

# THE LOST YEAR



**53 activities**

**5 questions/  
chapter**



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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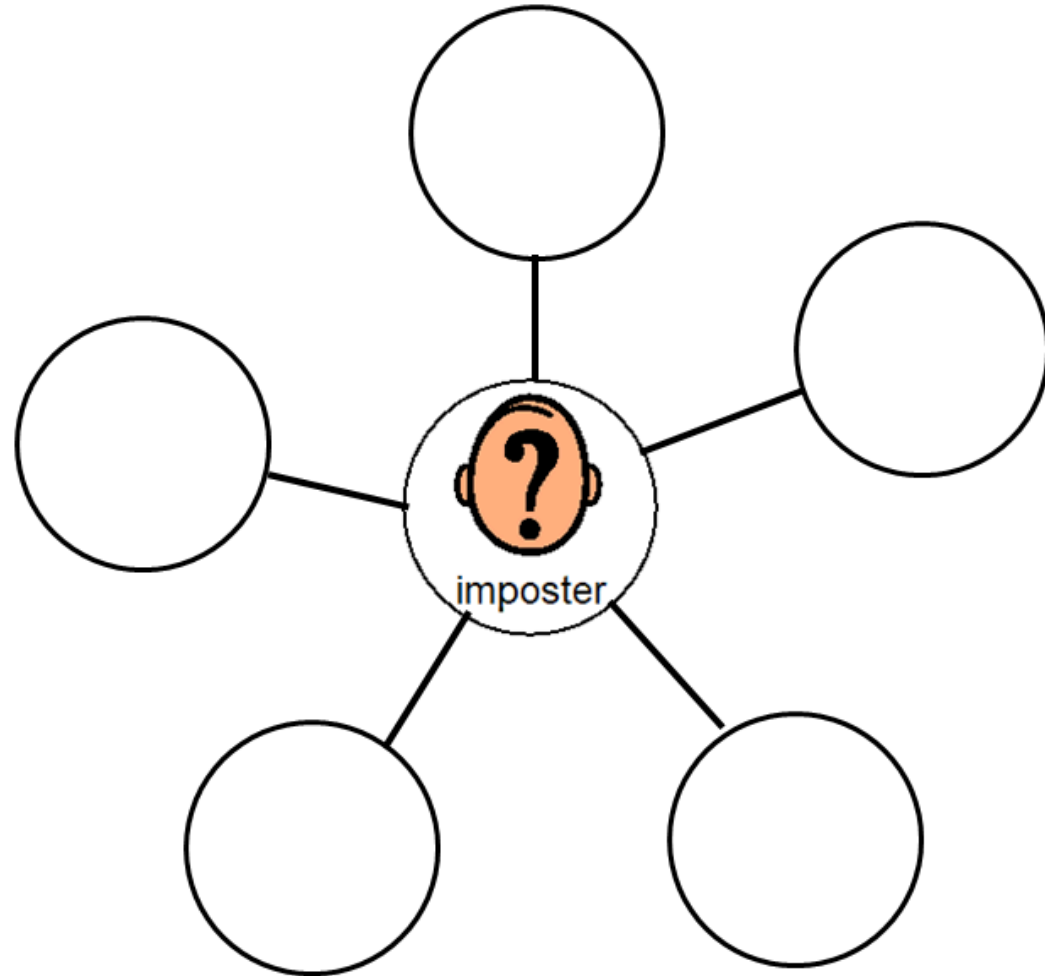
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This novel unit has **53 different activities**. These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

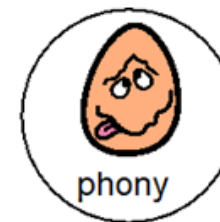
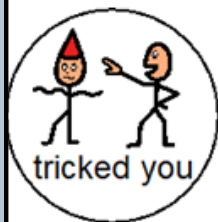
What is an imposter?



For example, Mila sees herself as an imposter.

Here, complete a word map on the word imposter.

This is an errorless activity.



Each time you finish a chapter, there will be an activity for your students to complete.

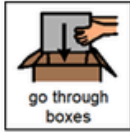
The activity will relate to something from that chapter.

These are cut-and-paste activities supported by pictures.

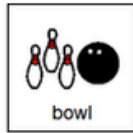
**Optional:** Quiz students' comprehension by having them answer 5 multiple-choice questions about that chapter.

# CH 3

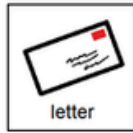
1. What did Matthew have to help GG do?



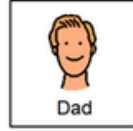
2. Matthew found score cards for when GG used to \_\_\_\_\_.



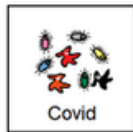
3. What did Matthew find that made GG cry?



4. Who called Matthew?



5. What did Mom want to watch on the news?

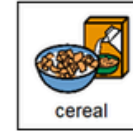


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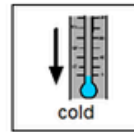
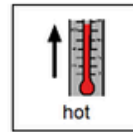
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# CH 4

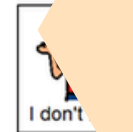
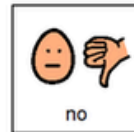
1. What did Pop want Helen to eat?



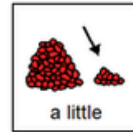
2. Was it hot or cold?



3. Does Helen like cabbage rolls?



4. How much did Helen have to eat?



5. What does Helen refuse to do the next morning?



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This unit includes 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!!

# Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *The Lost Year*, by Katherine Marsh.
- 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 storyboard (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 that their child is being exposed to age-appropriate material, but you are also teaching them how to sit quietly, which will hopefully carry over at 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 methodically. 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 or more activities for each chapter. You will still have plenty to choose from and find those that fit your students best.
- 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 in a specific color and then outline the corresponding pictures in the same color.
  - Becomes a matching task.
- There are comprehension questions to accompany this unit. There are 5 questions per 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 Lost Year

## 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.

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



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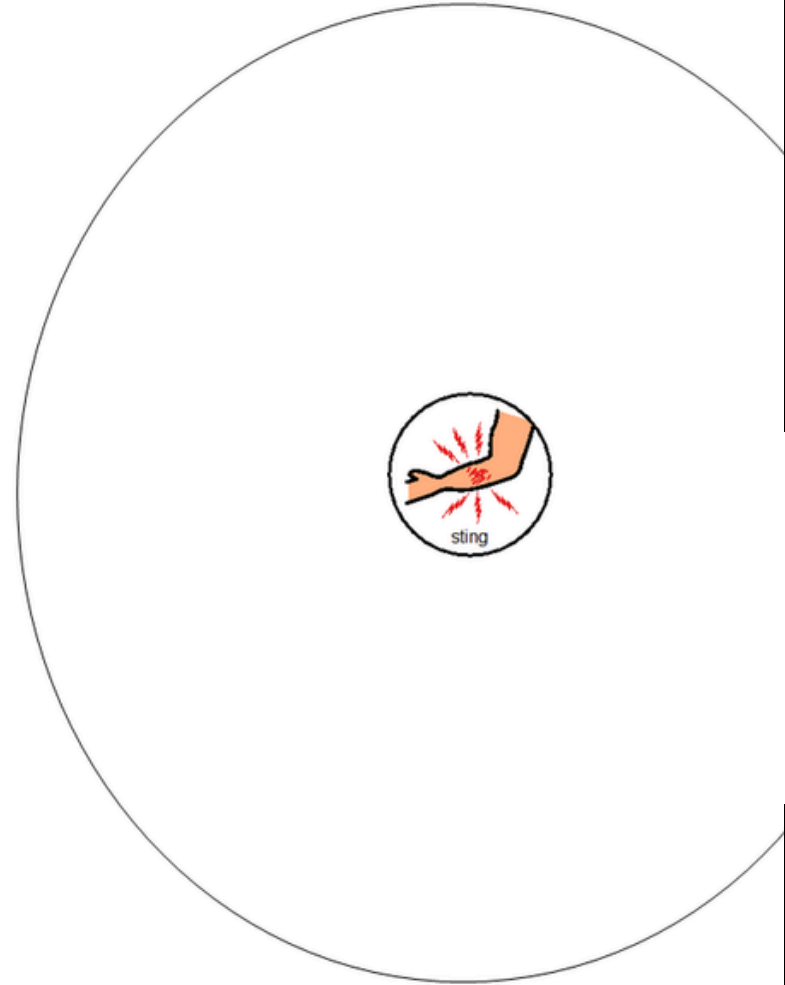
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This unit comes with a  
vocabulary board.











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















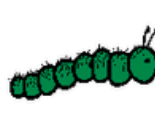
Tips on how to use in the unit!!

What are some insects that can sting or bite you?



# ERRORLESS VERSION

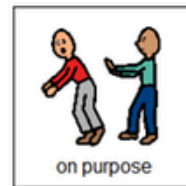
 bumble bee	 wasp	 hornet	 fire ants	 scorpion
 black widow	 louse	 horsefly	 mosquito	 bee

 bumble bee	 wasp	 hornet	 worm	 scorpion
 butterfly	 louse	 dragon fly	 mosquito	 bee
 black widow	 snail	 horsefly	 fire ants	 caterpillar

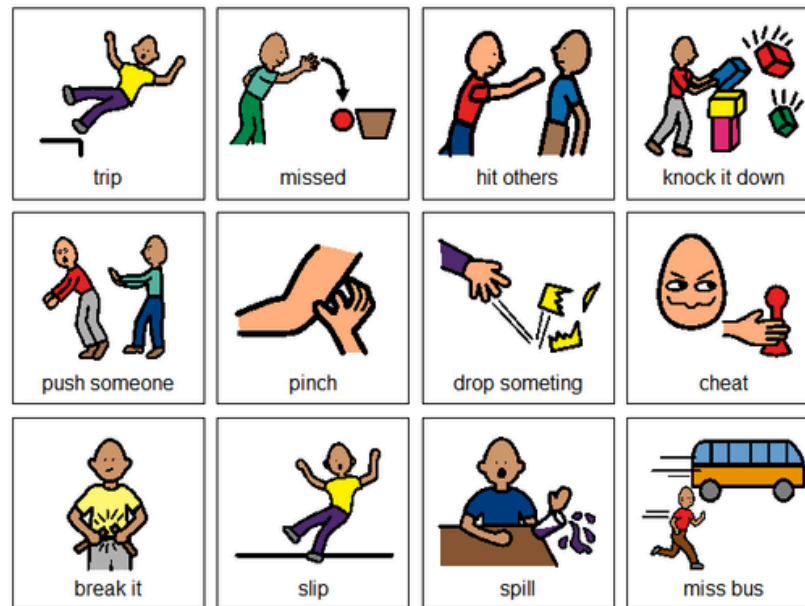
There are circle maps in this unit. Circle maps are a great way for students to see the big idea.

**WRONG ANSWERS  
MIXED IN**

Look at the pictures and decide if you think they were an accident or done on purpose.



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



There are sorting activities.

Directions for adding color coding or a separate differentiated version are included.

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CH 1





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CH 1

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Matthew asks his dad for advice on organizing his thoughts for the article. If you needed advice on the following, to whom would you go?

 <p>best medicine</p>	 <p>getting stronger</p>
 <p>climbing a mountain</p>	 <p>best book to read</p>
 <p>baking a cake</p>	 <p>building a house</p>
 <p>best paints</p>	 <p>going to outer space</p>

 <p>astronaut</p>	 <p>artist</p>	 <p>carpenter</p>	 <p>baker</p>
 <p>weight lifter</p>	 <p>mountaineer</p>	 <p>librarian</p>	 <p>doctor</p>

There are matching activities.

Directions for adding color coding or a separate differentiated version are included.

# Telling stories



I love to tell stories about

My favorite part is the

You can tell a story anywhere. Even in the

Some stories can be

But that is still okay, because stories are

dragons	castles	knights	aliens	outer space	vampires
beginning	ending	chase	adventure	monster	rescue
car	bed	bus	yard	woods	park
sad	scary	terrifying	boring	confusing	really long
all different	exciting	important	great	the best	fun

There are writing prompts.

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

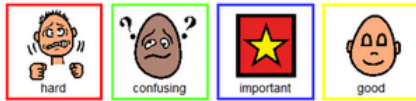
Doing the right thing is not always easy. The students think they are going to do something for Mr. Kermit. Sometimes the right thing is hard to figure out, but doing the right thing usually makes us feel better.

Doing the right thing can be

Doing the right thing can be

Doing the right thing is

Doing the right thing will make you feel

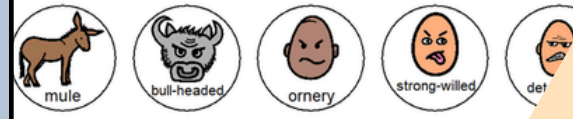
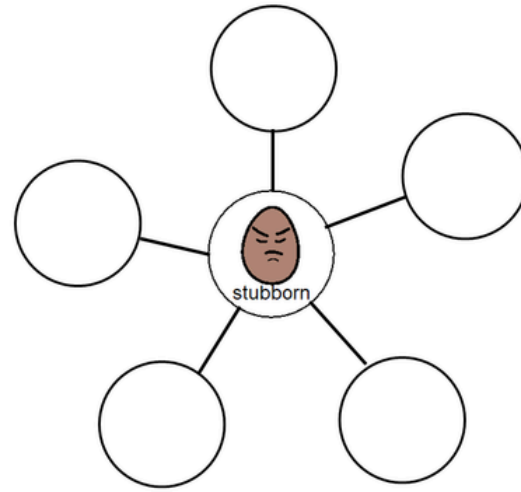


There are lots of alternatives to fighting. Complete the statements below using the pictures on the next page or coming up with your own ideas.

1. Instead of you can .
2. Instead of you can .
3. Instead of you can .
4. Instead of you can .
5. Instead of you can .



Helen is very stubborn. What does it mean to be stubborn?



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

Color in the country of Ukraine.



The things in GG's boxes are very sentimental to her. What does it mean if something is sentimental?

