

# FLORA & ULYSSES (FOR SPECIAL ED)

31 activities

5 questions/  
5 chapters



The  
Illuminated  
Adventures



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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Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids  
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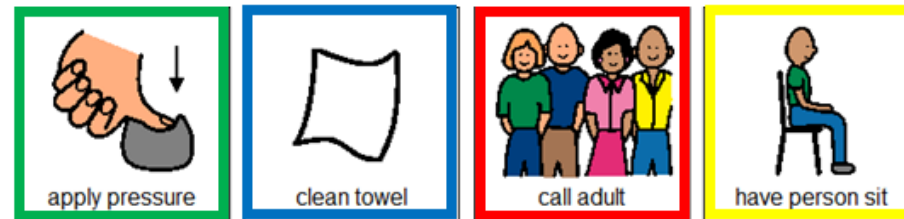
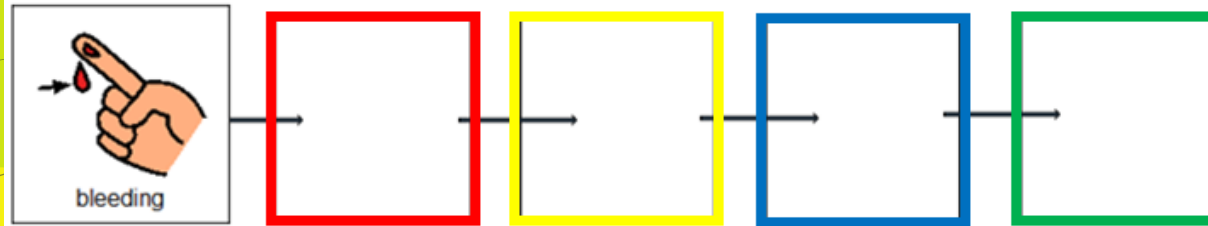
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This novel unit has **31 different activities.**

These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

Sequence what to do when someone is bleeding.



For example, Ulysses gets a cut on his head that Flora tries to treat. Here, students will sequence the steps to treating a minor cut. There is this color-coded version for students who need more support. This does not require comprehension.

## Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *Flora & Ulysses The Illuminated Adventures* by Kate DiCamillo
- **This book was the Newbery Medal Winner in 2014.**
- The thought is that you would be reading it aloud to your class at a rate of about 1-5 chapters 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

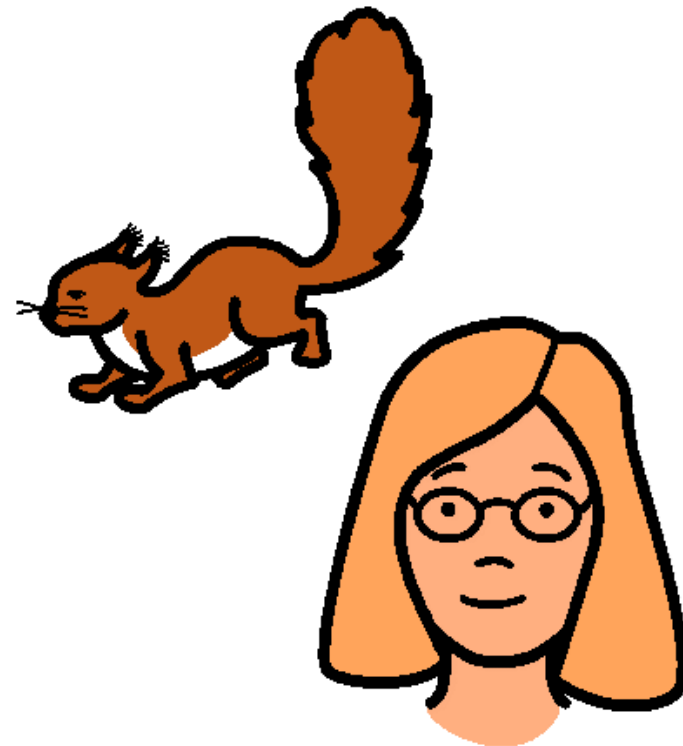
- For students who need more structure, place the number of post-it notes in front of him/her that corresponds to the number of pages you intend to read. Remove a post-it as you finish each page. This visual will help lessen their anxiety.
- You will find 2 or more activities for each chapter. You will still have plenty to choose from and find the one that fits 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.
- This unit includes 5 multiple choice questions for every 5 chapters. These are in a separate file and are in color and black and white. There is an answer key included.

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.

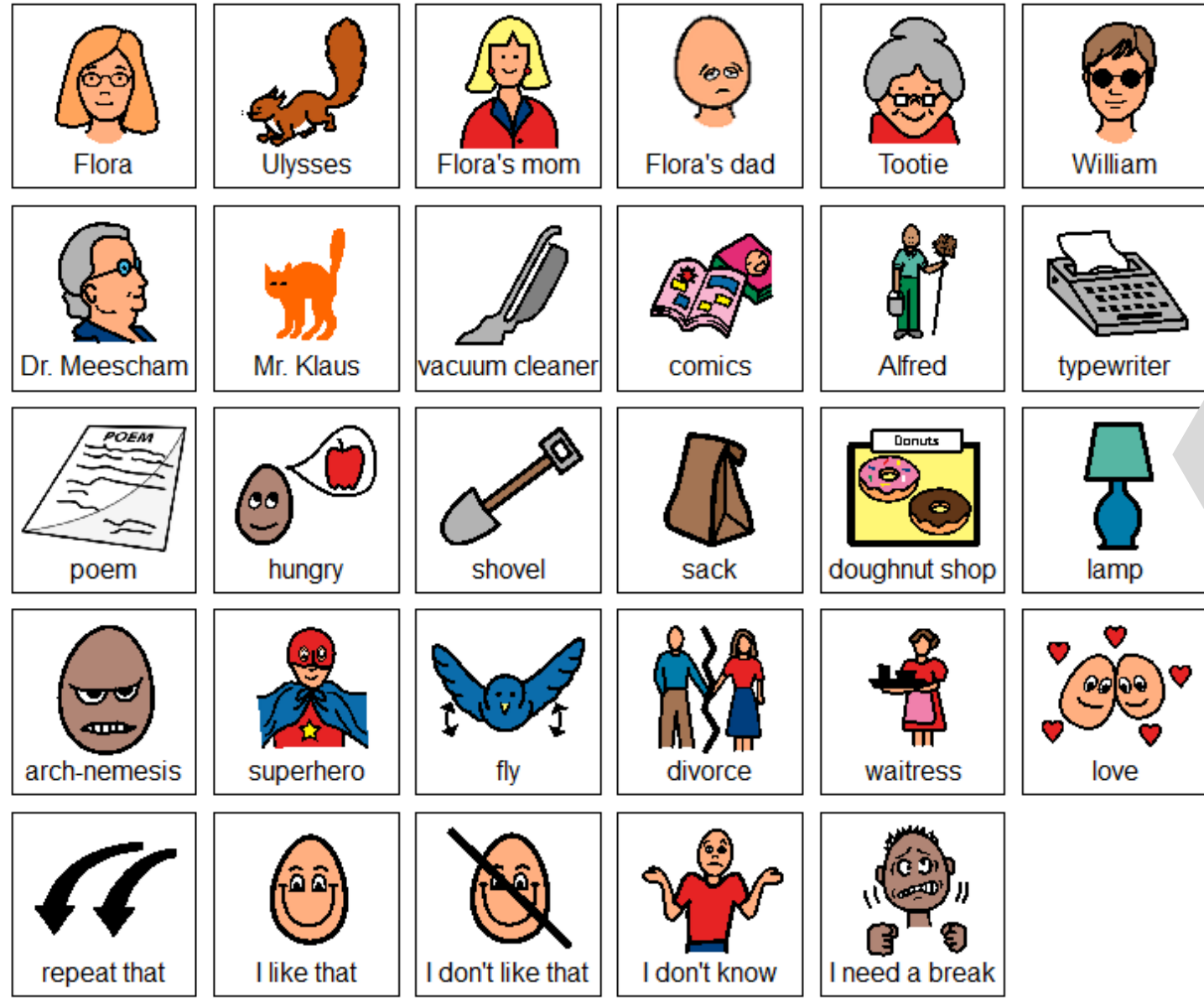
# Flora & Ulysses The Illuminated Adventures

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.*



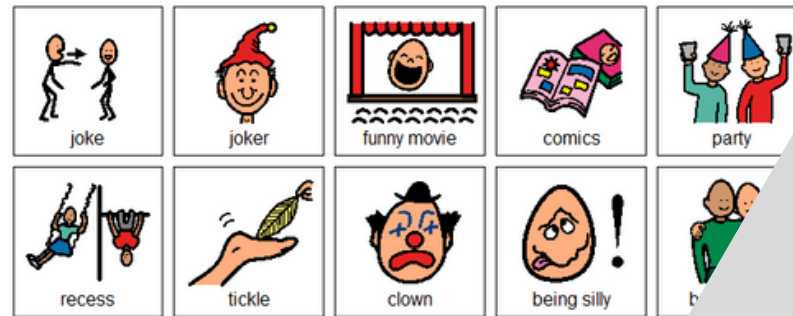
This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

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

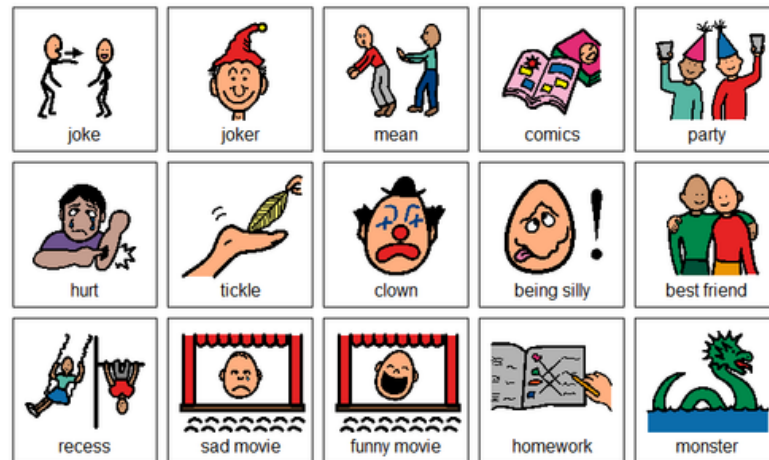
Tips on how to use in the unit!!

What are some things that make people laugh?

Place the following in the circle map showing things that make people laugh.



Place the following on the previous page **ONLY IF** they are things that might make people laugh.



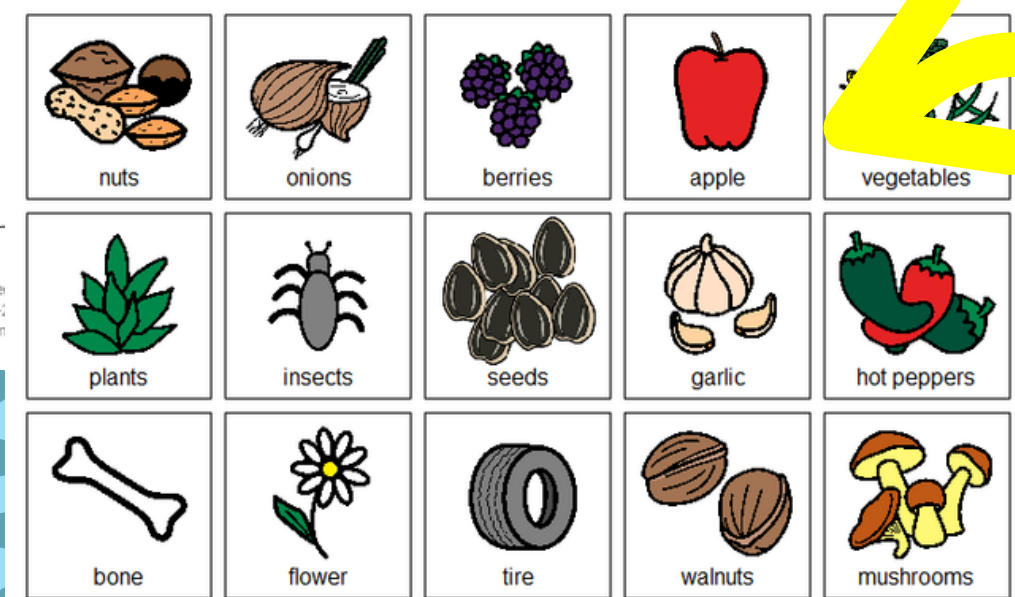
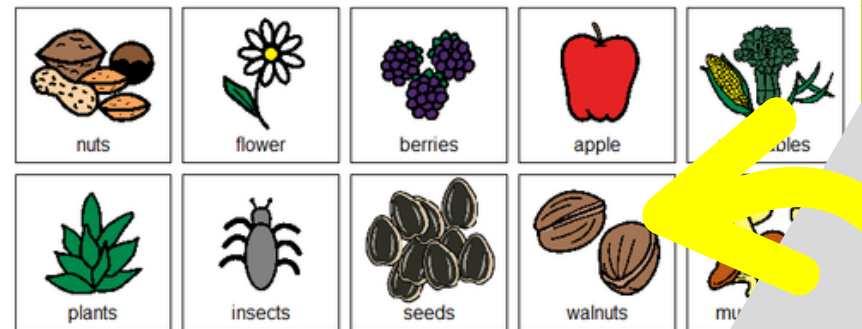
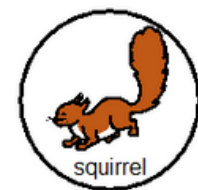
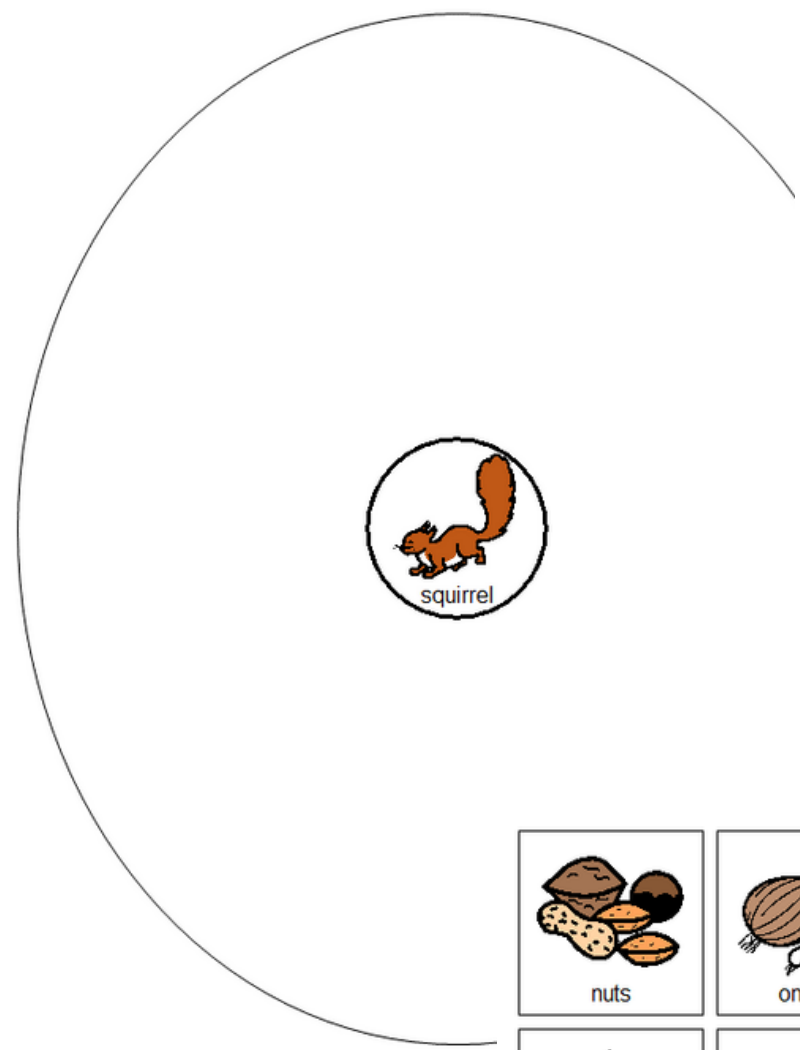
There are circle maps in this unit.

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





What are some things you think most squirrels would eat? (By the way, squirrels will eat just about anything!)

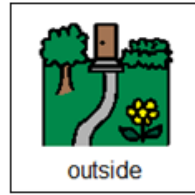
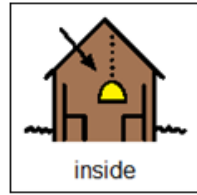


Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers

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

Some tools you normally use inside, and some you use outside. Sort the tools on the next page into the best column.

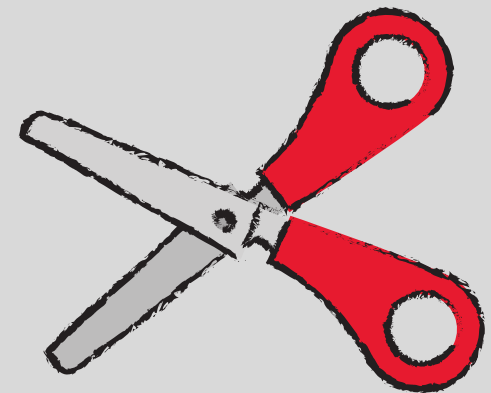


Sort the following tools into the best column on the previous page. If you think it could be both, or are not sure, place it on the middle line.

 lawn mower	 hand mixer	 beach umbrella	 axe	 hose
 shovel	 vacuum cleaner	 typewriter	 weed eater	 broom
 dust rag	 tractor	 microwave	 blender	 rake

There are sorting activities.

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



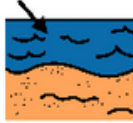







Have you ever smelled something that reminded you of another time or place? Match the following smells with the place it might remind you of.



 popcorn	<input type="text"/>	 pine tree	<input type="text"/>
 salt	<input type="text"/>	 French fries	<input type="text"/>
 cookies	<input type="text"/>	 smoke	<input type="text"/>
 suntan lotion	<input type="text"/>	 hot dogs	<input type="text"/>

Match the following places to the smells on the page.

 movies	 Christmas	 ocean	 McDonald's
 home	 camping	 pool	 fair

There are matching activities. Directions on how to add color coding for differentiation is included.



# My hero



I think a hero should be

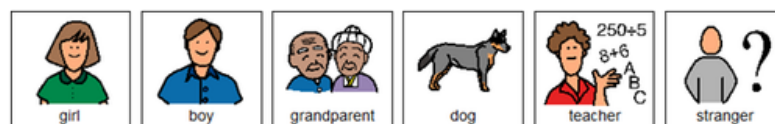
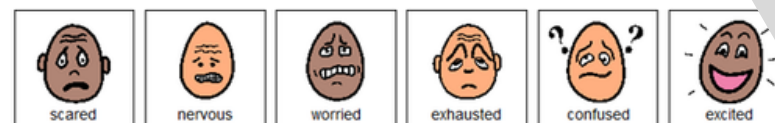
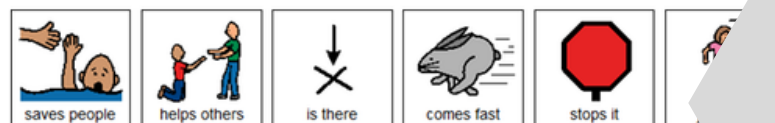
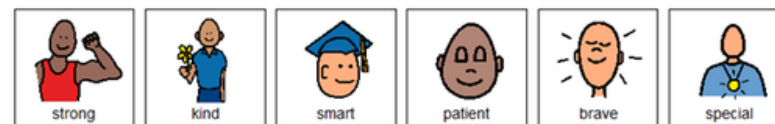
When there is danger, a hero

Sometimes, a hero is

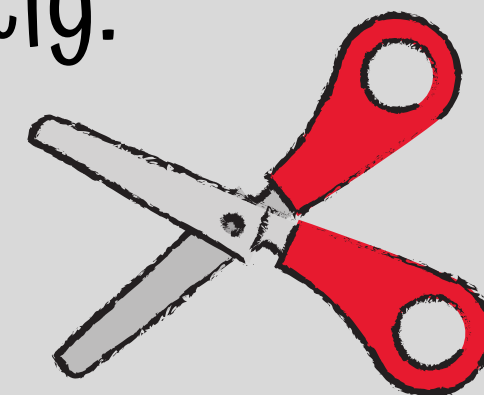
Anyone can be a hero, even a

My

is my hero.



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



Flora's mom thinks that Flora is not respecting her property when it comes to the typewriter. What does respecting others' property mean?

Respecting others' property means

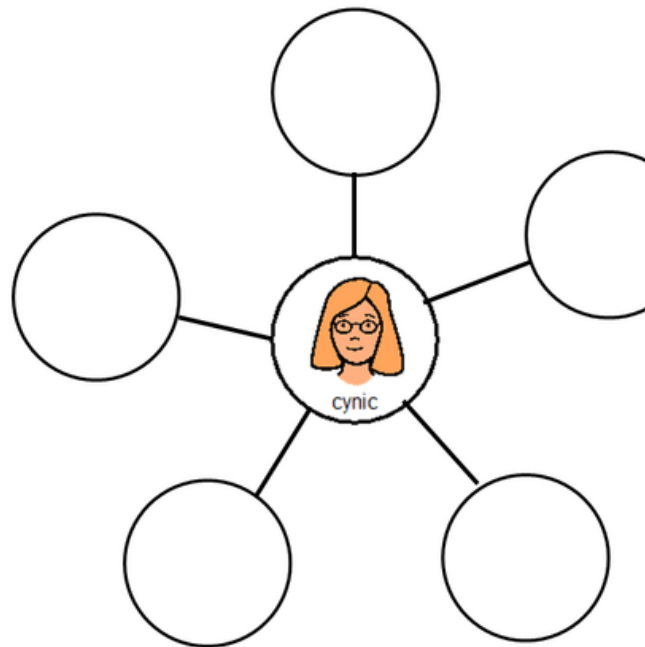
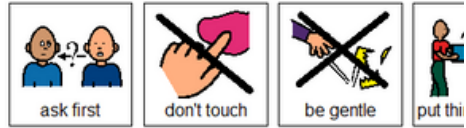
Respecting others' property means

Respecting others' property means

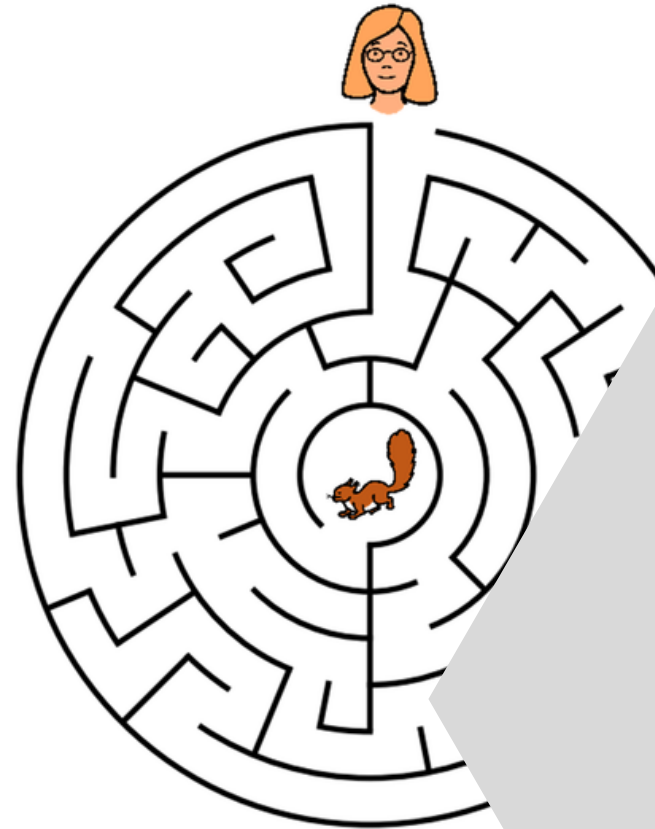
Respecting others' property means

What does mean to be a cynic?

Respecting others' property means



Help Flora find Ulysses.



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



CH 6-10

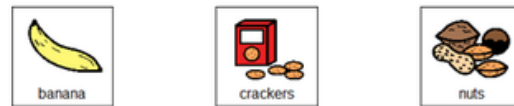
1. What did Mrs. Tickham do when Flora saved the squirrel?



2. What was the first thing the squirrel was thinking when it woke up?



3. What did the squirrel shake out of the vacuum cleaner?



4. Where did Flora get the name Ulysses for the squirrel?



5. What did Flora's mom have that she named Mary Ann?



CH 21-25

1. What does Ulysses type?



2. Does Flora's mom allow Flora to keep the squirrel?



3. What does Flora's mom want her dad to do to the squirrel?



4. What does Flora's mom give Flora to keep Ulysses in for the car ride?



5. Who is Ulysses' arch-nemesis?



This unit does come with comprehension questions. There are 5 questions for every 5 chapters. 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!!](#)**