

Special Ed

The War that Saved My Life



Special Needs for Special Kids

46 activities

**5 questions/
2 chapters**



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

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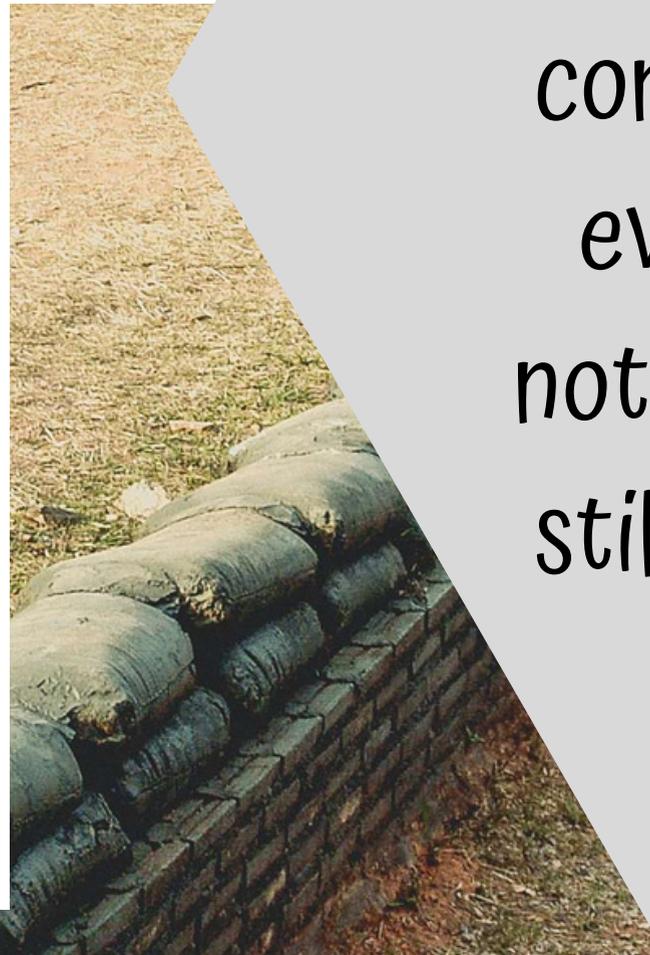
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This novel unit has **46** different activities. These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.



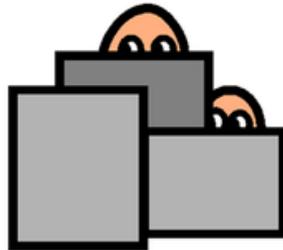
I thought I saw a spy

I thought I saw a spy. He was in the

He was so

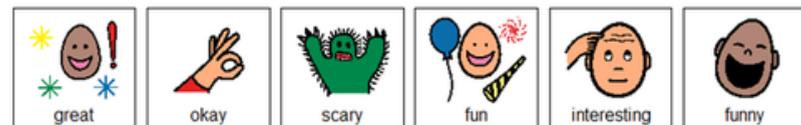
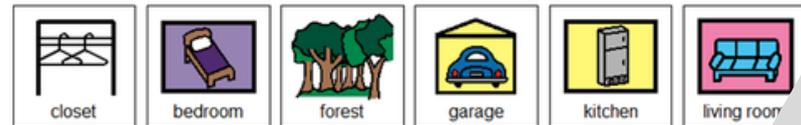
I ran to tell my

about it.



When we went back, he was

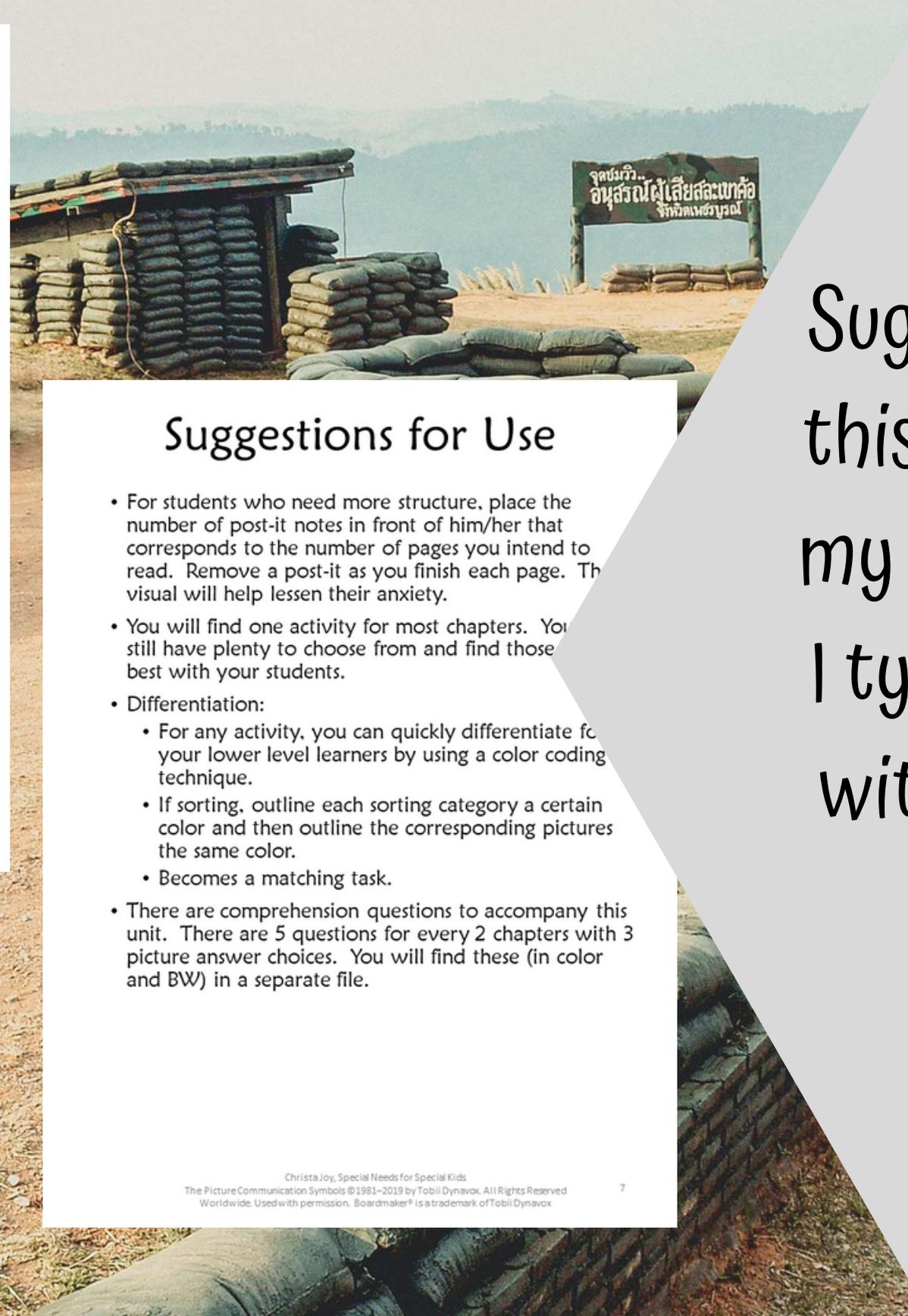
I think spies can be



For example, everyone is told to be on the lookout for spies. One day, Ada does see a spy. Here, students will write a story about seeing a spy. This is an errorless activity.

Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *The War that Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.
- The thought is that you would be reading it aloud to your class at a rate of about 1-2 chapters per day.
- Be sure to give each student their own copy of the story board (pg. 8) 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 for Use

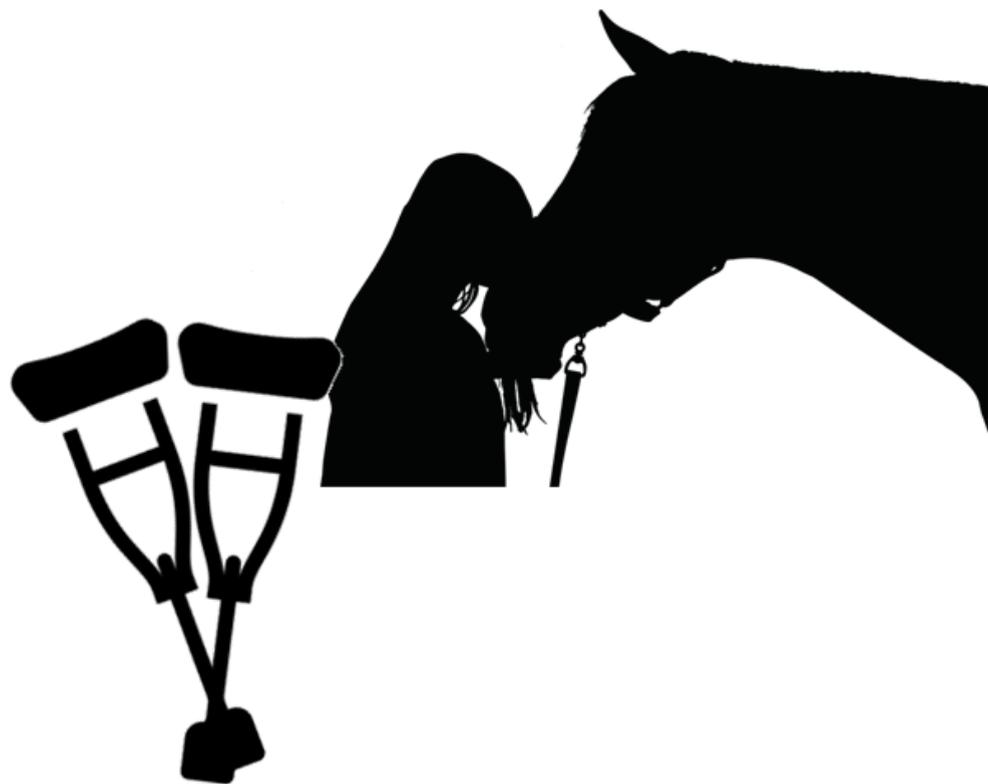
- For students who need more structure, place the number of post-it notes in front of him/her that corresponds to the number of pages you intend to read. Remove a post-it as you finish each page. The visual will help lessen their anxiety.
- You will find one activity for most chapters. You still have plenty to choose from and find those best with your students.
- Differentiation:
 - For any activity, you can quickly differentiate for your lower level learners by using a color coding technique.
 - If sorting, outline each sorting category a certain color and then outline the corresponding pictures the same color.
 - Becomes a matching task.
- There are comprehension questions to accompany this unit. There are 5 questions for every 2 chapters with 3 picture answer choices. You will find these (in color and BW) in a separate file.

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

The War that Saved My Life

Novel Unit for Special Education

By
Christa Joy
Special Needs for Special Kids



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.

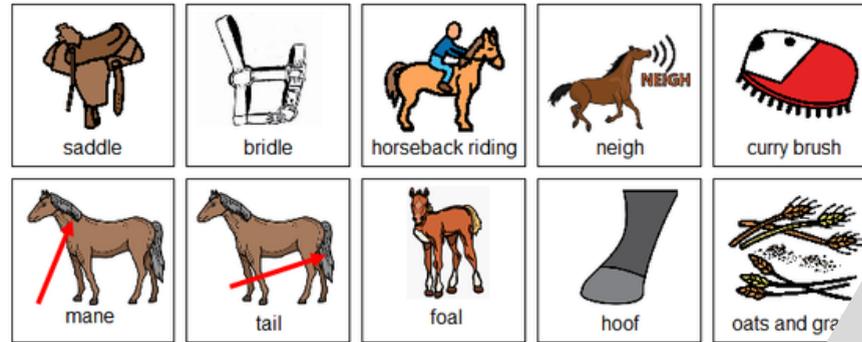
Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!

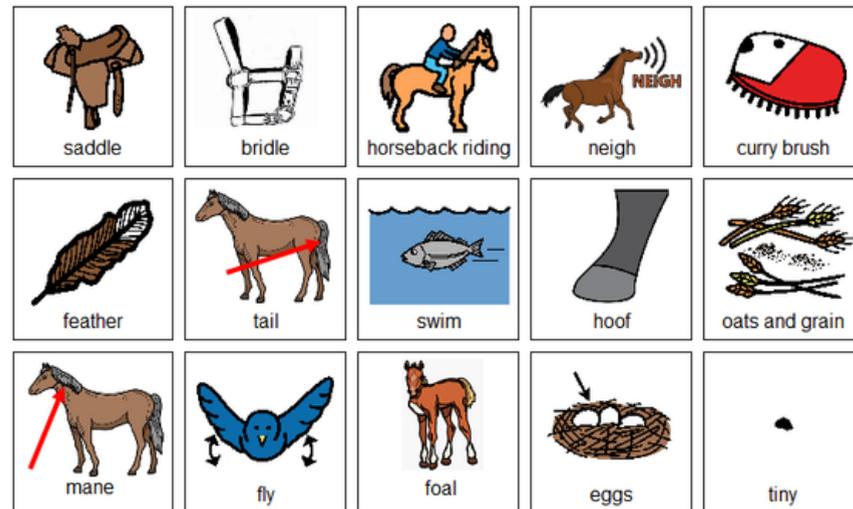
Complete the circle map with things you know about horses.

Errorless version

Cut out and place in the circle map on the previous page about horses.

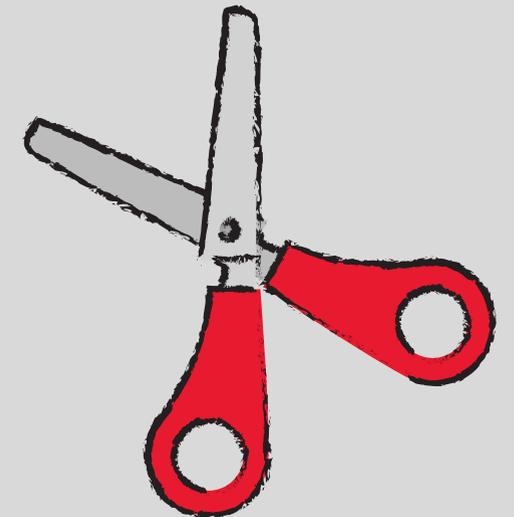


Cut out and place in the circle map on previous page **ONLY IF** you think they are facts about horses.



There are circle maps in this unit.

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

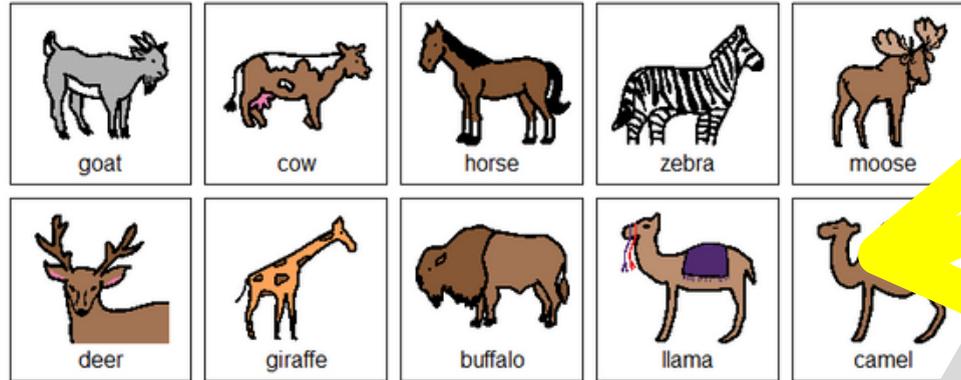


What are some animals that have hooves?

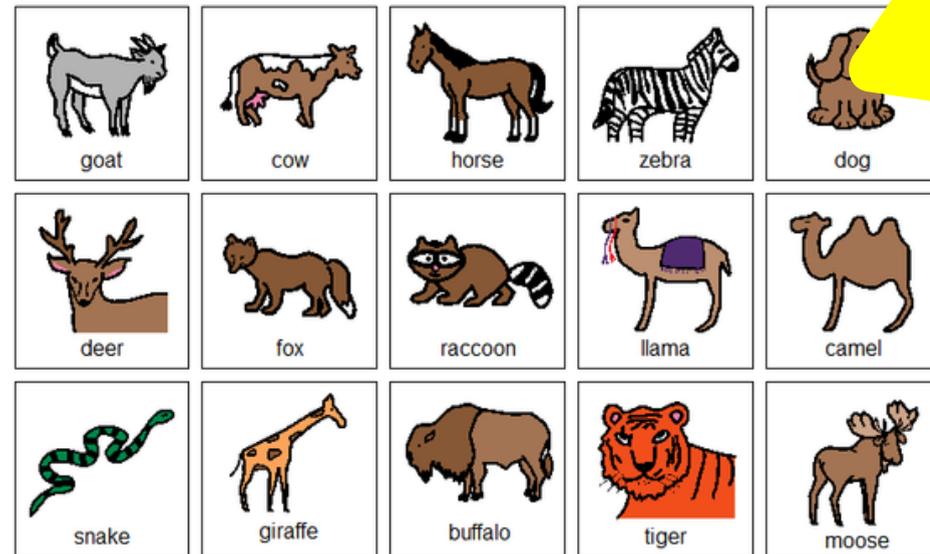


Place the pictures in the circle map on previous page showing animals with hooves.

Errorless version



Place the pictures in the circle map on previous page **only if** they are animals with hooves.

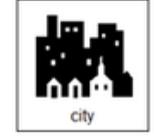


Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers

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

All the children have to leave the city and go to the country. What are some things you might find in the country and what would you find in the city?

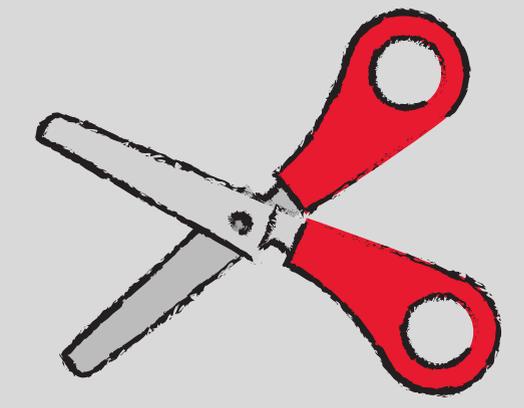


Place in the correct location column on previous page. If you are not sure, or think it could be in both places, put it on the middle line.

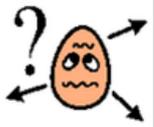
apartment	farm	sky scrapers	barn	subway
cow	parking meter	field	taxi	tractor
hay wagon	elevator	pond	forest	sidewalk
bus	lots of people	park	parking garage	pig

There are sorting activities.

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



Ada bring Miss Smith some tea when she is feeling sad. What are some ways we can comfort people in the following situations?

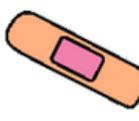
 sick		 lonely	
 sad		 bored	
 I'm lost		 far away	
 hurt		 sore throat	

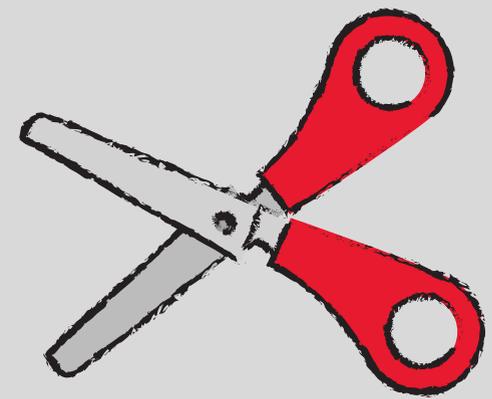


There are matching activities.

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

Match with the situations on previous page. Try and make the **BEST** match.

 play a game	 bandaid	 map	 chicken soup
 joke	 tea with honey	 visit	 send a card



Sometimes...

Sometimes, things make me

, especially when it seems unfair.

When I feel this way, I try to



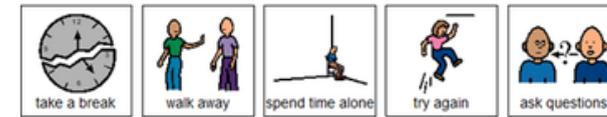
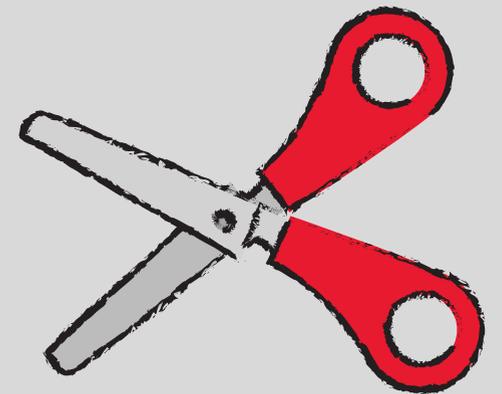
If that doesn't work, I can

I know life is not always fair, and that is

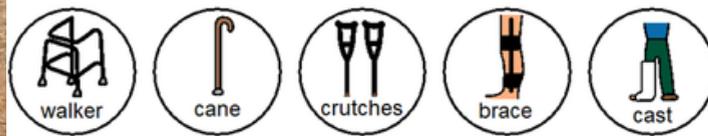
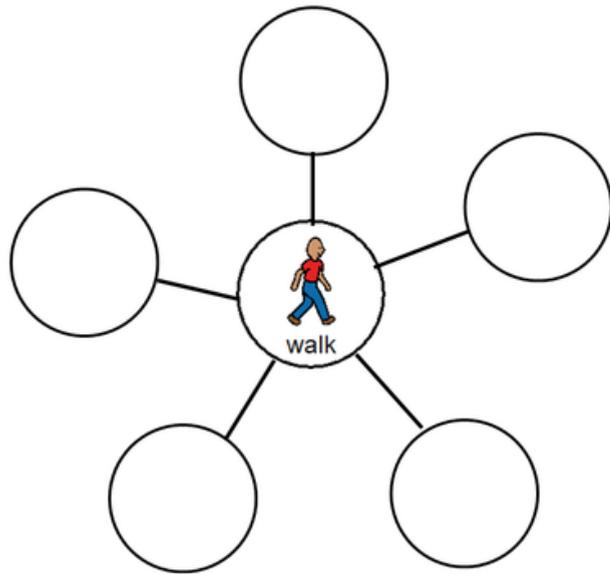
I know I will be



There are writing prompts. These are errorless activities that allow students to write a story independently.

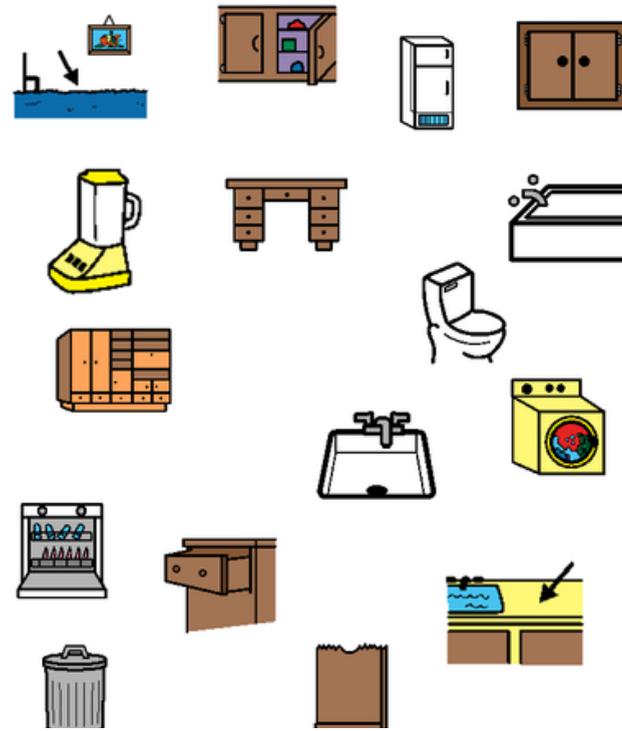


What are things that can help a person walk?



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

Circle all the places a spy could look for something that was hidden. Answer may vary.



Answer the questions about the invitation.

1. What is it an invitation for?



2. Where will it be held?



3. What day is it?



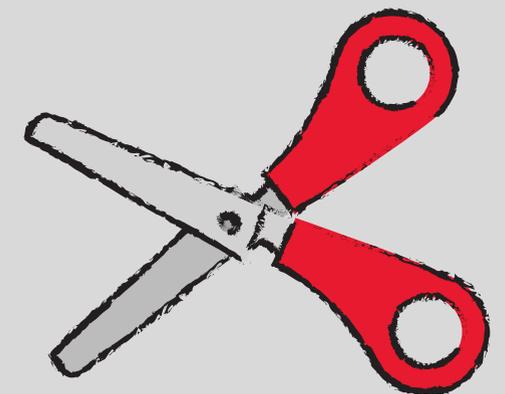
4. What will you be doing?



5. What does RSVP mean?



Because there are so many activities, you can choose the ones that fit your students the best.



Look at the invitation below (front and back), and then answer some questions about it.

You are invited to tea.

Where: Joe's house

When: June 6, 4:00 pm

Please come and play some cards with me and enjoy some tea and biscuits.

RSVP

1. What did Ada fix for Miss Smith when she was so sad?



2. Why did Jamie throw a tantrum in town?



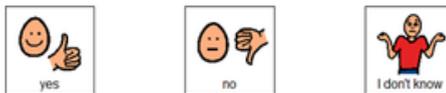
3. What does Miss Smith learn she will get for keeping Ada and Jamie?



4. What does Ada learn to do with Butter?



5. Does Ada want to go home?



1. What did Ada think she had broken?



2. Where did Ada hide?



3. What did Jamie bring home?



4. What did Mr. Grimes find for Ada?



5. Who reads Ada the letter Maggie sent?



This unit does come with comprehension questions. There are 5 questions for every chapter. Each question has 3 picture choices. They are in color and black and white.

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!!](#)