

# *The World According to Humphrey*

**17 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.

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This novel unit has **17 different activities**. These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

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

front



back

Wish you were here!!  
We are having a great  
time in Hawaii.



We should be home on  
June 6.

Love,  
Mom and Dad

To: Jilly Washburn  
1111 Front Avenue  
Bluebell, Ohio 44444

Answer the questions about the postcard.

1. Where do you think the postcard is from?



2. Who sent the postcard?



3. Who is the postcard going to?

Johnny

Bill

Jilly

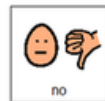
4. When will Mom and Dad be home?

April 1

June 6

May 14

5. Are Mom and Dad having a good time?



For example, Ms. Mac sends  
the class a postcard.

In this activity, students will  
practice reading information  
on a postcard.

# Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *The World According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney.
- 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. 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 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.

# The World According to Humphrey

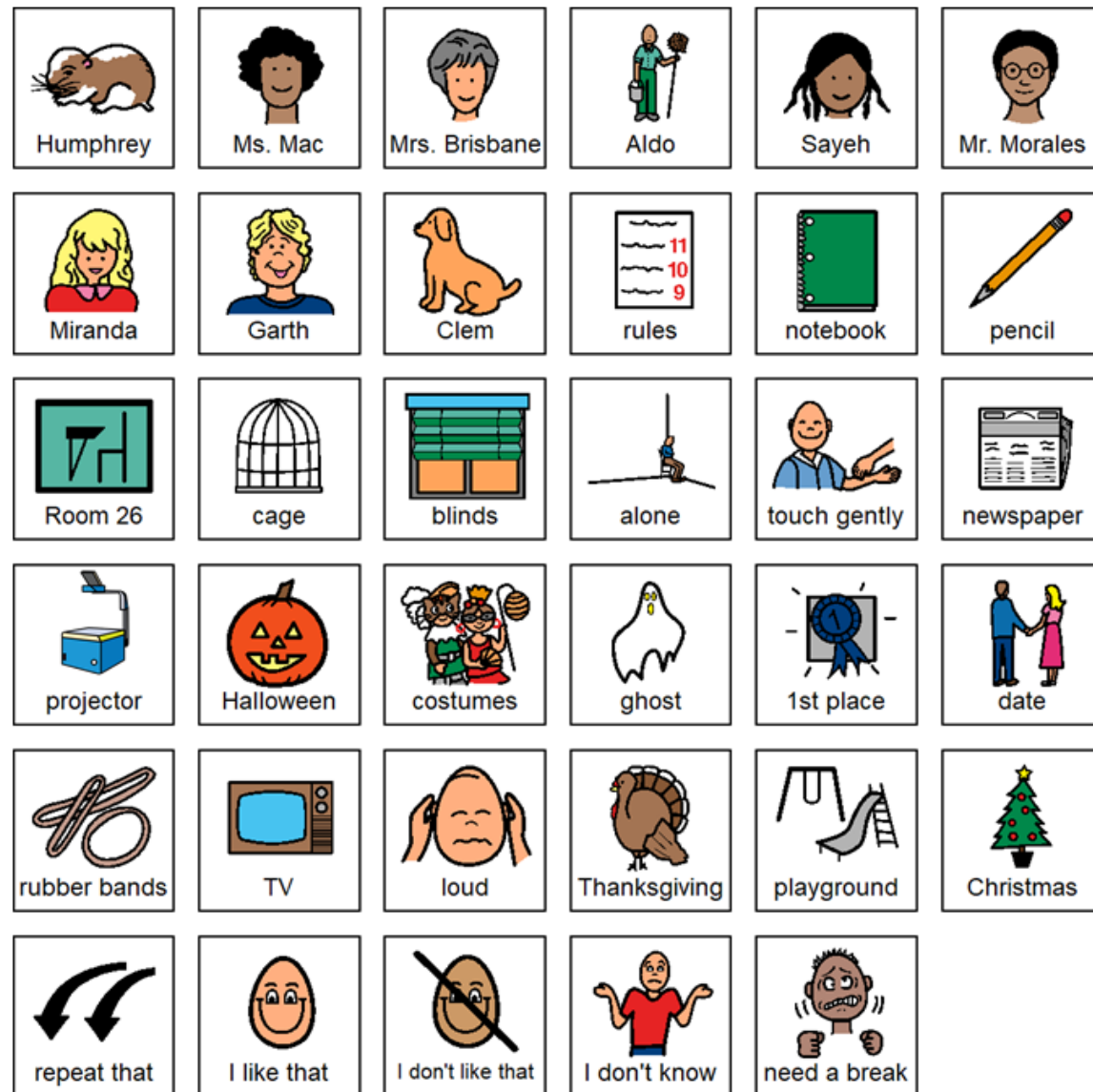
Novel Unit  
for Special Education

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.*

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.

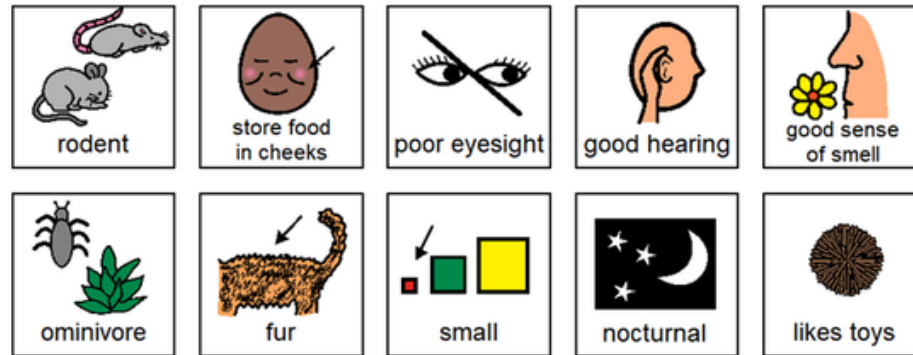
Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!

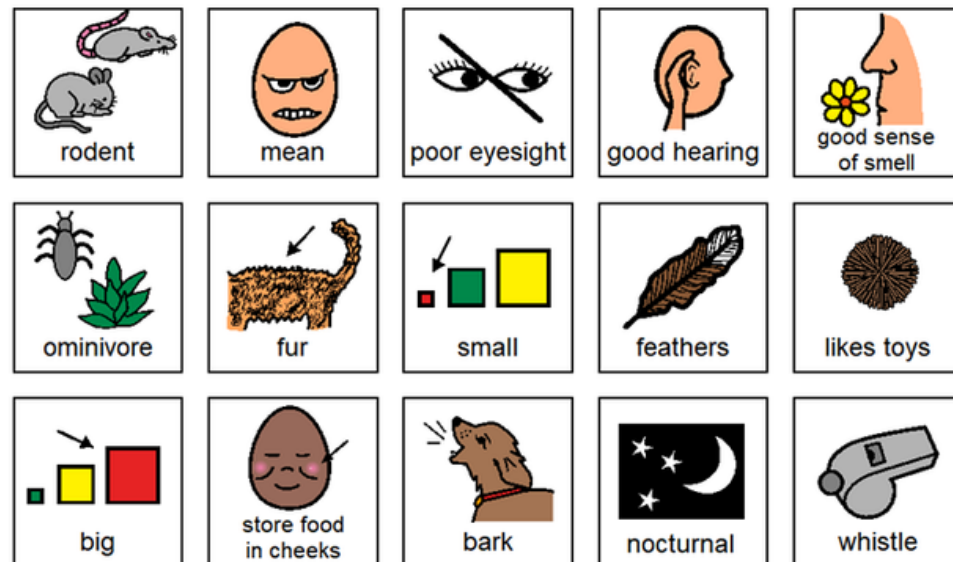


Errorless option

Cut and paste symbols below into circle map to review some main facts about hamsters on the previous page.



Cut and paste symbols below into circle map on previous page **ONLY IF** they relate to hamsters.



There are circle maps in this unit.

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



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

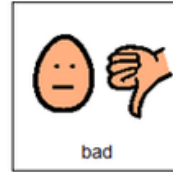
Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers











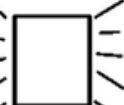


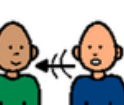


An option that has wrong answers mixed in students will need to set aside.



Look at the pictures on the next page and sort into good ways to treat a pet and **NOT** good ways to treat a hamster.










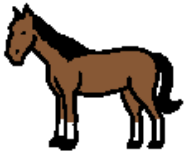
Cut apart and sort into the correct column on previous page. If you are not sure, place it on the middle line.









 feed	 cage	 leave in dark	 touch gently
 hold	 pet	 squeeze	 leave alone
 too cold	 squish	 clean cage	 be mean
 shake cage	 talk to	 fresh water	 yell at

There are sorting activities.

Directions on how to add differentiation are included.

All animals have ways to defend themselves. Look at each animal below and decided how you think they would defend themselves if attacked.

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	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>

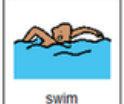





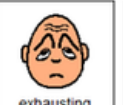
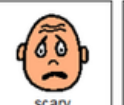
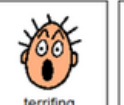



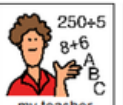










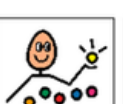



 spray	 spit	 play dead	 teeth
 claws	 stinger	 quills	 kick

There are matching activities. Directions on how to add differentiation are included.

# Learning Something New

1. I would like to learn how to .
2. I know it might be .
3. I would get  to help me.
4. I think it would make me feel .
5. Learning how to do something new is .

Have students pick one choice for each question to complete the writing prompt on the previous page. They could also come up with their own answers!

1	 swim	 ride a bike	 sail	 ski	 dance	
2	 frustrating	 hard	 exhausting	 scary	 terrifying	 exciting
3	 my friend	 my parents	 my teacher	 my grandparents	 brother	 sister
4	 proud	 strong	 brave	 happy	 tired	 excited
5	 fun	 great	 the best	 exciting	 nice	 okay

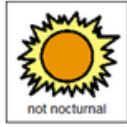
There are writing prompts.

Students can choose from the pictures (making this an errorless activity) or write in their own answers.

Some animals are nocturnal. That means they like to come out at night and sleep during the day. Sort the following animals into those you think are nocturnal and those that are not.


















nocturnal



not nocturnal

Put each animal in the correct column on the previous page. If you are not sure, put it on the middle line.

 owl	 pig	 skunk	 cow	 mouse
 cockroach	 dog	 rabbit	 raccoon	 chicken
 people	 bat	 horse	 lion	 lightning bug

Answer Key (nocturnal animals):

- owl
- Mouse
- Cockroach
- Raccoon
- Bat
- Lightning bug
- skunk

Mr. Morales has a secret. His kids do not listen or seem to respect him. What does respecting others mean?


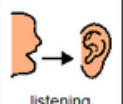

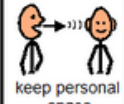

Respecting others means

Respecting others means

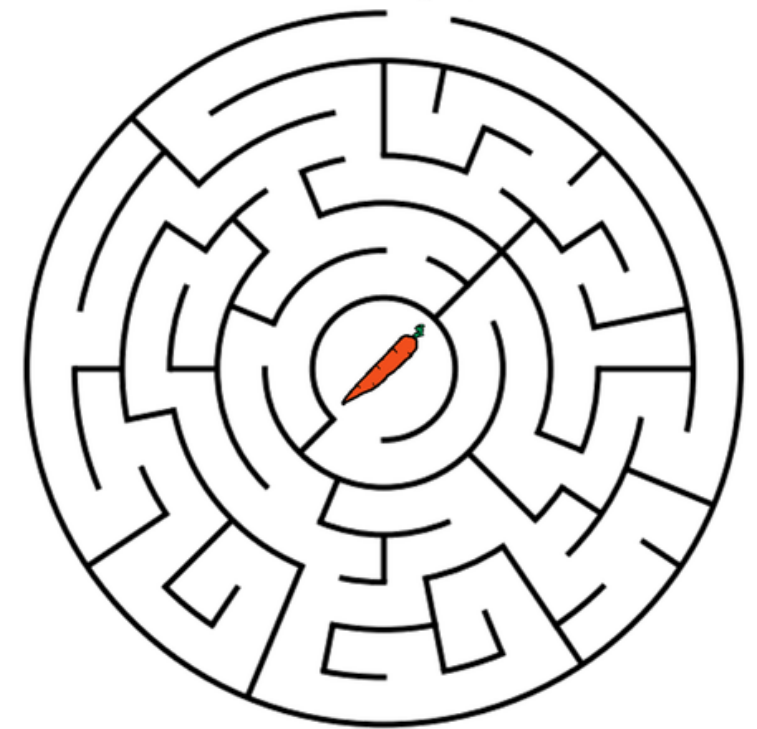
Respecting others means

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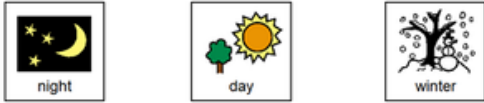
 playing fair	 listening	 nice	 keep personal space	 don't touch what isn't mine
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Help Humphrey get through the maze to get to the carrot.



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

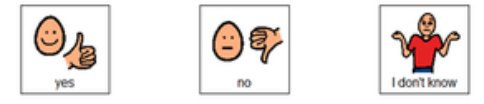
1. When do nocturnal animals normally sleep?



2. What was Mrs. Brisbane good at?



3. Did Mrs. Brisbane take Humphrey home with her?



4. Who came into the classroom after everyone had left?



5. What did Aldo and Humphrey do together?



1. How does Sayeh act in class?



2. How many Mrs. Brisbanes does Humphrey say there are?



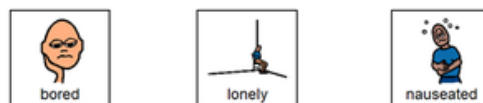
3. Does Mrs. Brisbane like Humphrey?



4. What did Aldo bring Humphrey as a special treat?



5. How does Aldo say he feels a lot of the time because he works at night?



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!!