



THE MOSTLY TRUE ADVENTURES OF HOMER P. FIGG

41 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 41 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.

Read about the Underground Railroad.

The Underground Railroad was a secret network that helped enslaved people escape to freedom before the Civil War. It was not a real railroad with trains or tracks. Instead, it was made up of safe places and brave people who helped others travel from one place to another.

The people who helped were called **conductors**. They guided families along hidden paths, often traveling at night to avoid being caught. Homes, churches, and barns that gave people a safe place to rest were called **stations**. Everyone involved kept the routes secret to protect those escaping.

The journey was long and dangerous. Enslaved people had to travel quietly and carefully. If they were caught, they could be forced to return to slavery, and the people helping them could be punished too. Even with these dangers, thousands of people escaped with the help of the Underground Railroad.

The Underground Railroad is an important part of American history because it showed great courage, hope, and kindness. Many people risked their own safety to help others gain freedom. Stories about the Underground Railroad help us remember the brave people who stood up against slavery.

Fill in the blanks.

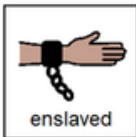
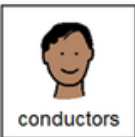
The Underground Railroad helped people reach safe

were the people who guided the families.

were the safe homes where they could rest.

The Underground Railroad had to be kept .

The Underground Railroad helped of people.



For example, students will learn about the Underground Railroad.

Then, they will answer some questions about what they learned.

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

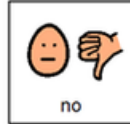
The activity will relate to something that occurred in the chapter.

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

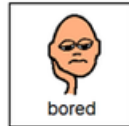
Optional: Quiz students' comprehension by having them answer 5 multiple-choice questions about that chapter.

CH 3

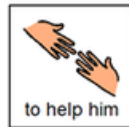
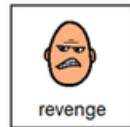
1. Was there food in the root cellar?



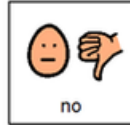
2. How did Homer feel in the root cellar?



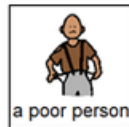
3. Why had Squint turned Harold over to the army?



4. Was the way Harold was sworn in legal?



5. The conscription law says that a rich man can hire a _____ to be his substitute if drafted.



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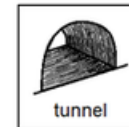
CH 3

CH 4

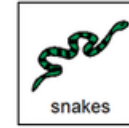
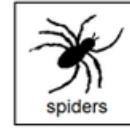
1. What did Homer have to think like in order to get out of the root cellar?



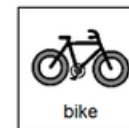
2. How does Homer get out of the root cellar?



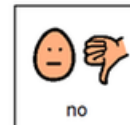
3. What did Homer use to be scared of?



4. How does Homer decide to travel to try and find Harold?



5. Does Squint hear Homer leave?



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CH 4

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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 Mostly True Adventures of Homer P Figg*, by Rodman Philbrick.
- 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 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 Mostly True Adventures of Homer P Figg

Novel Unit
for Special Education

By

Christa Joy

Special Needs for Special Kids



Christa Joy, SNSK

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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.



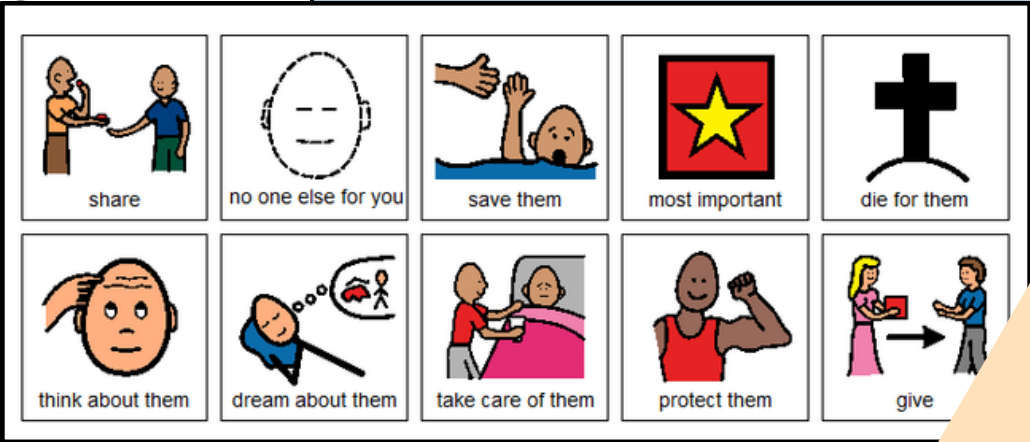
This unit comes with a
vocabulary board.

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

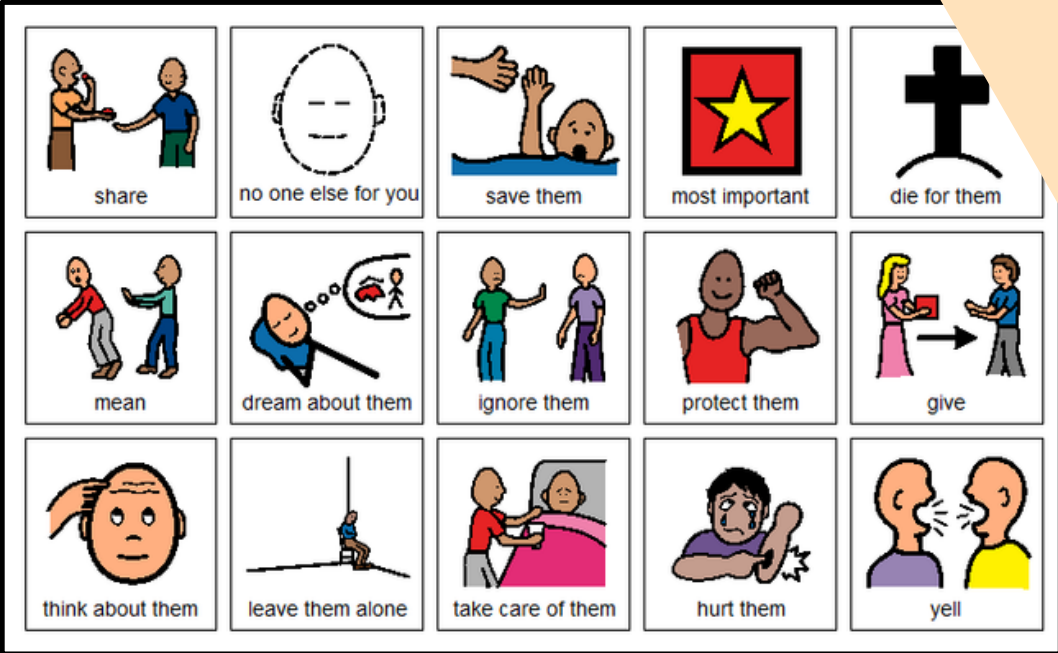
Tips on how to use in the unit!!

Mr. Willow thinks he truly loves Kate. What do you think true love looks like?

ERRORLESS VERSION



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

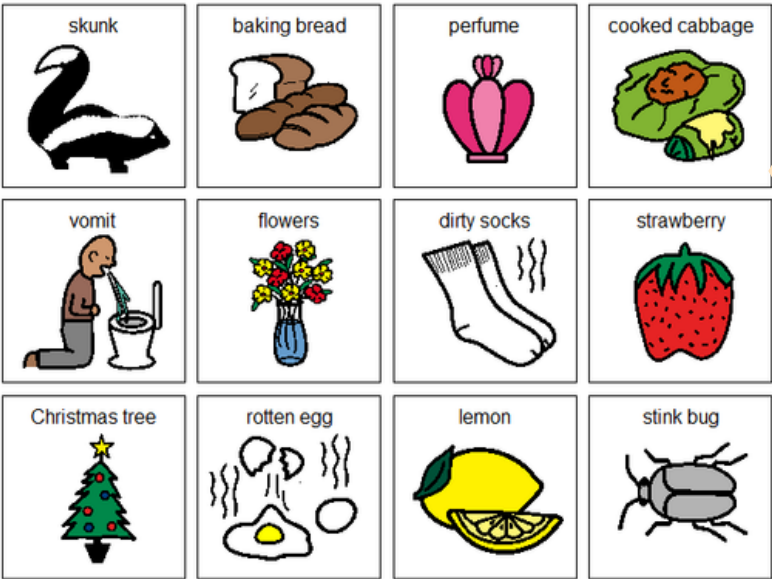


**WRONG ANSWERS
MIXED IN**

Stink is really stinky. Look at the items on the next page and sort them into whether you think they would smell good or bad.



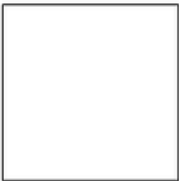
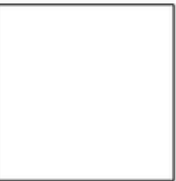
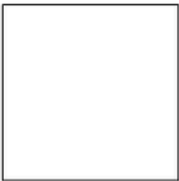
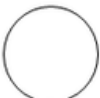
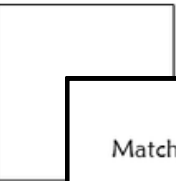
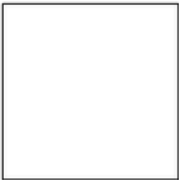
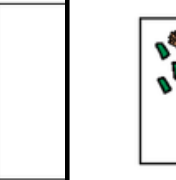
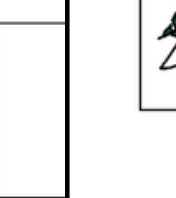
Smelly/Not Smelly Sort: Cut apart the pictures and sort into the correct column on the previous page.



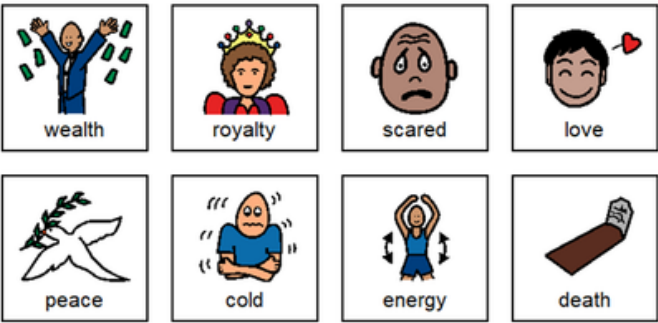
There are sorting activities.

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

The wagons with coffins are covered with black cloth. Certain colors have meanings. What does each color mean?

 purple		 yellow	
 green		 white	
 red		 blue	
 black		 orange	

Match the meaning to each color.



- Answer key:
- Wealth: green
 - Royalty: purple
 - Scared: yellow
 - Love: red
 - Peace: white
 - Cold: blue
 - Energy: orange
 - Death: black

There are matching activities.

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

My trip in a hot air balloon

If I could ride in a hot air balloon, I think it would be

I would take my

with me.

I would look at all the

It would be great to ride all the way to

I bet it would cost

to ride in a hot air balloon.



 great	 exciting	 fun	 scary	 loud	 the best
 best friend	 parents	 dog	 camera	 teacher	 team
 clouds	 birds	 people below	 buildings below	 cars below	 land
 Hogwarts	 Disney World	 the North Pole	 Antartica	 the moon	 outer space
 a lot	 a million dollars	 one dollar	 a penny	 nothing	 20 dollars

There are writing prompts.

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

Color in each jewel.



Blue sapphire



Purple amethyst



Green emerald



Red ruby

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Homer does not tell Smelt where the fugitives are actually hiding. Sometimes the right thing is hard to figure out, but doing it usually makes us feel better.

Doing the right thing can be

Doing the right thing can be

Do the right thing is

Doing the right thing will make you feel



hard



confusing



important

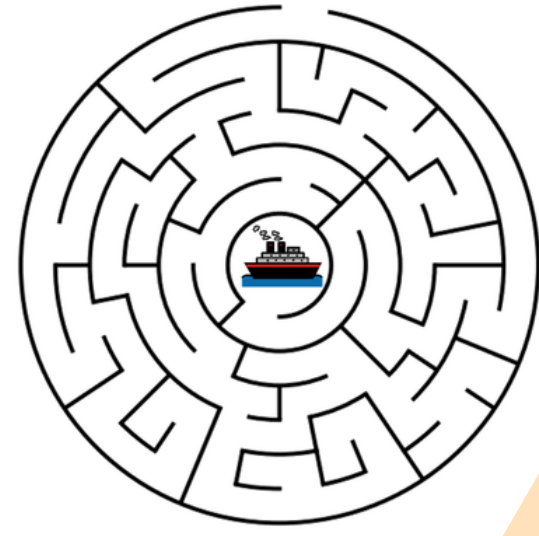


good

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Help Homer and Mr. Willow find their way to the port.



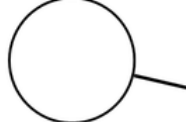


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Because there are so many activities, you can choose the ones that fit your students the best.

What does lovesick feel like?













sad



lonely



miss



broken heart



distracted

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Professor Fleabottom is accused of treason. What is treason?

Treason is betraying your .

Treason is telling .

Treason is trying to overthrow the .

People can go to for treason.



secrets



jail



country



government

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