

Special Ed

The Great Unexpected

39 activities

chapter questions



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.



Table of Contents

Worksheet pages	Activity	Chapter
5	Suggestions for use	
6	Story board	
7	Title and Author	
8	Common first aid	1-2
9	What is revenge?	3-5
10-11	My trip to the moon	3-5
12-14	What families provide	6-8
15	What is a tragedy?	6-8
16-18	Common fears	9-11
19-21	Label a town map	9-11
22	Unexpected word map	12-14
23-25	What do you know about witches?	12-14
26-28	Things in Joe's barn	15-16
29-30	Keeping ½ the profits	15-16
31	What does unfortunate mean?	17-18
32	Saying hello	17-18
33-34	I wish I were a	19-20
35	Trace path over bridge	21-23
36-38	Ways to help the unfortunate souls	21-23
39-40	Do you need one arm or two	24-25
41-43	What does jealousy look like?	26-27
44-45	People you can trust	28-29
46-50	What is curiosity?	28-29
51-52	Idioms	30-31
53-55	Things at a funeral	30-31

Table of Contents

Worksheet pages	Activity	Chr
56-58	Things people keep for memories	
59-60	Smells that evoke memories	
61-62	My Fairy Tale	
63	Color in Ireland	
64-66	Things in Miss Wiggins's house	
67-68	Good or bad news	
69	What does it mean to belong?	
70-72	Superstitions	
73-74	Real or not	
75-76	When bad things happen	47
77-78	Antonyms	49-50
79-81	What is a will?	52
82-83	Responsibility	52
84-86	Dealing with change	53
87-89	Bravery	54-57
90-91	The Unexpected	54-57
92-94	Additional novel units	
95-96	Terms of use	

This novel unit has **39 different activities**. There are one or more activities for each chapter. These activities are **NOT** comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

Color in the country of Ireland.

Europe



For example, part of this story takes place in Ireland. In this activity, students will color in the country of Ireland on a map.

Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *The Great Unexpected* by Sharon Creech.
- 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. 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 activity for most chapters. You will still have plenty to choose from and find those 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 2-3 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.

Color version

The Great Unexpected Novel Unit for Special Education

By
Christa Joy
Special Needs for Special Kids

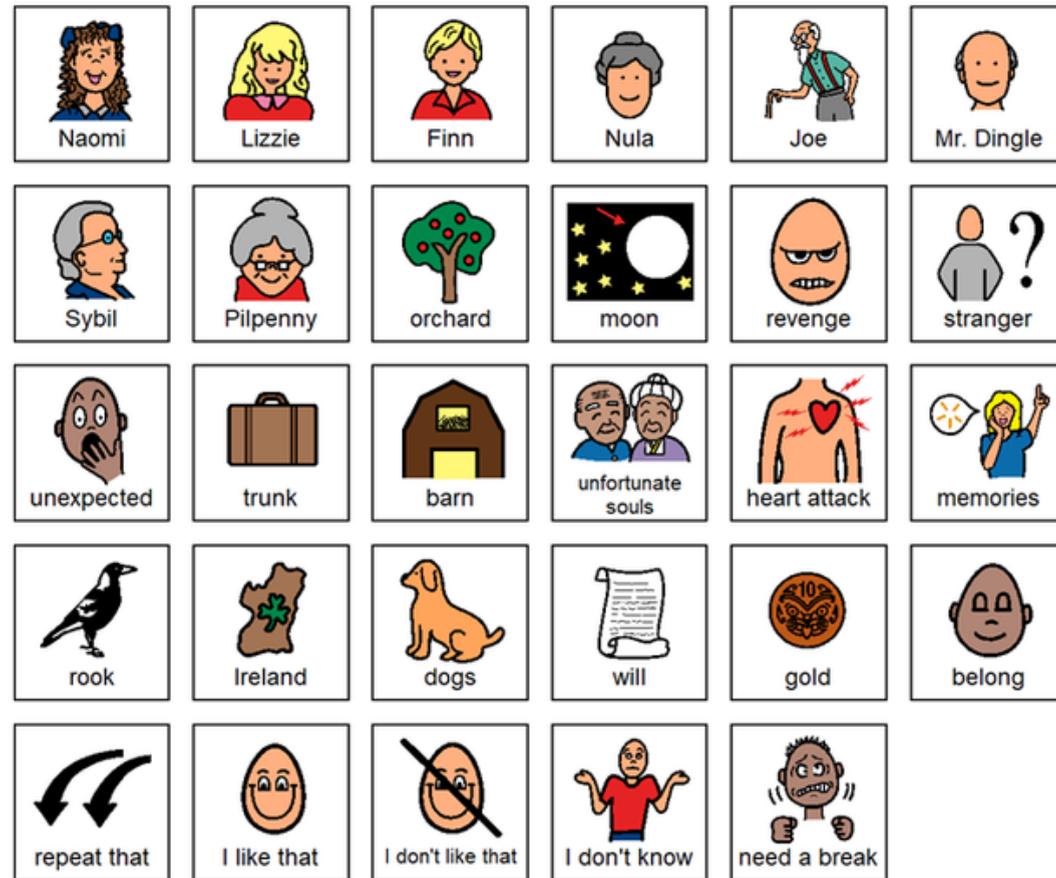


Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids
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2

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

Story Board : to use while reading and for class discussions. Laminate and make 1 copy for each student.



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!!

Families can look really different, but they are all important? What are some things a family can provide?

Errorless Option

Place the following on the previous page, showing things that a family can provide.

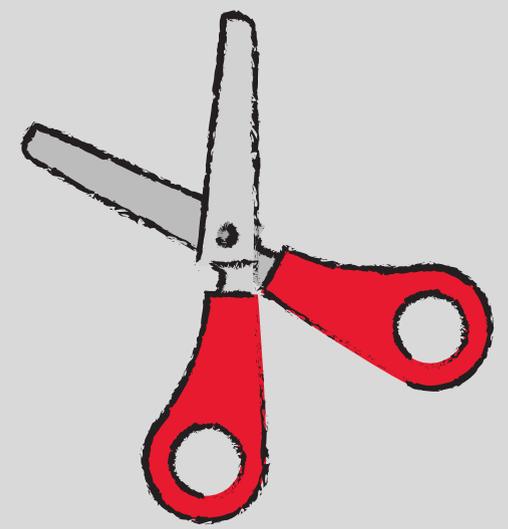


 love	 food	 safe	 bedroom	 fun
 support	 friendship	 listen	 talk	 belong

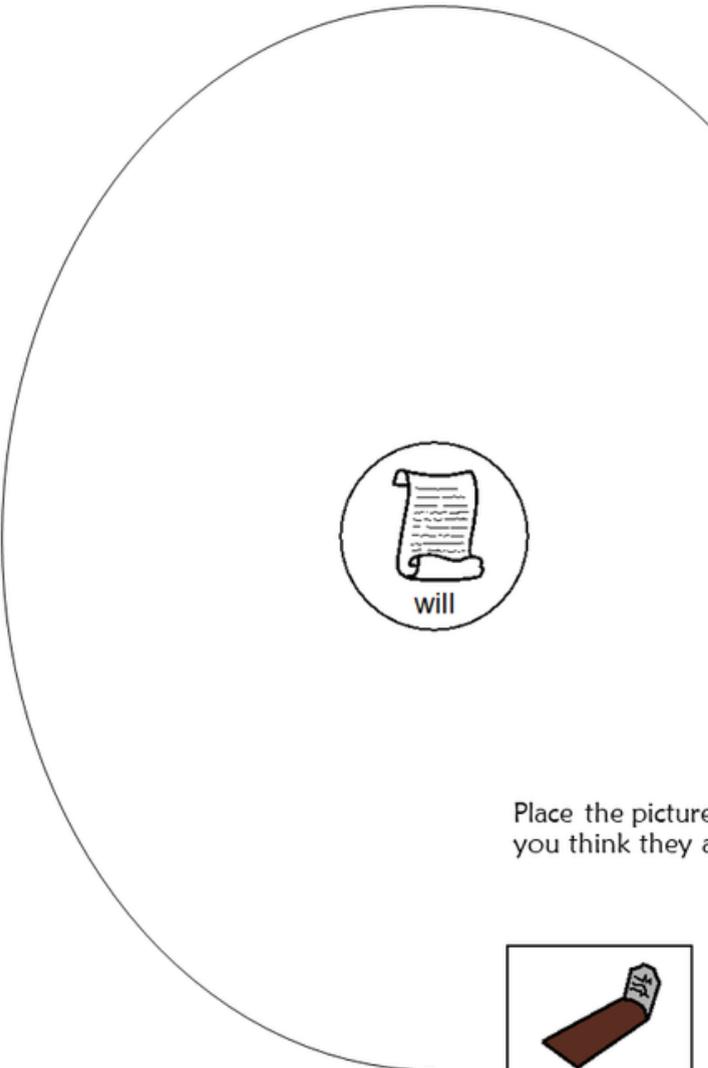
Place the following on the previous page **ONLY IF** they are things a family would provide.

 love	 food	 danger	 mean	 fun
 hurt	 friendship	 listen	 talk	 belong
 support	 fight	 safe	 bedroom	 yelling

There are circle maps in this unit. Circle maps are a great way for students to see a big idea.



What is a will?



Errorless version

Place the pictures in the circle map on previous page showing things about a will.



Place the pictures in the circle map on previous page **ONLY IF** you think they are something that relates to a will.

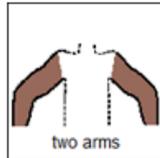
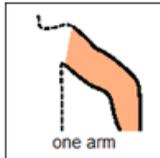


Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers

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

Mr. Farley only has one arm. Some things are hard to do with just one arm, and some are not. Sort the following into those you think you would be easy to do with 1 arm and those that would be easier with 2 arms.



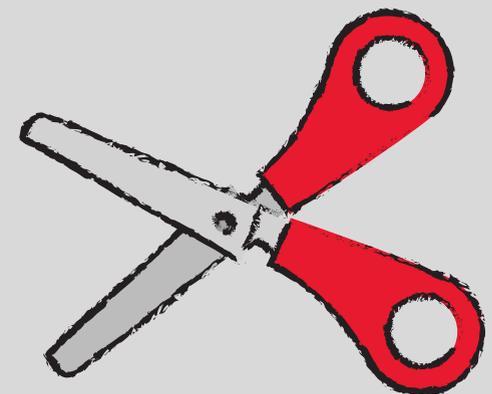
Sort the following into the correct column on the previous page.



If you are not sure, try doing the activity with only one arm to see if it is easy, or not really possible.

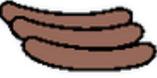
There are sorting activities.

Directions on how to add color coding or a separate differentiated version is included.



Have you ever smelled something that reminded you of another time or place? Match the following smells with the place it might remind you of.



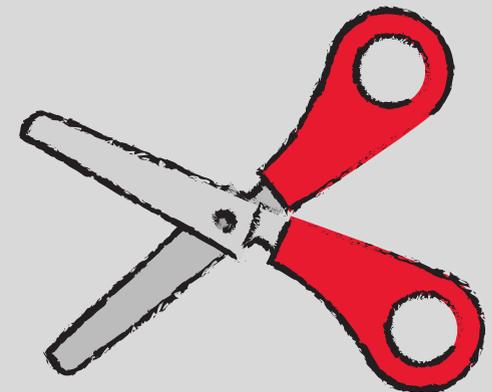
 popcorn	<input type="text"/>	 pine tree	<input type="text"/>
 salt	<input type="text"/>	 French fries	<input type="text"/>
 cookies	<input type="text"/>	 smoke	<input type="text"/>
 suntan lotion	<input type="text"/>	 hot dogs	<input type="text"/>

Match the following places to the smells on the previous page.

 movies	 Christmas	 ocean	 McDonald's
 home	 camping	 pool	 fair

There are matching activities.

Directions on how to add color coding or a separate differentiated version is included.



The Unexpected

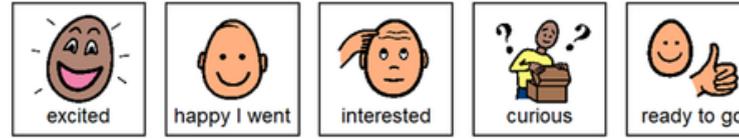
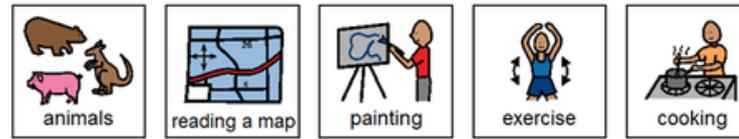
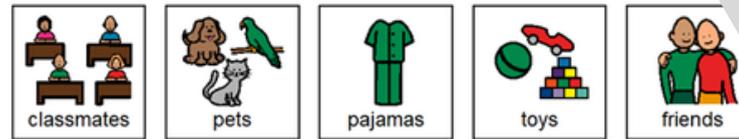
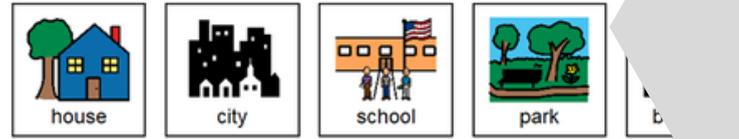
An unexpected thing happened to me

I found myself in a new

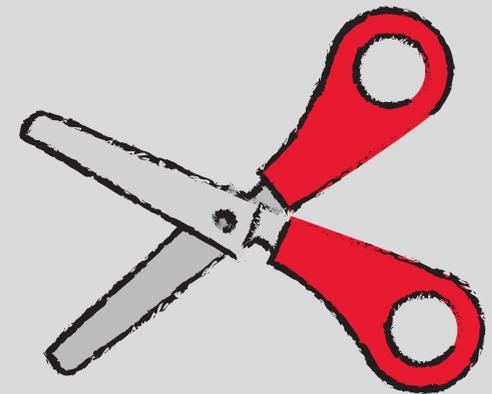
I had new

I learned a lot about

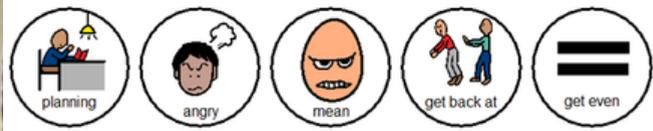
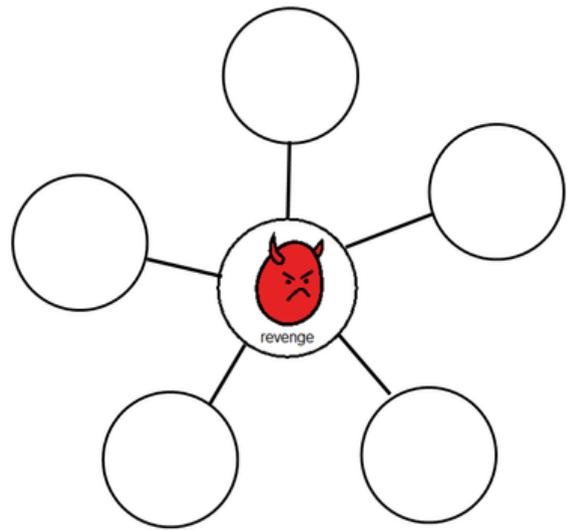
It felt a little scary, but I was still



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

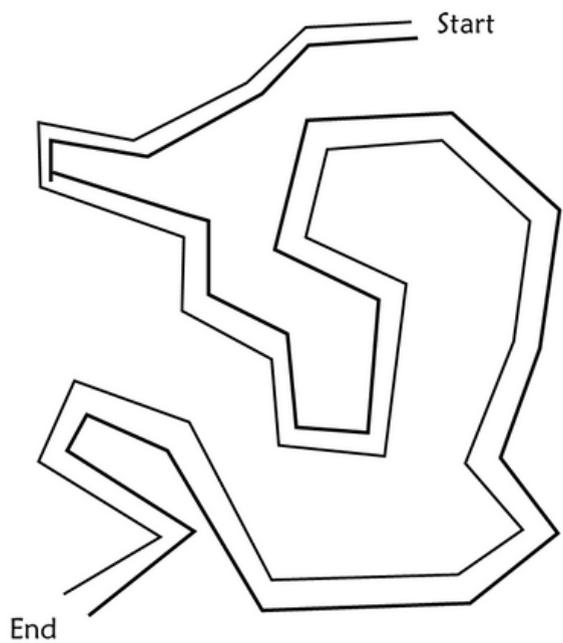


What does revenge look like?



CH 3-5

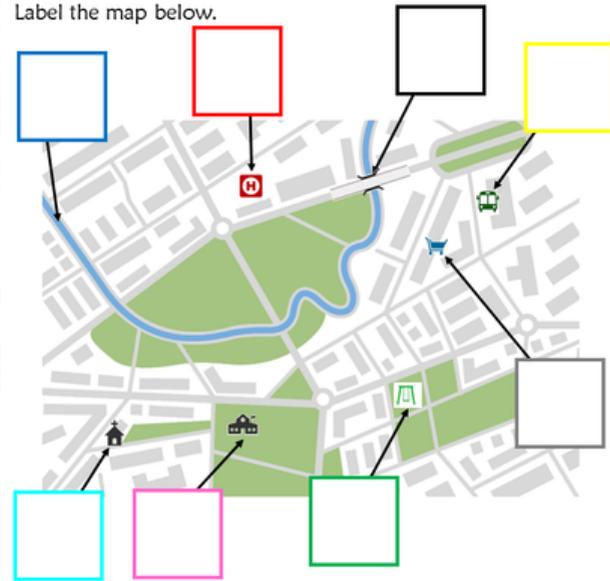
The Pic Wor Trace the path over the crooked bridge.



CH 21-23

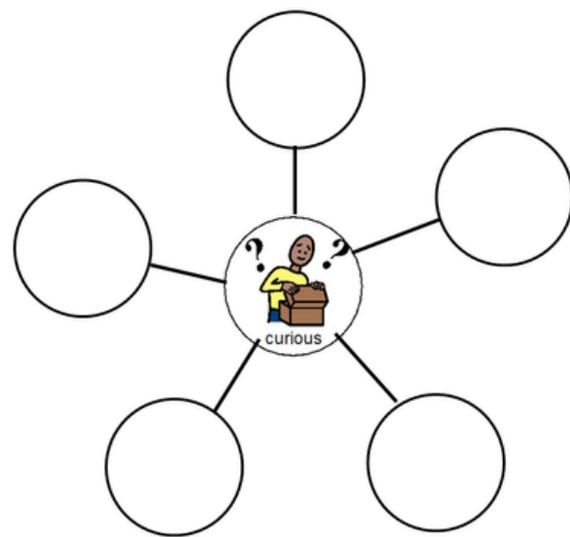
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Label the map below.



Christa Joy, Sp
©1983-2011
perm

What does it mean to be curious?



CH 28-29

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Joe says Naomi can keep $\frac{1}{2}$ the profits from the garage sale. Look at the totals below and figure out how much Naomi would get. Write your answer in the box or use the values on the next page.

\$20	<input type="text"/>	\$10	<input type="text"/>
\$100	<input type="text"/>	\$12	<input type="text"/>
\$40	<input type="text"/>	\$50	<input type="text"/>
\$22	<input type="text"/>	\$36	<input type="text"/>
\$200	<input type="text"/>	\$80	<input type="text"/>

Paste the values in the boxes showing the profit Naomi get.

\$100	\$25	\$5	\$11	\$10
\$40	\$50	\$6	\$20	\$18

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

1. What fell out of the tree?



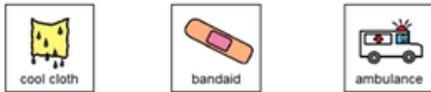
2. What does Lizzy do, especially when she is outside?



3. Is the boy dead?



4. What does Lizzy think the boy needs?



5. What did the boy tell the girls not to take?



1. What had attacked Naomi when she was a child?



2. What happened to Naomi's dad after he was bitten by a dog?



3. As a young girl, what did Naomi wish she would become?



4. What could Naomi totally get lost in?



5. Who told a story about "her" Finn?



This unit does come with comprehension questions. There are 3 questions for every 2 chapters. Each question has 3 picture choices. They are in color and black and white.

Answer key included!!