

STRAYS



38 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 **38 different activities**. There is an activity for each chapter. These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

What is asthma?

Asthma is a condition that affects the lungs. It can make it hard for a person to breathe. People with asthma may cough, wheeze, or feel tightness in their chest.

Inside the lungs are small tubes called airways. Air moves through these tubes when we breathe. When a person has asthma, the airways can become swollen and narrow. The muscles around the airways may also tighten. This makes it harder for air to move in and out of the lungs.

Different things can cause asthma symptoms to start. These are called triggers. Common triggers include dust, pollen, smoke, cold air, exercise, and illness. Triggers are different for each person.

There is no cure for asthma, but it can be controlled. Some people use medicine from an inhaler to help open their airways. With the right care, people with asthma can play, exercise, go to school, and do the things they enjoy.

Answer the following questions about what you learned.

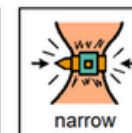
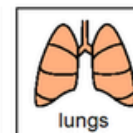
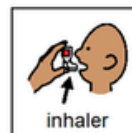
Asthma is a condition that affects the .

People with asthma may or wheeze.

The pathways in the lungs can .

can be a trigger for an asthma attack.

Medicine in an can help lessen attacks.



For example, students will learn about asthma.

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.

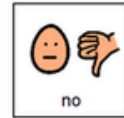
The activity will relate to something that occurred in the chapter.

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

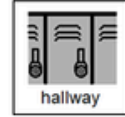
Optional: Quiz students' comprehension by having them answer 5 multiple-choice questions about that chapter.

CH 5-6

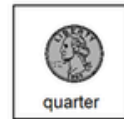
1. Does Campbell think she is good at art?



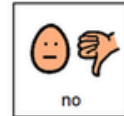
2. Where does Campbell go to text her dad?



3. What does Campbell look for on her way home?



4. Did she find the puppy?



5. What did she feed the puppy?



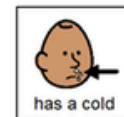
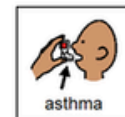
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CH 5-6

CH 7-8

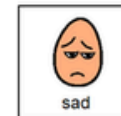
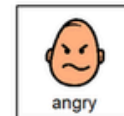
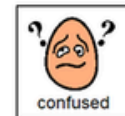
1. Why is Campbell coughing?



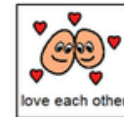
2. Does Dad say Campbell can sleep over at Luz's?



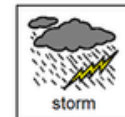
3. How does Campbell's dad seem to feel a lot?



4. What can Campbell tell about Luz and her dad?



5. Going to Luz's house feels like a _____.



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CH 7-8

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This unit includes comprehension questions. There are 5 questions for every 1-2 chapters. 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 *Strays* by Gia Gordon.
- The thought is that you would be reading it aloud to your class at a rate of about 2 chapters per day.
- Be sure to give each student their own copy of the storyboard (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 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 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 an activity for most chapters. You will still have plenty to choose from, and you can find activities 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 certain 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 2 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.

Strays

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.



This unit comes with a
vocabulary board.

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

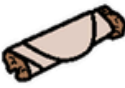
Tips on how to use in the unit!!

What are some examples of Mexican food?



ERRORLESS VERSION

 salsa	 taco	 enchiladas	 burrito	 tamales
 nachos	 refried beans	 corn tortillas	 guacamole	 quesadilla

 salsa	 taco	 lasagna	 burrito	 tamales
 nachos	 refried beans	 corn tortillas	 guacamole	 sushi
 spaghetti	 French fries	 enchiladas	 ravioli	 quesadillas

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

**WRONG ANSWERS
MIXED IN**

We all have memories about the past. Sort the following into whether you think they would be good memories or bad memories.



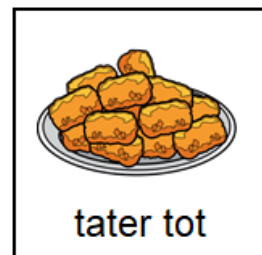
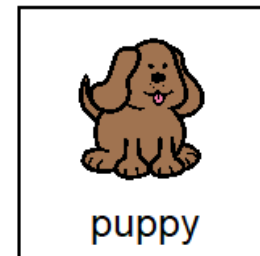
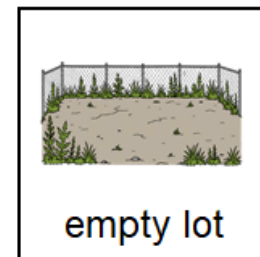
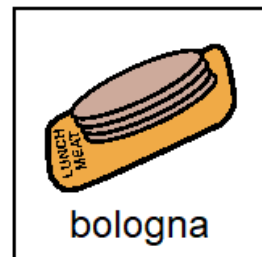
Sort the pictures into the correct column on the previous page.



There are sorting activities.

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

Match the meaning of each code word.



There are matching activities.

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

My best day

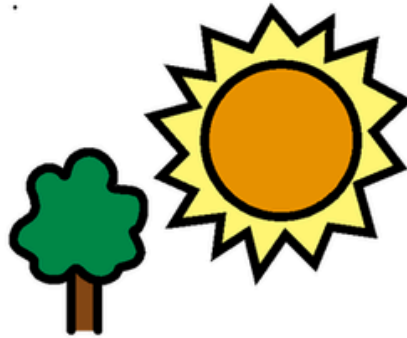
I would spend my best day at the (my) .

The weather would be .

would come with me.

I would spend all day .

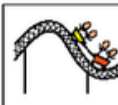
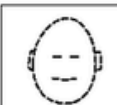
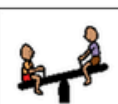
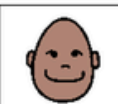
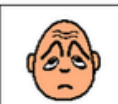
When it was over, I would .



CH 1-2

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8

 beach	 lake	 park	 zoo	 home	 amusement park
 sunny	 stormy	 hot	 cool	 windy	 perfect
 My mom & dad	 My friend	 My dog	 no one	 My grandparents	 My family
 playing	 napping	 fishing	 swimming	 eating	 hiking
 be sad	 be content	 be exhausted	 go home	 do it again	 thankful

CH 1-2

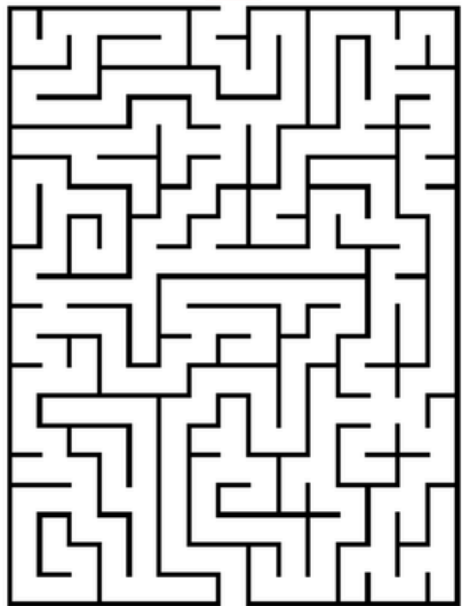
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9

There are writing prompts.

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

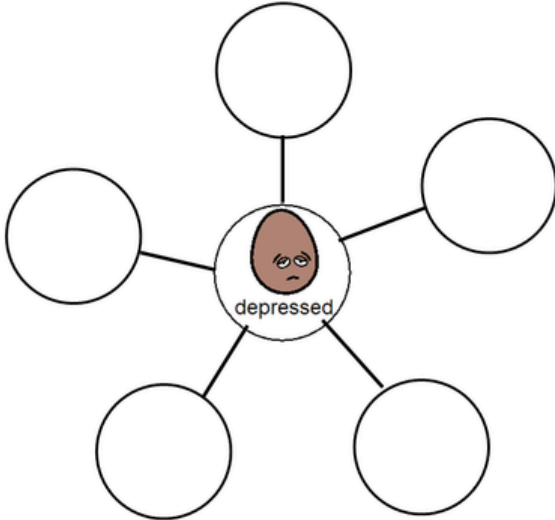
Help Campbell find the puppy.



CH 6

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What are some signs a person might be depressed?



depressed

sad no appetite no energy lack of interest want to be alone

CH 15

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Look at the title and cover of each book and circle what you think you might find in the book.

The City Zoo

animals dress candle

The Longest Trip

ocean outer space desert

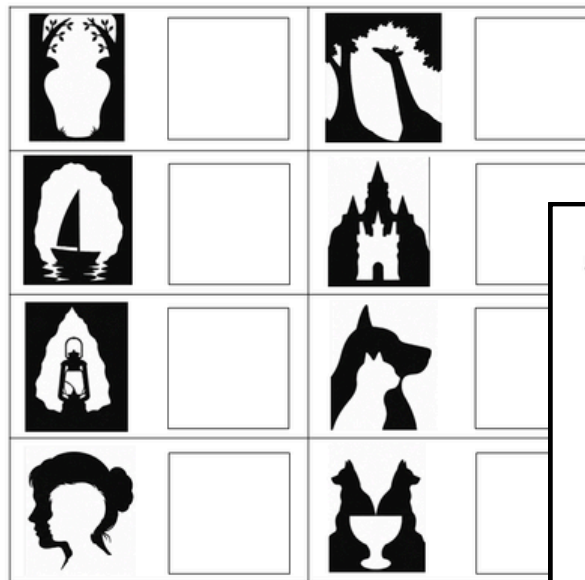
The Heist

park market place bank

CH 15

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What is depicted in the negative space in each image?



CH 7

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Match with the image on the previous page.

boy giraffe castle chalice

sailboat cat lantern vase

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