

Special Ed

2002

Newberry Medal Winner

# A SINGLE SHARD

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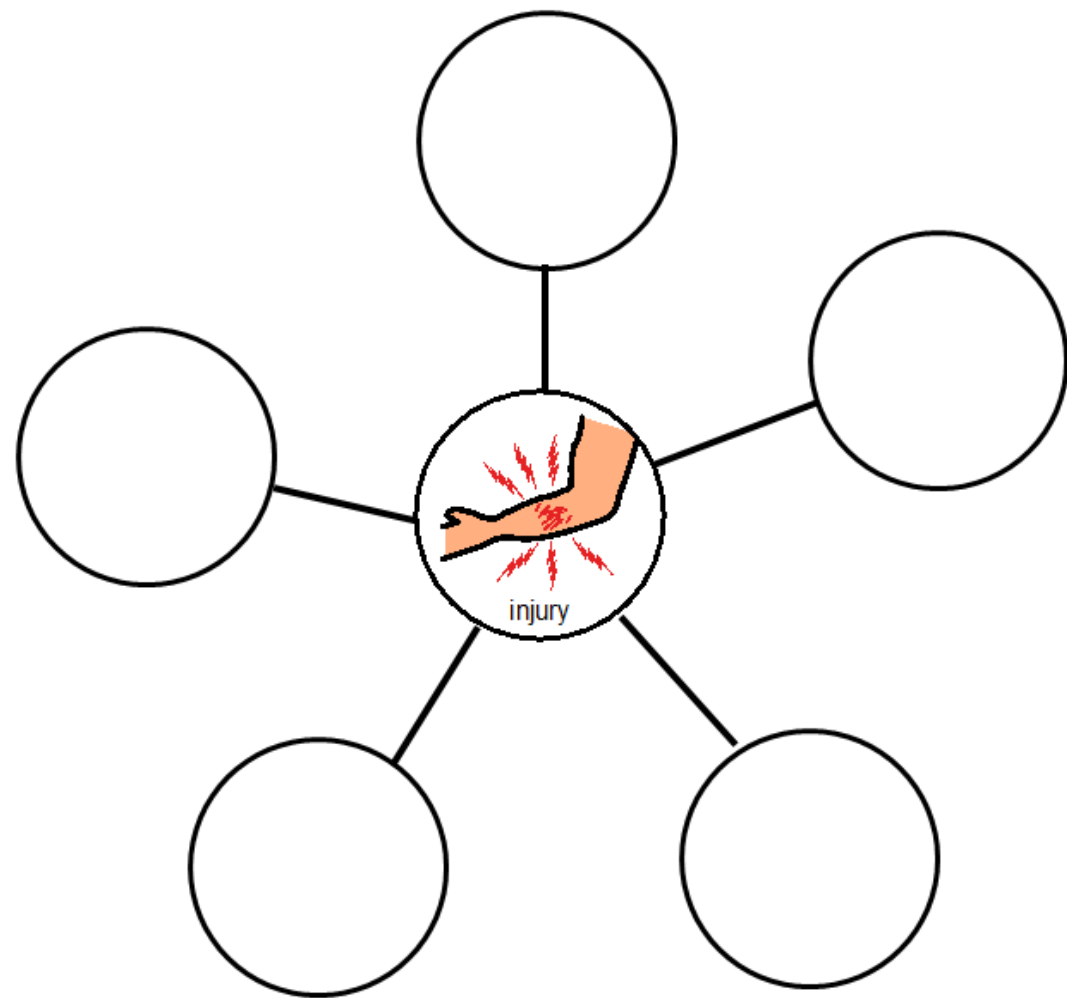
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This novel unit has **28** different activities. These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.



Crane-man helps clean Tree-ear's hand. What are some things you should do with a minor injury (that does not need a doctor)?



For example, Tree-ear gets very bad blisters chopping wood. Crane-man takes care of him. Students will complete this activity showing things that are important when treating a minor injury. This is an errorless task.



## Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park.
- 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. 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 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.

## Suggestions for Use

- 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. This 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 the ones 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.



# A Single Shard

## Novel Unit for Special Education

By  
Christa Joy  
Special Needs for Special Kids



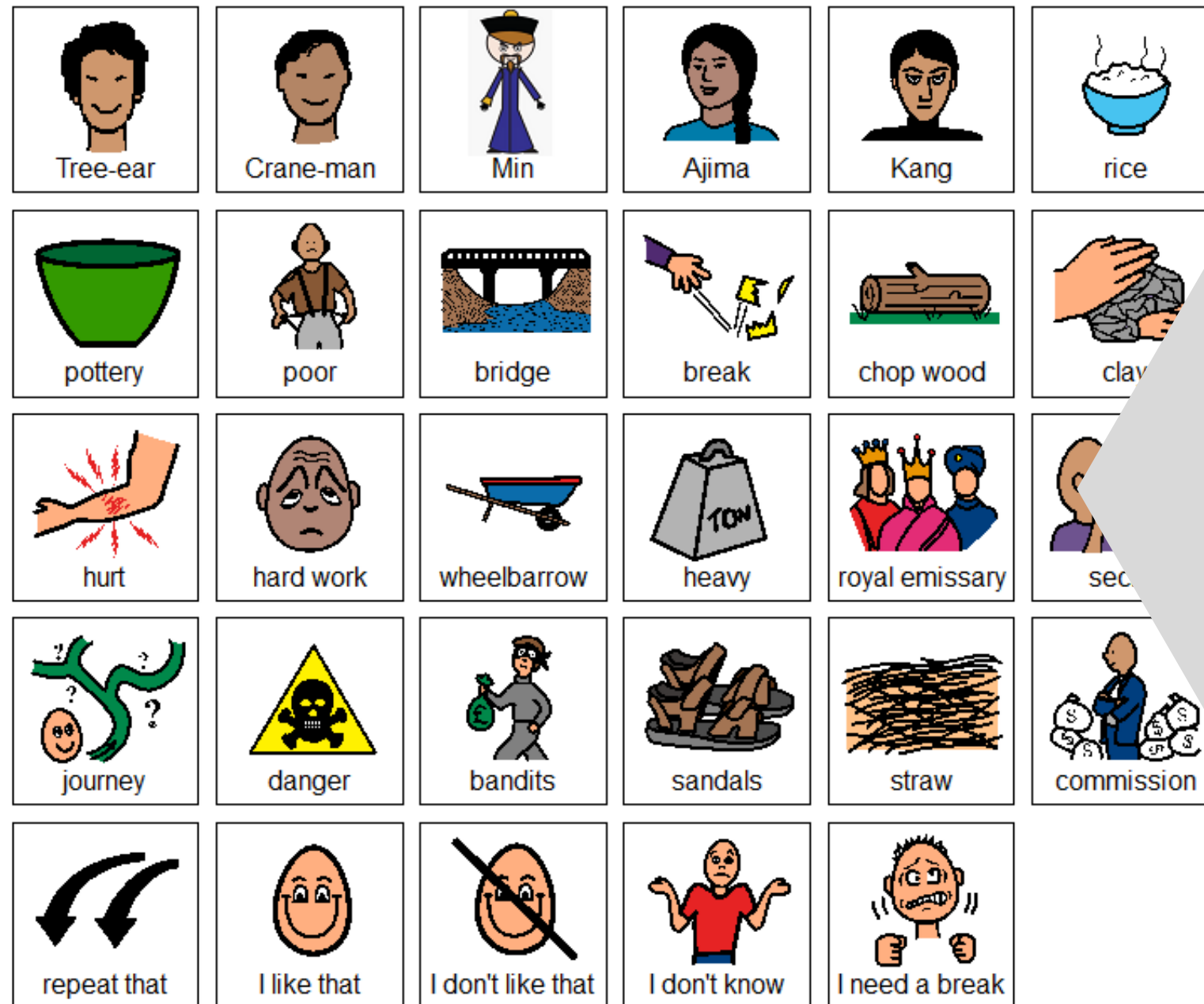
*This entire novel unit  
comes in 2 separate files.  
One is completely in color  
and one is completely in  
black and white.*



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!!

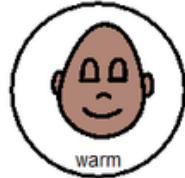
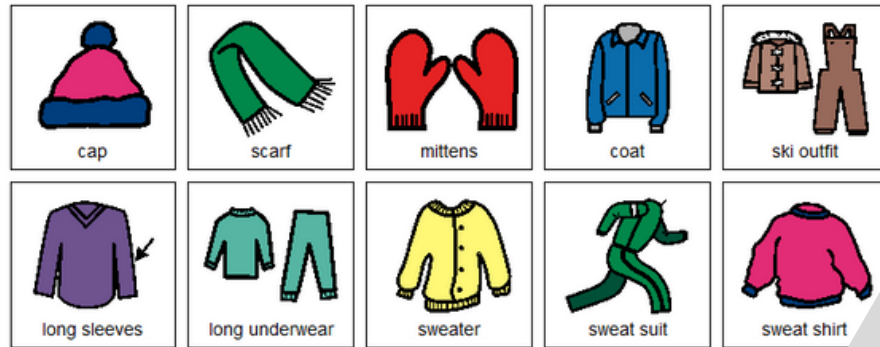




What are some things that you could wear to help you stay warm in the winter?

Errorless version

Place some things in the circle map that will help to keep you warm in the winter.



Place the following on the previous page **ONLY IF** they are things that would help to keep you warm.



There are circle maps in this unit.

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

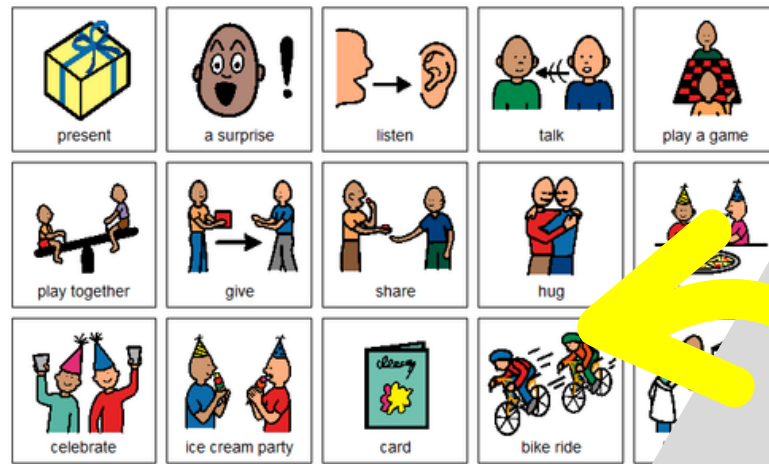




What are some ways you could cheer up someone?

errorless

Place the following in the circle map showing some ways you could cheer someone up.



Place the following on the previous page **ONLY IF** they are things that would cheer someone up.



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.



Tree-ear decided to do the right thing and tell the farmer he was losing his rice. Sort examples of good vs bad deeds.



good



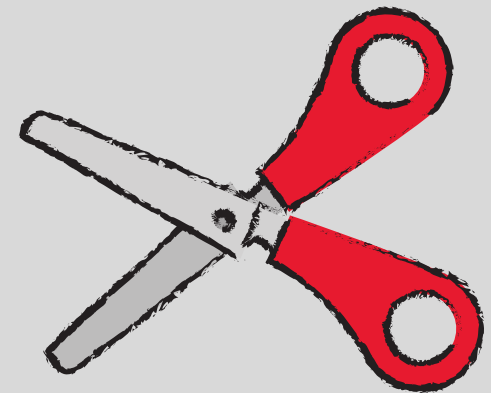
bad

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

 steal	 rescue	 hit others	 help	 fight
 yell	 give	 share	 mean	 hug
 take care of	 take	 keep a secret	 cheer	 bite others

There are sorting activities.

Directions on how to add color coding for differentiation is included.





Tree-ear is named after a mushroom. Sometimes people get nicknames based on how they act or look. See if you can match the nickname below to the person it most likely belongs to.

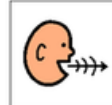
Beanpole



Nervous Nellie



Money bags



Einstein



Shorty



Chatterbox



Tree-ear is named after a mushroom. Sometimes people get nicknames based on how they act or look. See if you can match the nickname below to the person it most likely belongs to.

differentiated

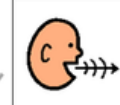
Beanpole



Nervous Nellie



Money bags



Einstein



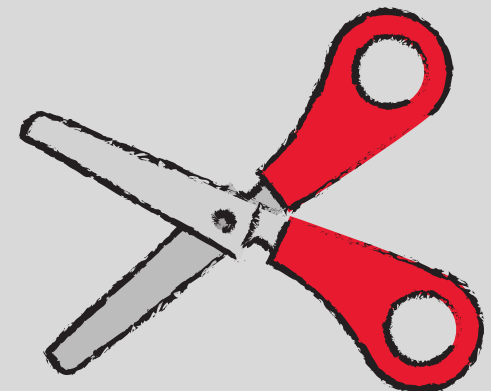
Shorty



Chatterbox



There are matching activities. Directions on how to add color coding for differentiation are included, or a differentiated version is included like this example.





# What success means to me

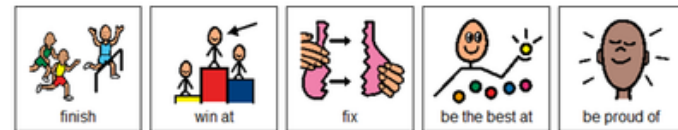
Success means to  something.

One thing I am successful at is/are .

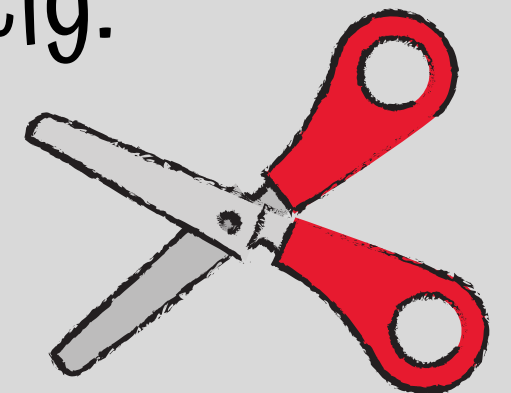
Success can take a lot of .

But when I am successful, I feel .

The best way to measure success is .

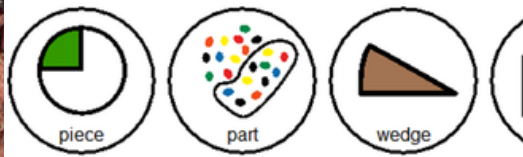
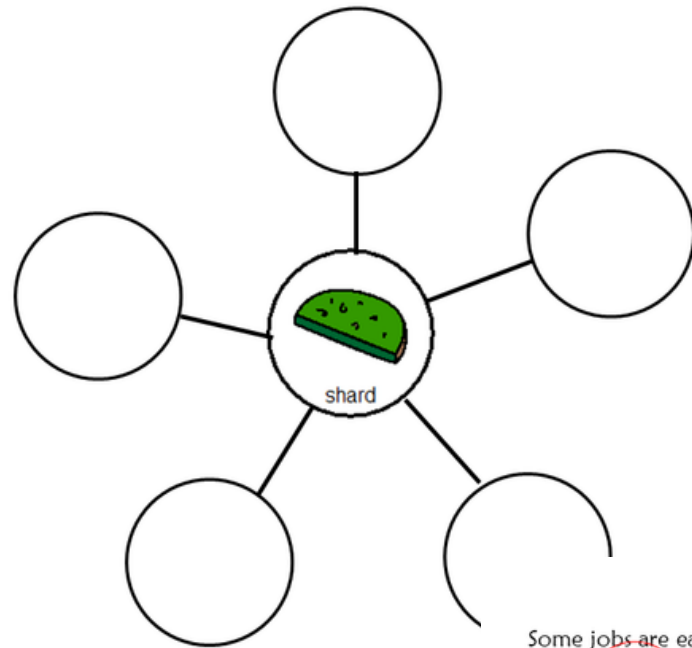


There are writing prompts. These are errorless activities that allow students to write a story independently.





What are some other words for shard?



CH 11

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Count how many springs have passed. Each tally mark counts as one spring.

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

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Some jobs are easy, and some are hard. Look at each set below and circle the one that you think would be harder to do.

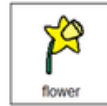
grind wheat	buy flour in store
buy butter in store	churn butter
leave a mess	wipe up mess
hike to park	drive to park

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



## CH 4

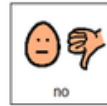
1. What would Tree-ear save each day for Crane-Man?



2. What/who did Tree-ear need to hide his uneaten food from?



3. Would Min hit Tree-ear when he was angry with him?



4. What did a celebration in the village mean to Tree-ear?



5. When Min would work at the pottery wheel, would he work fast or slow?



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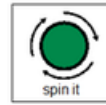
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CH 4

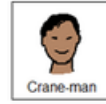


## CH 9

What did Tree-ear realize he could do instead of using the pottery wheel?



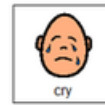
Who would help make the carrying device for the vases?



What does Ajima ask Crane-man to help her with?



What does Crane-man do when Tree-ear tells him he is worried about Ajima?



What does Tree-ear give Crane-man as a gift?



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CH 9

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!!





I realize there will be some students out there unable to do cutting activities. I have a blog post with ways to complete activities without a pair of scissors!!

**[Click Here to read more!!](#)**