertrude Chandler Warner. This is the second book in the Boxcar Children series.
- The thought is that you would be reading it aloud to your class at a rate of about 1 chapter per day.
- Be sure to give each student their own copy of the story board (pg. 7) to use while reading and discussing the story.
- Benefits of reading out loud, even to classes made up of severely affected students:
  - Teaches students to sit quietly even when there isn't something for them to do. This is such an important life skill. We all have to spend time sitting and listening to someone we are not that interested in at some point.
  - Parents will LOVE you. Not only will they be excited their child is being exposed to age appropriate material, but you are teaching them how to sit quietly, which will hopefully transfer to home as well.
  - Even with your lowest level learners, you will have 1 or 2 that will truly enjoy the story.
  - It can be a calming experience to sit and listen to the teacher read in a methodical way.

Suggestions on how I found this activity worked best in my classroom are provided. I typically had 6-8 students in grades K-5 with one adult assistant in the room with me.

Color version

# The Boxcar Children #2 Surprise Island for Special Education

By  
Christa Joy  
Special Needs for Special Kids



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*This entire novel unit  
comes in 2 separate files.  
One is completely in color  
and one is completely in  
black and white.*



This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

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

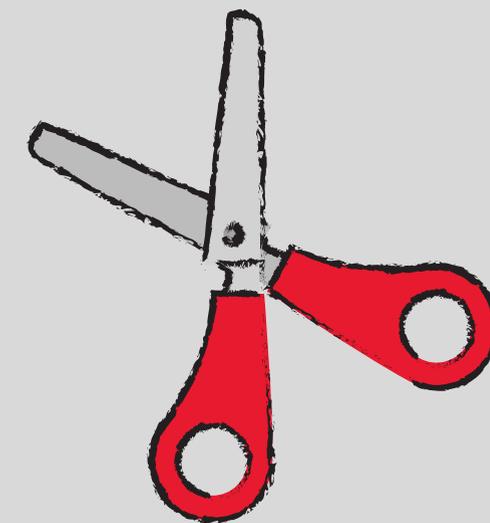
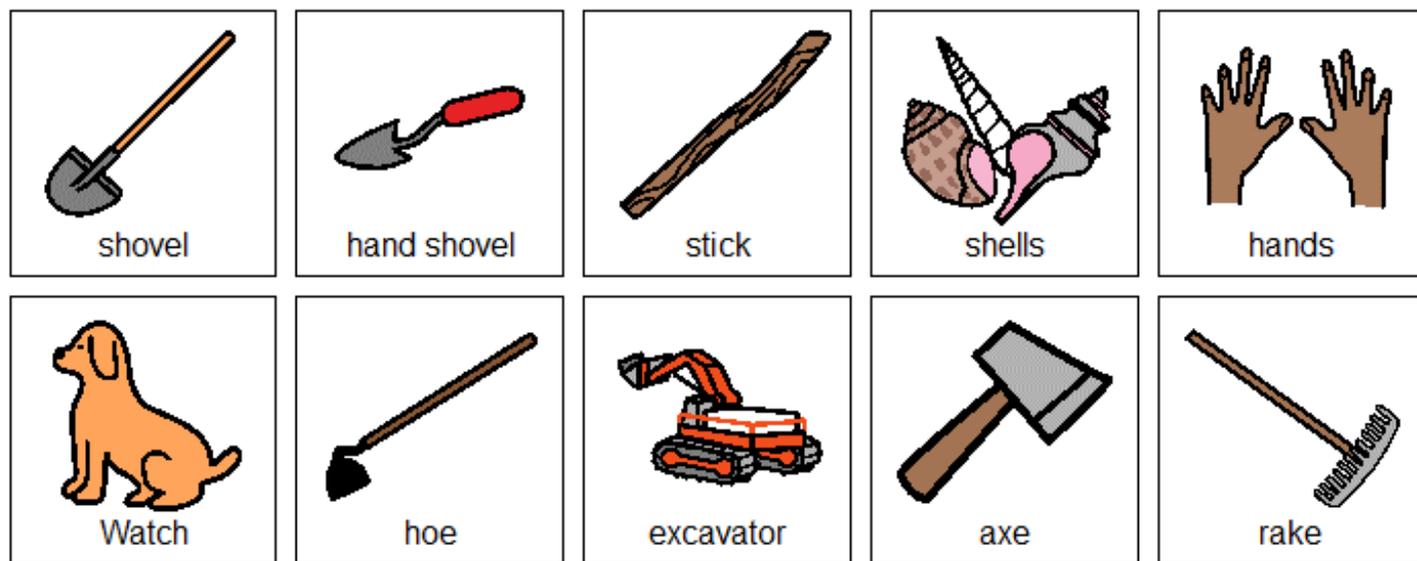
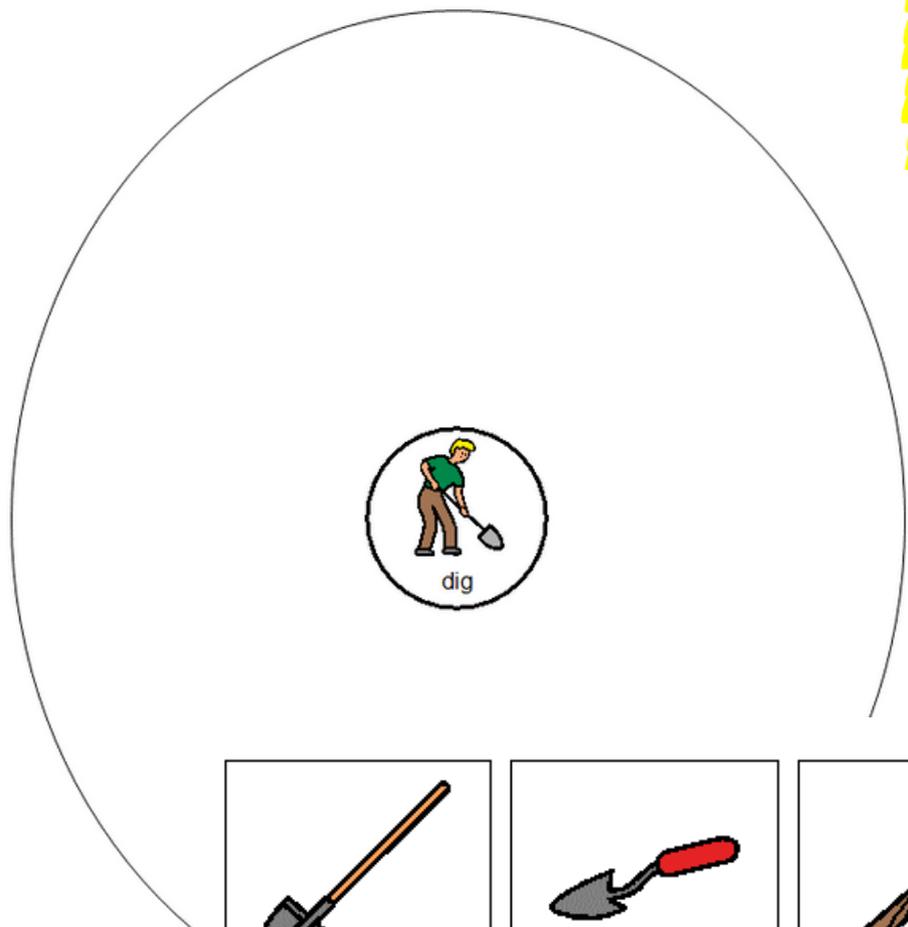
Tips on how to use in the unit!!

The children are digging in the sand. What are some things that you could use to dig in the sand?

## Chapter 8

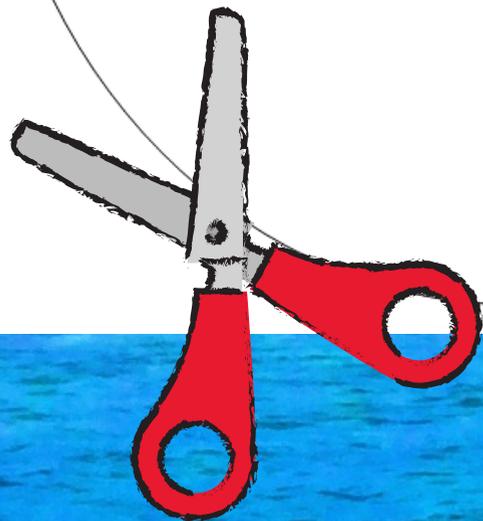
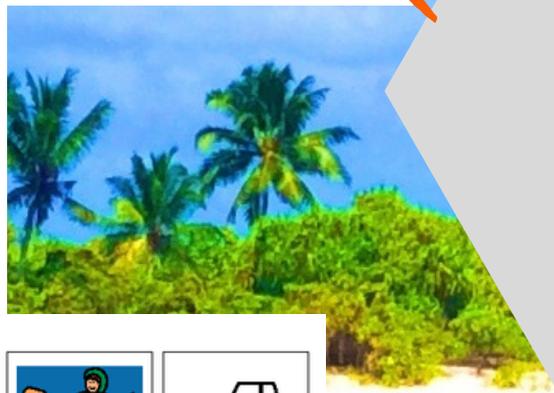
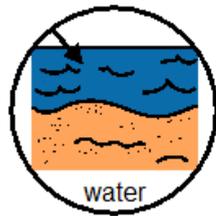
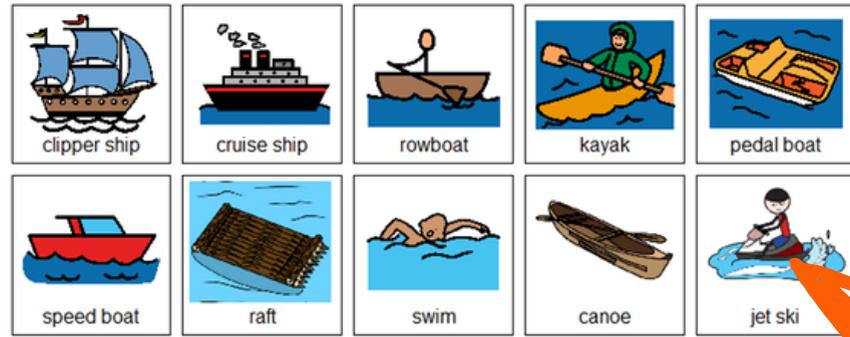
There are circle maps in this unit.

Circle maps are a great way for students to see the big idea.



# Chapter 4

How are some ways the children could get to the island?

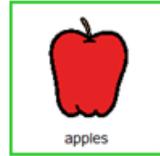


Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers

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

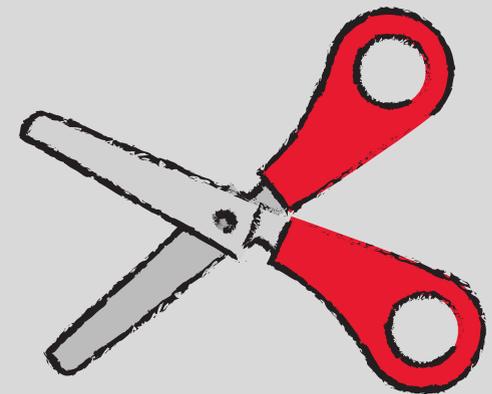
Jessie makes her first apple pie. What are some foods that contain apples?



# Chapter 11

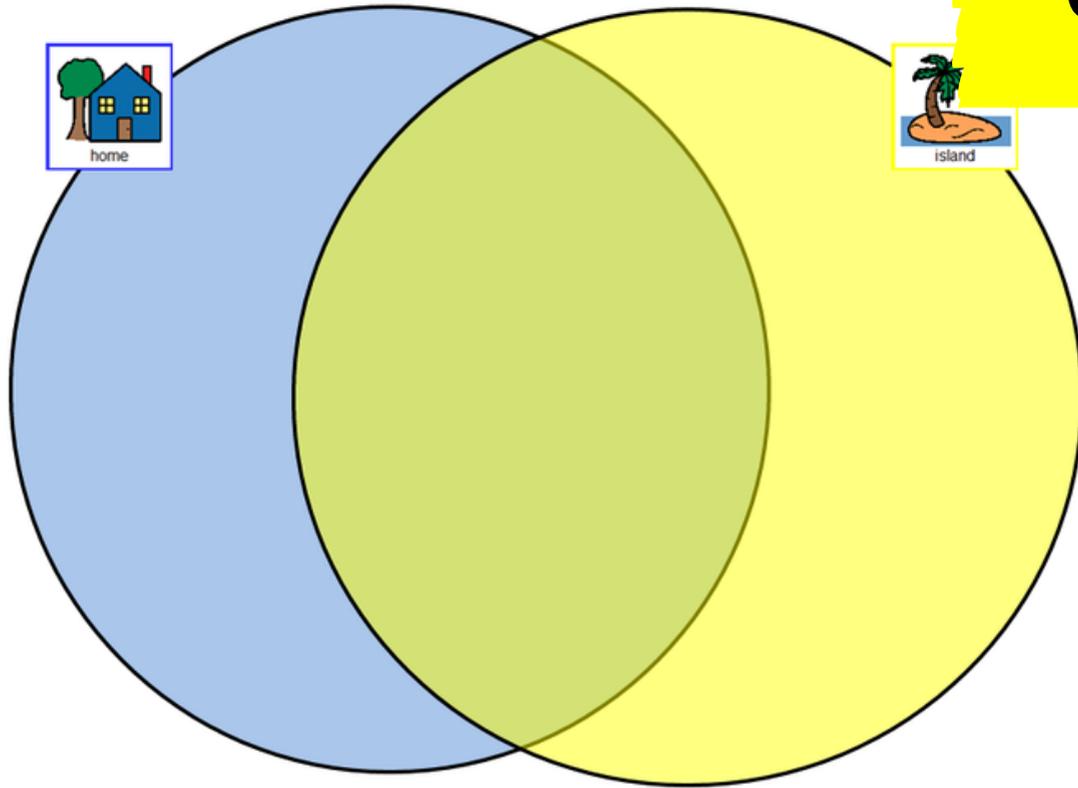
There are sorting activities.

Directions on how to add color coding for differentiation is included.



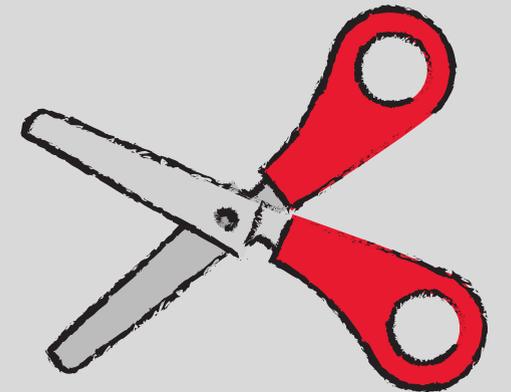
# Chapter 15

The children are going back home after their summer on the island. Complete the Venn diagram showing how the island and back home are alike and different.



 Captain Daniel	 boxcar	 museum	 Dr. Moore	 barn
 lobster	 Henry	 grandfather	 cave	 Benny
 bell	 Jessie	 school	 Watch	 Watch

Many of the activities are differentiated for you. That way more students can participate independently along with their peers.



**color coding added**

# A Message in a Bottle

I found a bottle at the . It had a message inside.

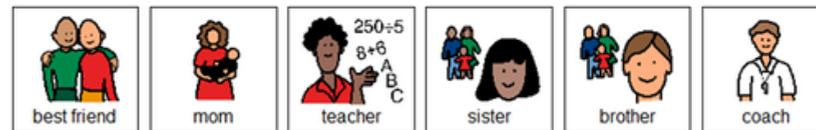
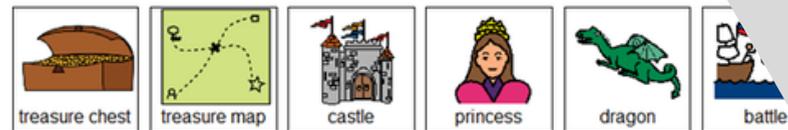
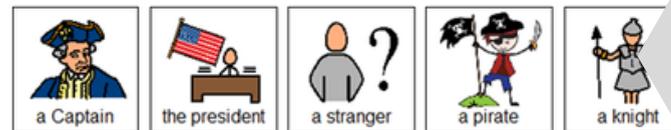
The message was addressed to .



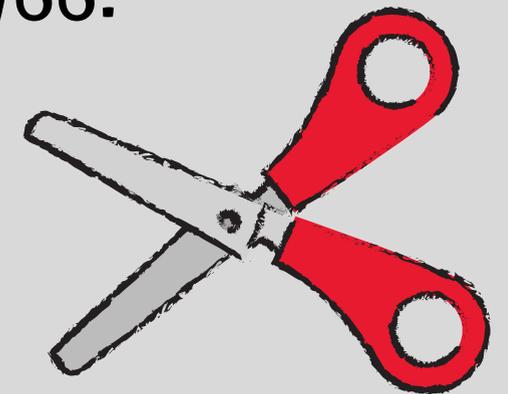
It talked about a .

I decided to give the message to my .

Then I put a message back in the bottle about .

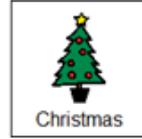


There are 2 different writing prompts in this unit. These are **errorless** activities that allow students to write their own story and share it with the class.

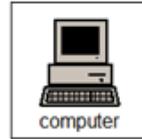
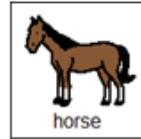


# CH 1

1. When did Grandfather promise to tell the children about the surprise?



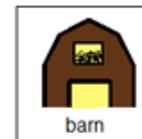
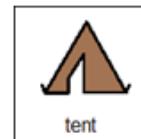
2. What was the surprise?



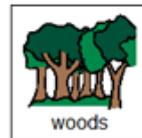
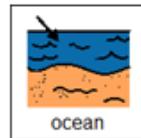
3. Who else lives on the island?



4. Where will the children live?



5. Where will the children get their supplies?



Finally this unit does come with 5 comprehension questions for each chapter. Each question has 3 pictures choices.

Answer key included!!



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!!](#)**