

Special Ed

THE SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON



Special Needs for Special Kids



28 activities

chapter questions

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	
8-9	Ways to stay calm	1
10-11	Things that float	1
12-13	Necessity is the mother of invention	2
14-15	Good and bad choices when angry	2
16-18	Facts about monkeys	3
19-20	Safe and dangerous things in the ocean	3
21-25	STEM: build a bridge	4
26-28	Edible roots	5
29-30	Meat and vegetable sorting	5
31-33	Fruit Trees	6
34-35	Parts of a sailboat	7
36-38	Fruit on a tropical island	7
39-41	Things that produce light	8
42-43	Animals that make good pets	9
44-45	Surviving on a tropical island	10
46-48	Types of homes	11

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids
 The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2019 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved
 Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

Table of Contents

Worksheet pages	Activity	Chapter
49-50	Things that are sticky	12
51-52	What did they get from these things?	13
53-55	Things about snakes	14
56-57	Going exploring	15
58-59	Animals that are fast or slow	16
60-62	Animals that live in the ocean	17
63-65	Ways to send a message	18
66-68	What is a hero?	19
69-71	Ways to welcome someone	20
72	Difficult decisions	21
73	Who stays and who leaves	21
74-76	Additional novel units	
77-78	Terms of Use	



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids
 The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2019 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved
 Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

This novel unit has **28 different activities**. There is an activity for each vignette. These activities are **NOT** comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

Fritz shoots the shark before it can eat the sheep. Where are some safe and dangerous animals in the ocean?



Sort the following into the correct column on the previous page.
If you are not sure, place it on the middle line.

 Jellyfish	 Dolphin	 Eel
 Blowfish	 Clam	 Barracuda
 Tuna	 Shark	 Oyster
 Squid	 Harbor Seal	 Flounder

For example, students will sort safe and dangerous animals found in the ocean. Suggestions for differentiation are included.

Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *The Swiss Family Robinson* by Johann Wyss.
- **NOTE: I used the Classic Starts abridged version for this unit. The ISBN is: 978-1-4027-3694-0**
- The thought is that you would be reading it aloud to your class at a rate of about ½ - 1 chapter per day.
- Be sure to give each student their own copy of the story board (pg. 6) 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 each chapter with 3 picture answer choices. You will find these (in color and BW) in a separate file.

I did use an abridged version for this nove study. It was the Classic Starts version.

ISBN: 978-1-4027-3694-0

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 Swiss Family Robinson

Novel Unit for Special Education

By
Christa Joy
Special Needs for Special Kids



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids
The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2019 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved
Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

2

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

I used the Classic Starts Edition to create this novel unit.

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



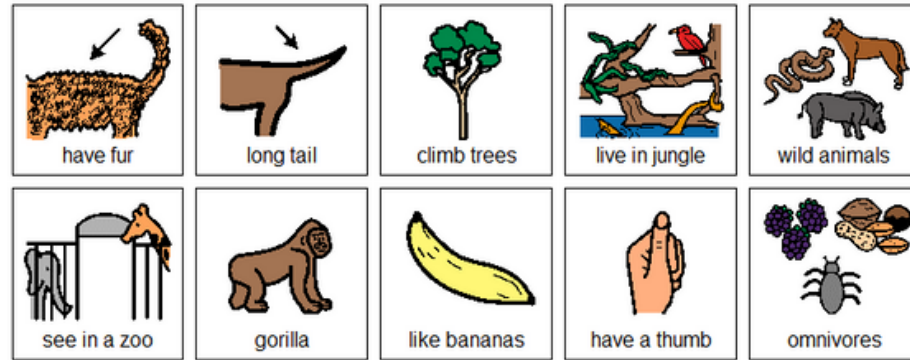
This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

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

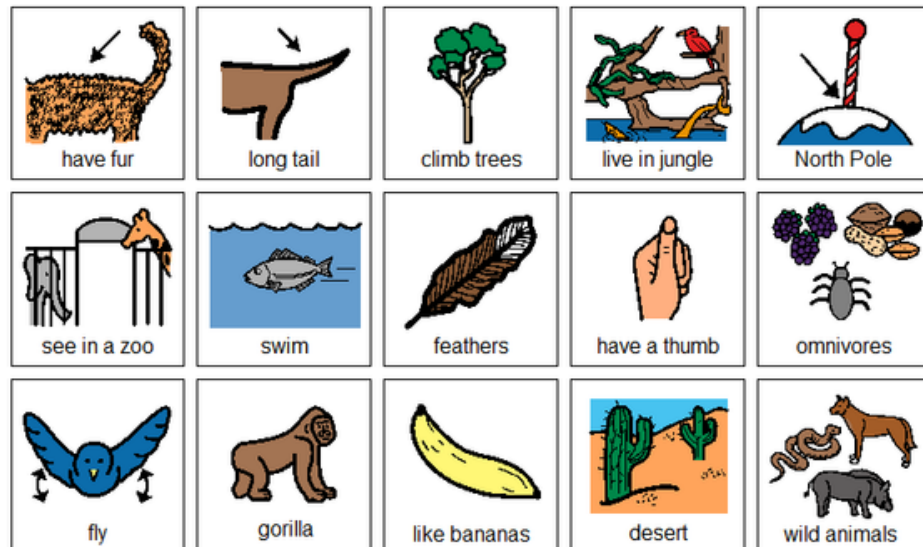
Tips on how to use in the unit!!

Fritz decides to keep the baby monkey and try to raise it. What are some facts about monkeys?

Cut out pictures and glue in circle map on previous page showing things about monkeys.



Cut out pictures and glue in circle map on previous page **ONLY IF** they are facts about monkeys.

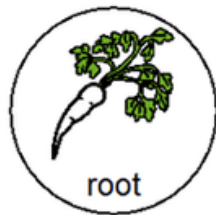
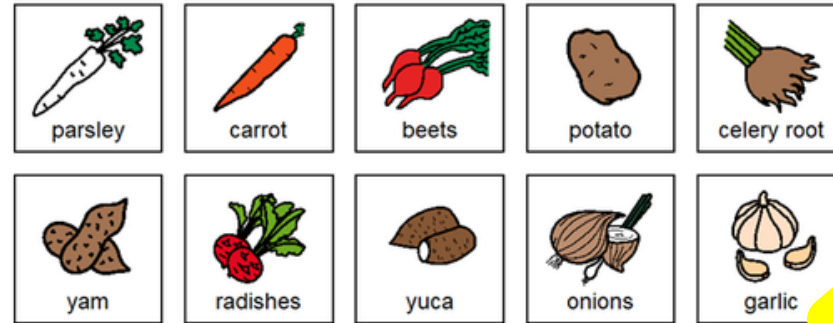


There are circle maps in this unit. Circle maps are a great way for students to see a big idea.

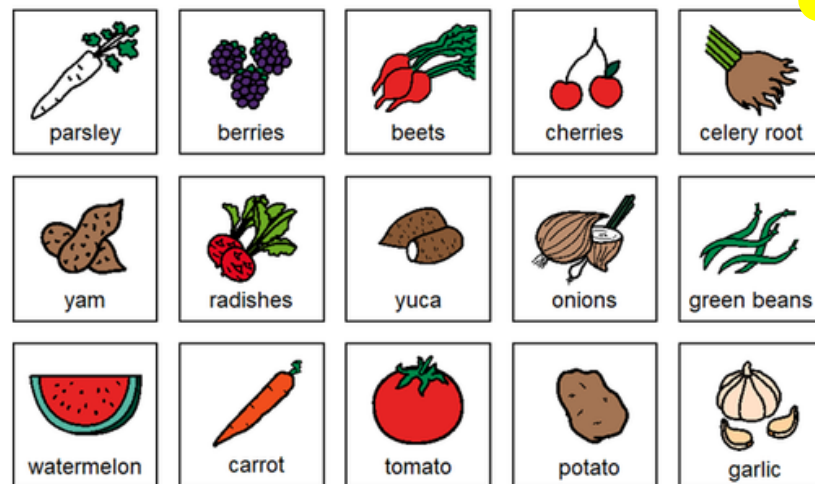
What are some edible roots?

Errorless version

Place the pictures in the circle map on previous page showing roots you can eat.



Place the pictures in the circle map on previous page **ONLY IF** you think it is a root you can eat.



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.

Sort the following animals into those that would be good pets and those that would not.








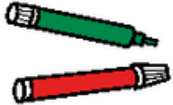


Cut apart and sort into the correct column on previous page. If you are not sure, put it on the middle line. Use color coding for differentiation as needed.



There are sorting activities.

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

Sometimes you don't have what you need, like a spoon to eat soup. Look at the following objects. What could you use if you DID NOT have that object?

 knife	<input type="text"/>	 dishwasher	<input type="text"/>
 bed	<input type="text"/>	 cabin	<input type="text"/>
 fork	<input type="text"/>	 markers	<input type="text"/>
 light	<input type="text"/>	 heater	<input type="text"/>



There are matching activities.

Suggestions for differentiation or a differentiated version are included.

Match the replacements you could use for the objects on the previous page.

 fireplace	 crayons	 tent	 sleeping bag
 spoon	 wash by hand	 candle	 scissors

How would you survive on a deserted island?

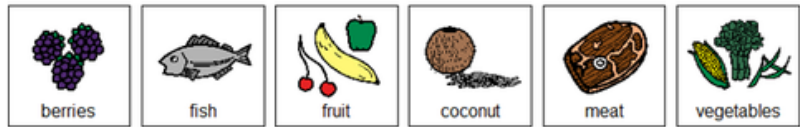
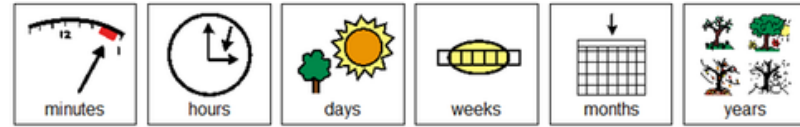
I think I could last three on a deserted island.

I would want with me.

I would get for to eat.

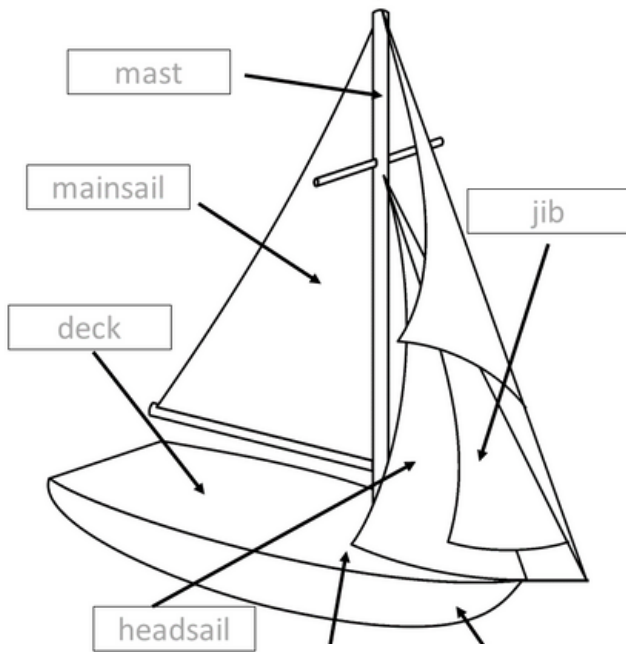
I would use to stay warm.

To have fun, I would .



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

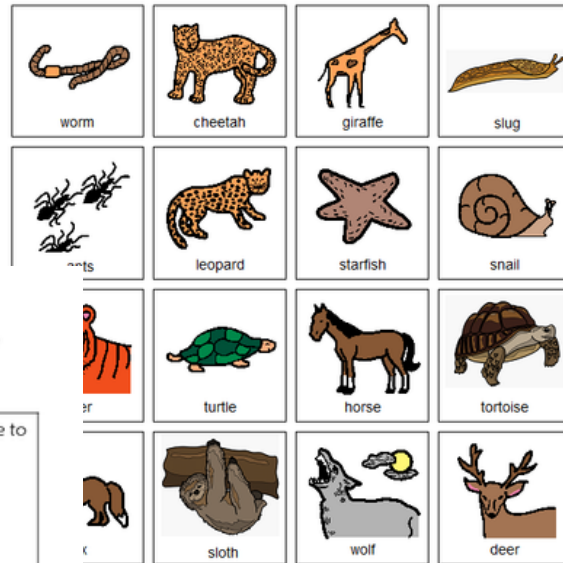
Match the word that labels the part of the sailboat.



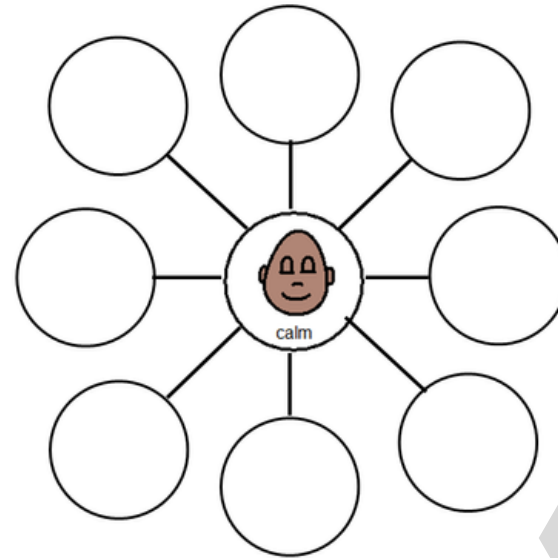
Ostriches can run really fast. Some animals are fast, and some are slow. Sort the following into the correct column on the previous page.



Sort the following into the correct column on the previous page. If you are not sure, put it on the middle line.



Father tries to keep his family calm in the storm and when they realize there are no lifeboats left. What are some ways to stay calm?



Sometimes we have to make difficult decisions. Look at each scenario and circle what your decision would be. There is no right or wrong answer.

<p>What kind of party would you rather have?</p>	<p>What type of pet would you like to have?</p>
<p>When you have free time, what do you like to do?</p>	<p>Who would you most want to go to the movies with?</p>
<p>What type of music do you like to listen to?</p>	<p>Where do you like to go on vacation?</p>
<p>Which would you like to learn how to do?</p>	<p>On the weekends, which do you like to do?</p>

Place the following in the circle on the preview page to show ways you can stay calm.



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

CH 2

1. What swam alongside the family as they headed for shore?



2. What got stuck to Jack's net while he was looking for something for dinner?



3. What did they use to eat the soup in place of spoons?



4. What had Fritz caught which he thought was a pig?



5. What did Father tell Fritz he needed to control?



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2020 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved
Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

CH 2

3

CH 5

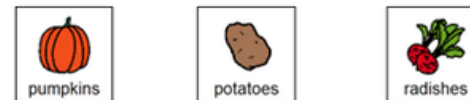
1. What did the family do together on Sunday?



2. What did they do for all the places they had found on the island?



3. What did Ernest find a field of?



4. What did Ernest catch in the river?



5. What animal did Ernest shoot for dinner?



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2020 by Tobii Dynavox. All Rights Reserved
Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker® is a trademark of Tobii Dynavox

CH 5

6

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!!