

Special Ed



# A KIND OF SPARK

25 activities

5 questions/  
chapters



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**. They were the best thing I ever did, and my students LOVED them.

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This novel unit has **25 different activities**. These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

Each time you finish a chapter, there will be an activity your students can do.

The activity will relate to something that occurred in that chapter.

These are cut-and-paste activities that are supported with pictures.

**Optional:** Quiz student's comprehension by having them answer 5 multiple-choice questions about that chapter.

# Support the Memorial

Come show your support for a memorial for the woman unfairly accused and killed for being a witch.

**When:** March 25 5:00 – 7:00pm

**Where:** Juniper Village Hall

**Who:** Everyone welcome.



Answer the following questions about the flyer.

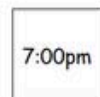
1. What is the flyer supporting?



2. Who is the memorial for?



3. What time does it start?



4. Where is it?



5. Who should come?



For example, Addie hands out flyers to gain support for the memorial she wants to erect. Students will read the flyer and then answer some simple questions about it.

## Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *A Kind of Spark* by Ellie McNicoll.
- 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 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. This visual will help lessen their anxiety.
- You will find one or more activities for each chapter. You will still have plenty to choose from and find one that fit 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 chapter 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.

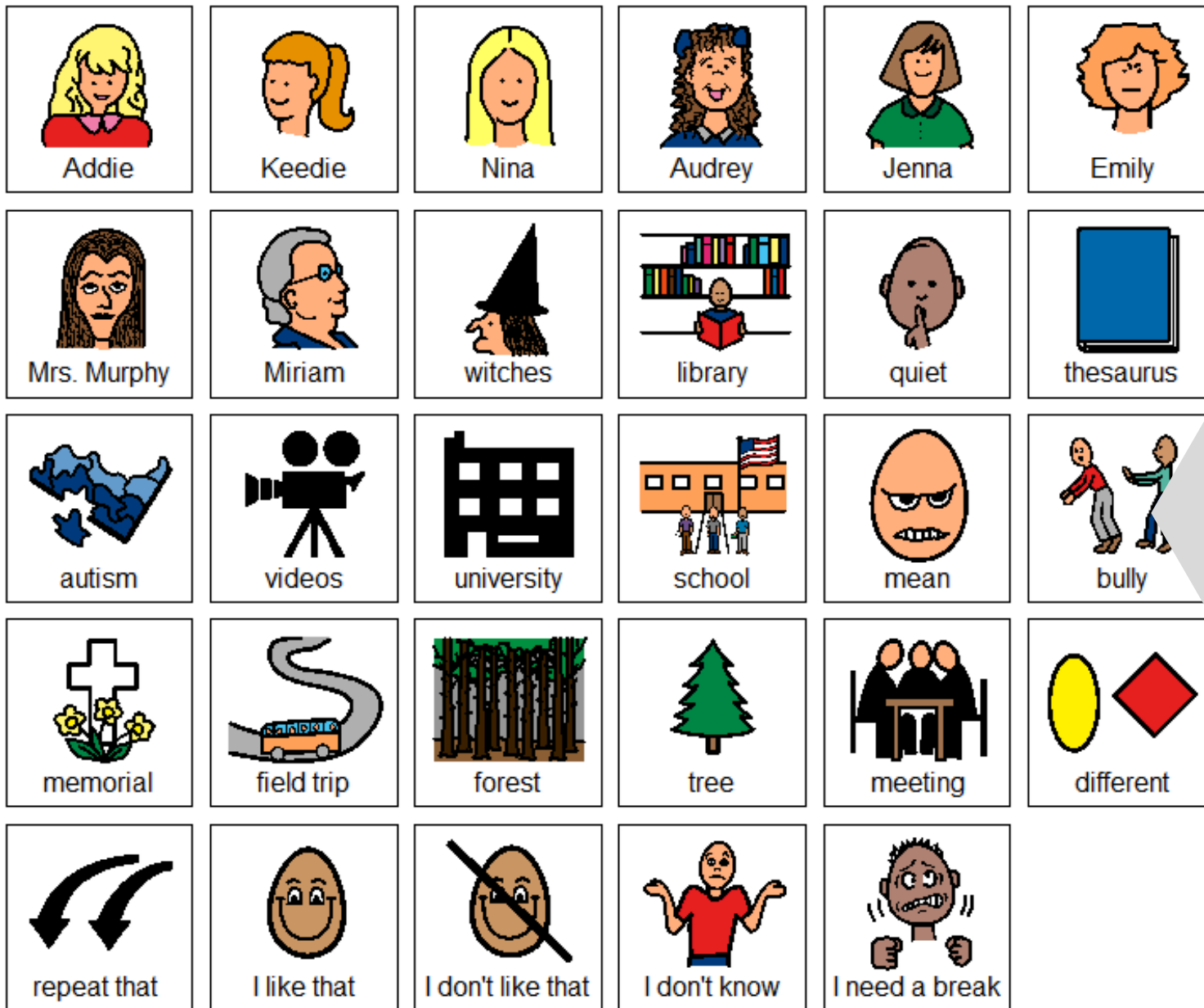
# A Kind of Spark

## 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.

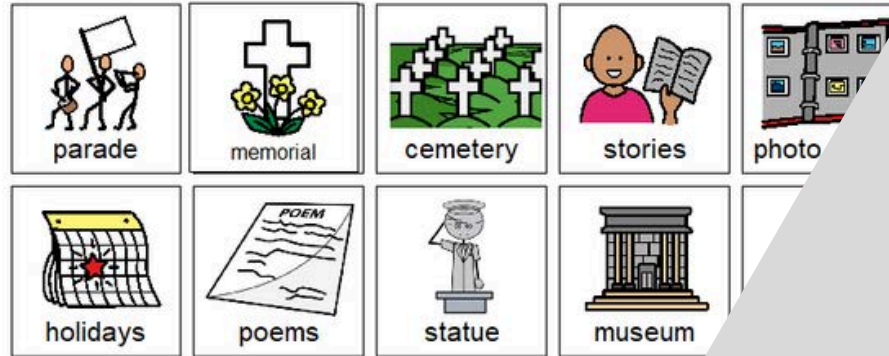
Tips on how to use in the unit!!

What are some ways we can remember people from the past?

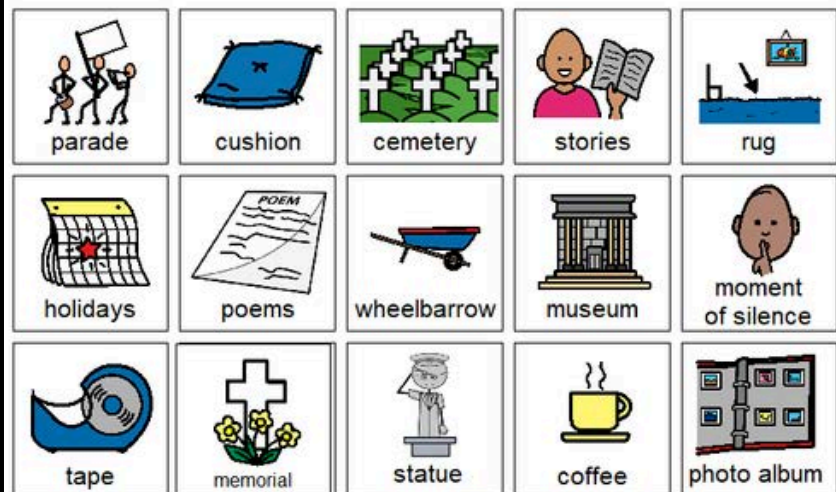


Errorless version

Cut apart pictures and place in circle map about showing ways we can remember people.



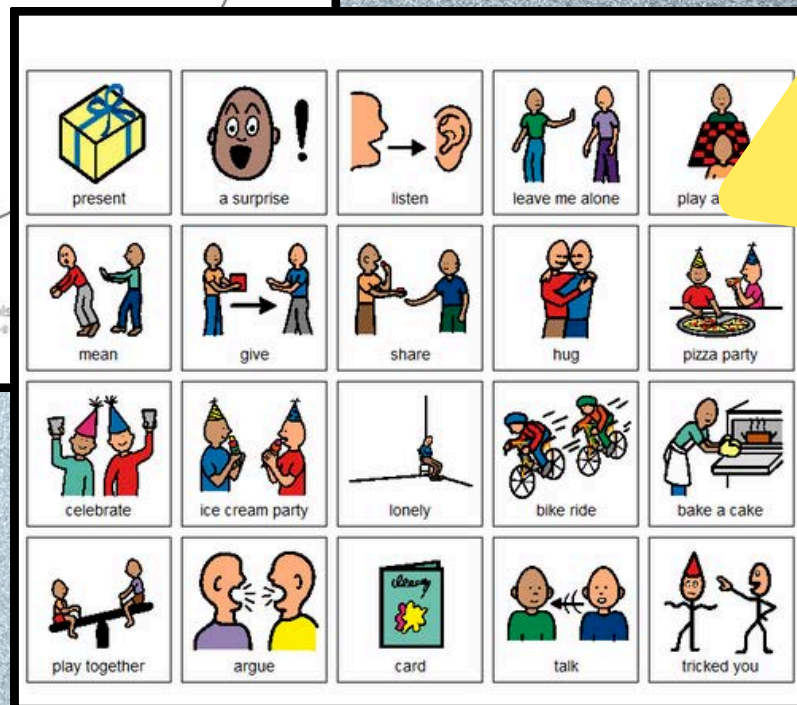
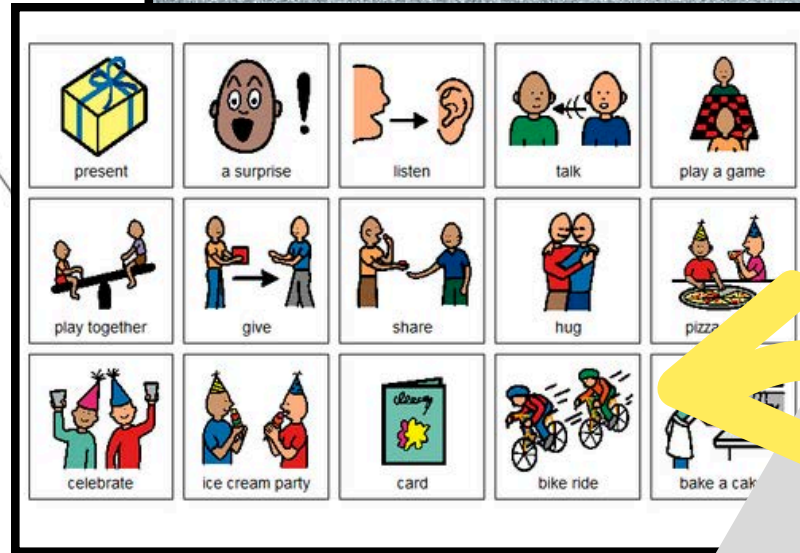
Cut apart pictures and place in circle map **ONLY IF** you think they are ways we can remember people.



There are circle maps in this unit.

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

Addie plays her dad's favorite song to cheer him up. What are some ways you could cheer up someone?

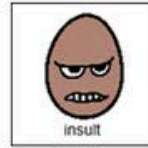
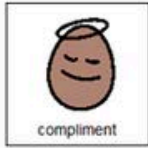











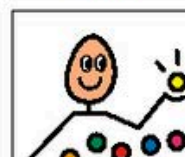




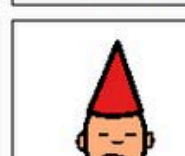


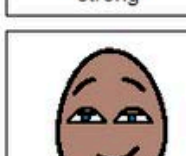

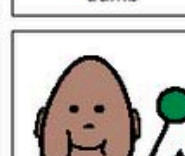
Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers

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

Some things are a compliment, and some are an insult.  
Sort the following into whether you think they would be  
a compliment (nice) or an insult (mean).



 ugly	 lazy	 smart	 fat	 smelly
 nice	 funny	 mean	 pretty	 the best
 weird	 loud	 strong	 fast	 dumb
 great	 dirty	 friendly	 annoying	 sweet

There are sorting activities.

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

Addie has a hard time reading people's facial expressions. Sometimes people say things without words, using only their body and faces. Look at each sentence below and draw a line to the picture of the person who is feeling that way.

I am so mad at you.



That tastes yucky.



I am so bored.



You scared me.



I am so exhausted.



You are my best friend.



This is the best dinner ever.



Addie has a hard time reading people's facial expressions. Sometimes people say things without words, using only their body and faces. Look at each sentence below and draw a line to the picture of the person who is feeling that way.

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This is the best dinner ever.



There are matching activities.

Directions on how to add color coding for differentiation are included, or a differentiated version is included like this example.

# My Field Trip

We went on a field trip to the

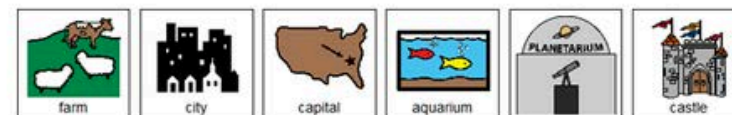
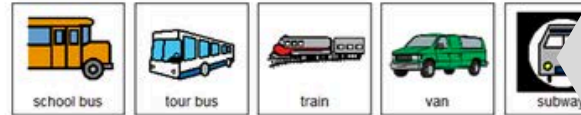
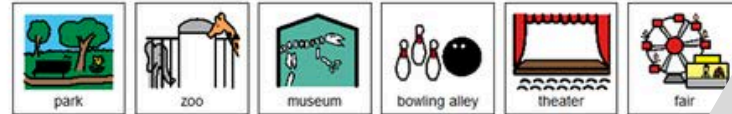
We went on a



I saw lots of great things there. My favorite was/were

I like field trips because they are

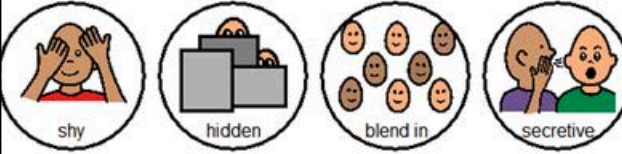
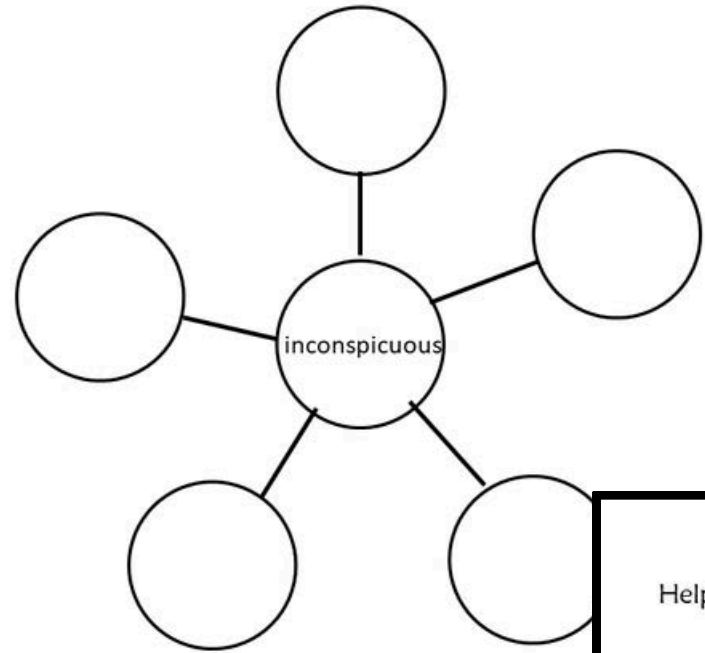
Next time, I hope we get to go to the



There are writing prompts.

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

What does inconspicuous mean?



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What does respecting others' property mean?

Respecting others' property means

Respecting others' property means

Respecting others' property means

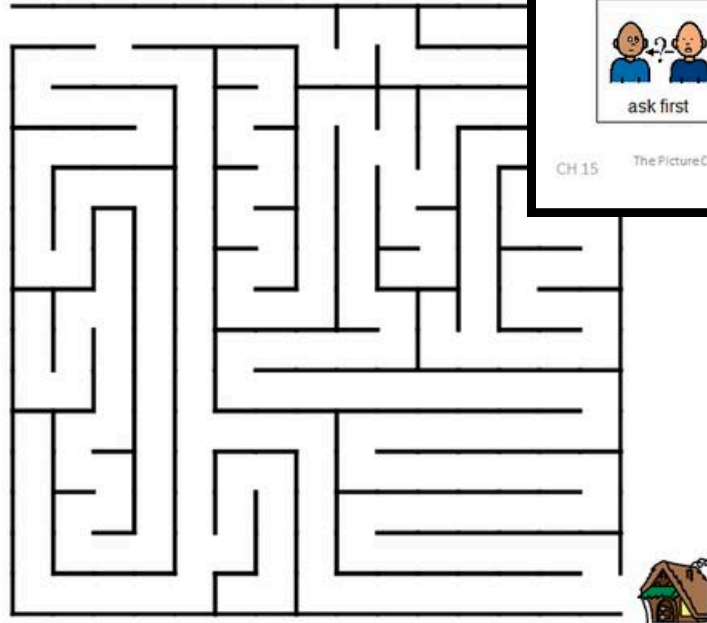
Respecting others' property means

Respecting others' property means



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Help Audrey and Addie find their way to Miria's house.

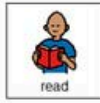


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Because there are so many activities, you can choose the ones that fit your students the best.

### CH 3

1. What does Addie ask Jenna to do?



2. Who does Mrs. Murphy tell the class used to be drown in the Nor' Loch?



3. Is Addie interested in witches?



4. Where does Addie go as soon as class is over?



5. Who joins Addie in the library?



CH 3

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### CH 8

1. Who does Mrs. Murphy and Mr. Patterson meet with?



2. Who is the most upset about how Mrs. Murphy treated Addie?



3. What does Addie do to make her dad feel better?



4. Who will help Addie make flyers for the memorial?



5. Is the memorial really important to Addie?



CH 8

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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!!