

# GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM



**10 UNITS**  
**33 WEEKS**



# SPECIAL EDUCATION





## For students who:

- are emerging or non-readers
- take alternate assessments
- are in special education
- short-attention span
- lack pre-requisite skills
- benefit from the use of pictures for support
- middle/high school



## Why you need this bundle:

- If you teach multiple grade levels, you have all you need in one place.
- Having the same layout for each unit reduces students' anxiety and allows them to focus on the content.
- Aligned with extended learning standards.
- Saves you money
- Saves you time.



# This bundle includes 10 different units that cover important civics topics:

- Midwest Region of United States (3 weeks)
- Northeast Region of United States (3 weeks)
- Southeast Region of United States (3 weeks)
- Southwest Region of United States (3 weeks)
- West Region of United States (3 weeks)
- US Manmade Landmarks (3 weeks)
- US Natural Landmarks (3 weeks)
- US Symbols (3 weeks)
- Five Oceans (4 weeks)
- Seven Continents (5 weeks)

All units have  
printable AND  
digital  
versions



All the units are structured similarly so students become familiar with the type of activities and can concentrate more on the content. Most units include:

- Detailed lesson plans
- Book
- Vocabulary
- Circle maps
- Maps
- Sorting activities
- Matching activities
- Writing prompts
- Close worksheets
- Assessments (3 versions)

The activities are differentiated to allow more students to participate in the same activity.

- Saves you time
- Fosters inclusion

 **KEEP SCROLLING FOR ALL THE DETAILS** 



## Table of Contents

Worksheet pages	Title
4-22	US Geography Overview book
23-28	US Overview circle map
29-57	West Region book
58-60	Vocabulary Board
61-62	Color the West Region
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84-92	Applesauce recipe
93-102	Student Booklet Version 1
103-112	Student Booklet Version 2
113-130	West Region Assessment color
131-132	Terms of Use

Every unit has lots of different activities and ways for students to learn about the topic in that unit.



# Lesson plan

## Day 3

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book on the West Region. (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read through the story, asking lots of questions</li><li>• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li></ul>
Scavenger Hunt with vocabulary board (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paste the symbols around the room</li><li>• Students walk around with their vocabulary board looking for matching symbols<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Place a sticky note on their board covering the symbols as they find them</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocabulary board cut apart</li><li>• tape</li><li>• Vocabulary board</li></ul>
Colored map review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review the map of the West states completed yesterday</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Activity completed yesterday</li></ul>
Circle map (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do the first circle map which is an <b>overview</b> of the West regions.</li><li>• Choose the best version (errorless or not) depending on the learning level of your students</li><li>• Students cut out symbols and place in circle map</li><li>• Make connections to the book as necessary</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• worksheet</li><li>• Scissors</li><li>• Glue</li></ul>
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each student shares their worksheet with the group using the communication method of their choice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed activity</li><li>• Communication devices</li></ul>

The lesson plans contain:

- Overall tips for teaching students with significant needs
- A quick look at what you will do each day
- Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run



The United States is a **SYSTEM** that can be broken into 5 major parts or regions.



Crista Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

## Overview

There is an overview of the United States and the five regions. It has simple text and engaging photos.

## What is a REGION?

- A place that has similar characteristics that make it different or unique from surrounding areas

Crista Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids





There are just as many cattle ranches in the Southwest region as sheep farms. The meat from these ranches is shipped all over the world.

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

**Book for each region**



Hawaii is famous for its pineapples. You can also find sugarcane in Hawaii. The plant is grown on plantations. Once it is harvested, it is sent to sugar mills. This is where the table sugar we use is produced.





Southeast

12

states



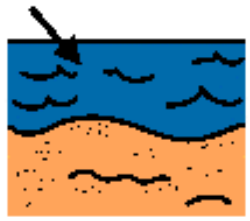
Appalachian mountains



swamp



Mississippi river



Atlantic ocean



country music



Disney



hurricane



tobacco



pig



fabric



barbeque



biscuit



Coke



repeat that



I like that



I don't like that



I don't know



I need a break

Each unit comes with its own vocabulary board.








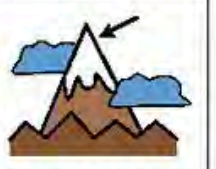
Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

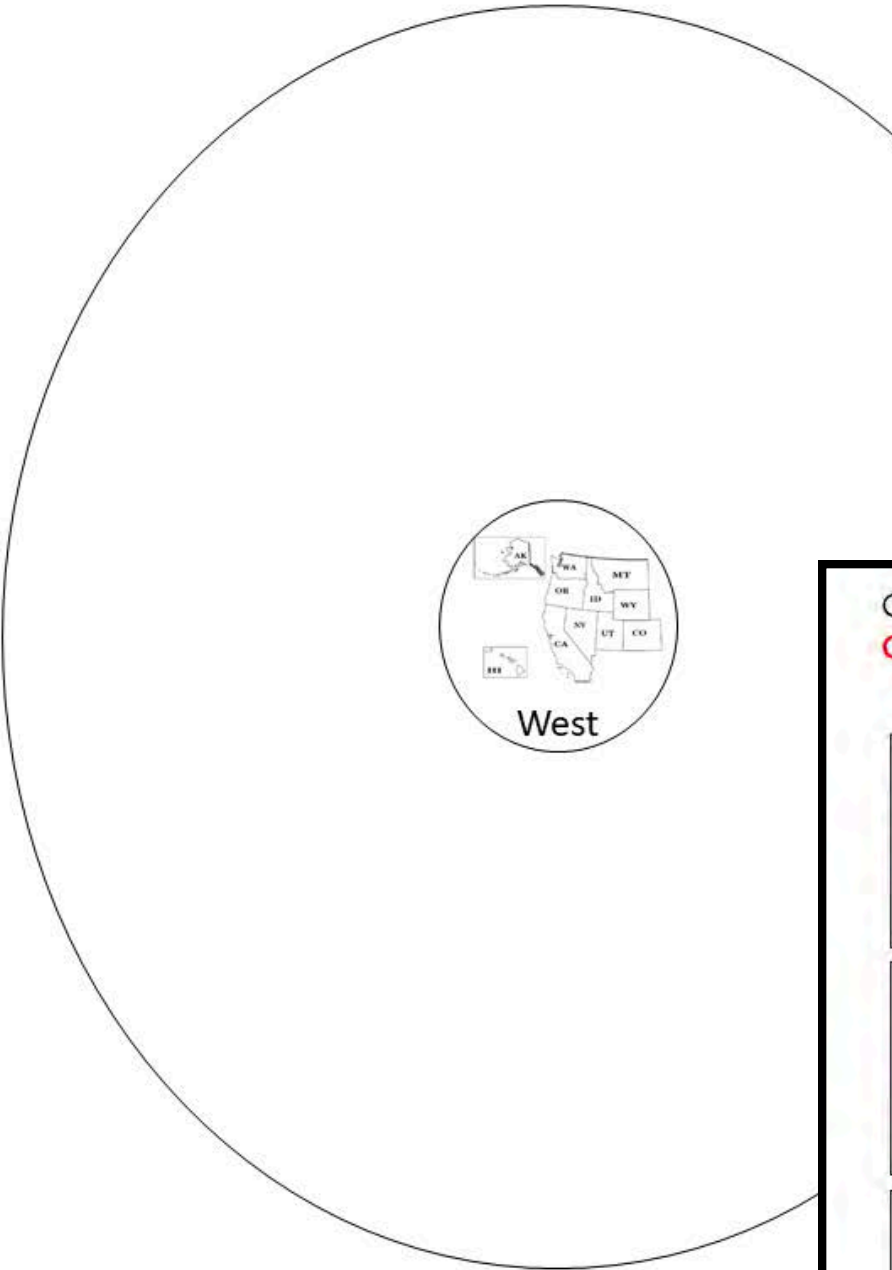
Tips on how to use in the unit!!








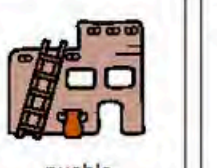

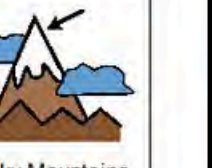




# West Region

circle maps

 <p>11 states</p>	 <p>west</p>	 <p>volcano</p>	 <p>rainforest</p>
 <p>Great Salt Lake</p>	 <p>Alaska</p>	 <p>Hawaii</p>	 <p>Rocky Mountains</p>



Cut out pictures and place in circle map on previous page **ONLY IF** they are facts about the West.

 <p>11 states</p>	 <p>west</p>	 <p>volcano</p>	 <p>North Pole</p>
 <p>Great Salt Lake</p>	 <p>pueblo</p>	 <p>Hawaii</p>	 <p>Rocky Mountains</p>
 <p>Florida</p>	 <p>Alaska</p>	 <p>Mississippi river</p>	 <p>rainforest</p>

Each unit includes a circle map to visually review the main facts from the book. There is an errorless option and an option with wrong answers mixed in.

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Color in the Midwestern States.



Most of the units have maps. There are differentiated versions for students who need more visual support.

Asia

1. Add label.
2. Color in Asia green.
3. Color in surrounding oceans blue.

A world map showing the continent of Asia highlighted in green. The surrounding oceans, the Pacific Ocean to the east and the Indian Ocean to the south, are highlighted in blue. The Ural Mountains are marked with a red arrow and labeled. The continent of Europe is also labeled. A small inset map of Asia is located in the top right corner of the map area.

maps



# Ingredient Labels



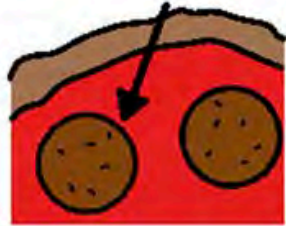
pizza crust



spaghetti sauce



shredded cheese



pepperoni



olive oil



parmesan cheese

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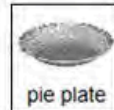
# picture recipes

There are picture recipes that highlight the foods and culture of that region.

## Recipe



1. Preheat oven to 350



2. Grease pie plate with olive oil



3. Stretch and put the pizza dough in the pie plate



4. Add cheese



5. Add pepperoni



6. Add sauce



7. Add Parmesan



8. Bake for 25-30 minutes



# Deep Dish Pizza











# matching

Label Mount Rushmore.

- 1. Label the president
- 2. Label what represents



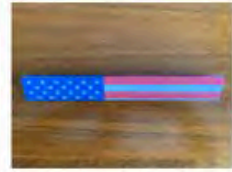
 Lincoln	 Washington	 Jefferson	 Roosevelt
 birth	 preservation	 growth	 development

There are matching activities. Suggestions for differentiation are included.

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## How to fold the flag



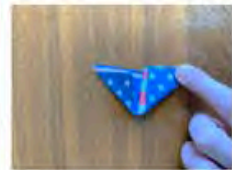
Step 1-2



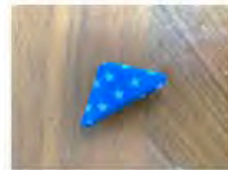
Step 3



Step 4-5



Step 6



Step 7

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## Bingo cards



- Included are 10 Bingo cards in color and 10 Bingo cards in BW.
- Place the cards in page protectors or laminate for long term use.
- Calling cards are included.
- This is a great way to practice the new vocabulary included in this unit.
- Cut apart a set of the vocabulary cards to use as the calling cards.
- Options:
  - Show students the picture for them to match
  - Read the definition and see if students can find the matching picture
  - Work as teams
  - Vary the "winning" patterns.
    - Cover all
    - Cover corners
    - Row across or down
    - Cover the edges
  - Vary the ways to mark the card
    - Place in page protector or laminate and use
    - Stickers
    - Post-it notes
    - Dot markers






# Group activities

There are various activities meant to be done in small group.

## Who am I cards

- Give each student a set of Who am I cards
- Various options/ways to play, but the goal is to have students hold up the card you are talking about. Sometimes there can be more than one correct answer
- Things you can do:
  - Show a page from the book
  - Point to a symbol on the vocabulary board
  - Verbally describe something about one of the US symbols.
- Tell a story as though you were seeing a symbol.
  - What do you see?
  - What does it mean?
  - Where are you standing?
  - What historical figure are you?
  - What time period are you from?

## US Symbols

 United States	 flag	 Statue of Liberty	 Liberty Bell
 bald eagle	 Great Seal	 Uncle Sam	 freedom
 strength	 patriotism	 united	13
 democracy	 independence	 important	1776

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# Assessments

Version 1

1. The West is made up of how many states?

50

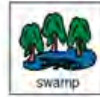
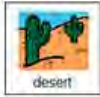
3

11

2. What is one of the main land features in the West Region?



3. This region has the largest temperate one of these in the world:



4. In the West there are times the earth shakes and cause a lot of damage when this occurs:



5. What is one of the main foods grown in Hawaii?

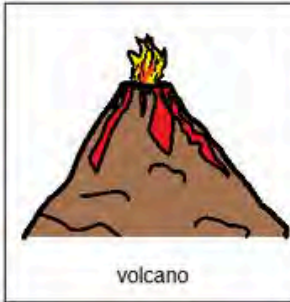


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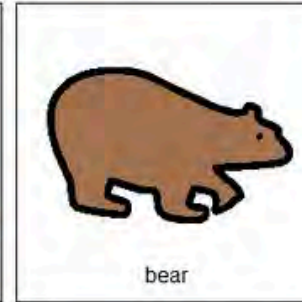
Version 2

Print onto cardstock or mount on index cards. Cut pictures apart and show student answer choices for each question.

Q7



volcano



bear



Old Faithful

Version 3

1. The West is made up of how many states?

- A. 50
- B. 3
- C. 11

2. What is one of the main land features in the West Region?

- A. desert
- B. mountains
- C. forest

3. This region has the largest temperate one of these in the world:

- A. desert
- B. rainforest
- C. swamp

4. In the West there are times the earth shakes and can cause a lot of damage when this occurs:

- A. earthquake
- B. tornado
- C. storm

5. What is one of the main foods grown in Hawaii?

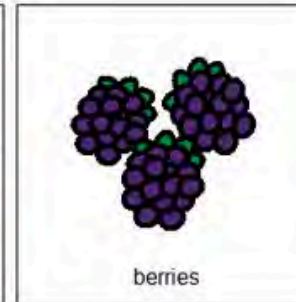
- A. broccoli
- B. tobacco
- C. pineapple

6. What product is made from all the silicon in the West?

- A. computers
- B. furniture
- C. sweaters



orange



berries

Finally, each unit has an assessment that is available in 3 versions. These are given 1:1 and read aloud to the student. It also includes a traditional multiple-choice version included.



- All of these units include digital versions of the activities. These simply require the student to click and drag the answers. There is no drawing or typing involved.
- There are 2 complete sets of slides. One set is differentiated using color.

**Make great independent learning centers.**





# United States Symbols

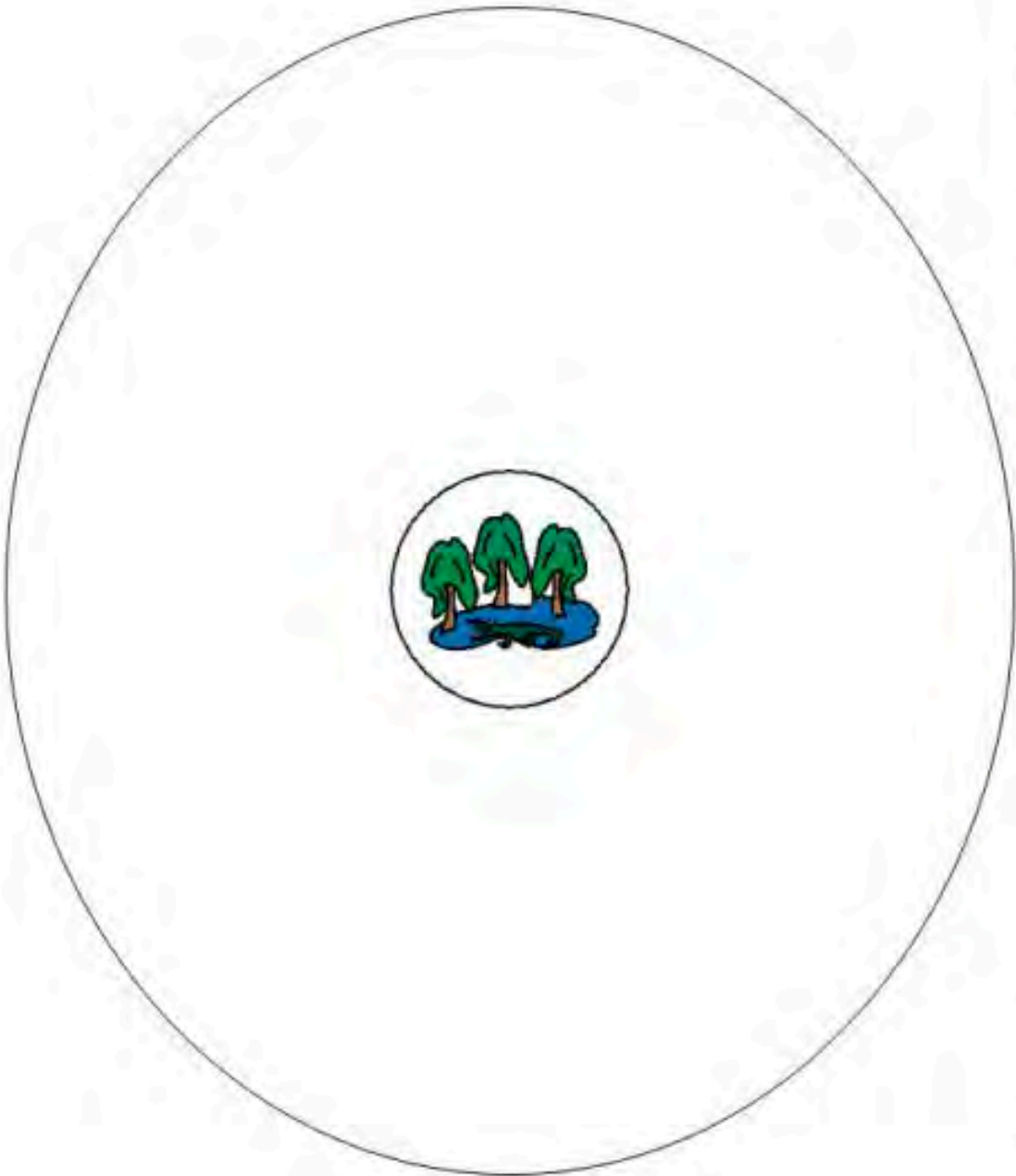
By Christa Joy



The movie version  
of the book from  
the unit.



Great for review!!



Place some of the pictures in circle map showing some things about the Everglades.



Florida



wetland



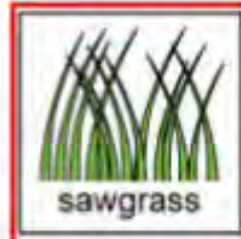
alligators



river or grass



protected



sawgrass



airboat



Seminole Indians



big area



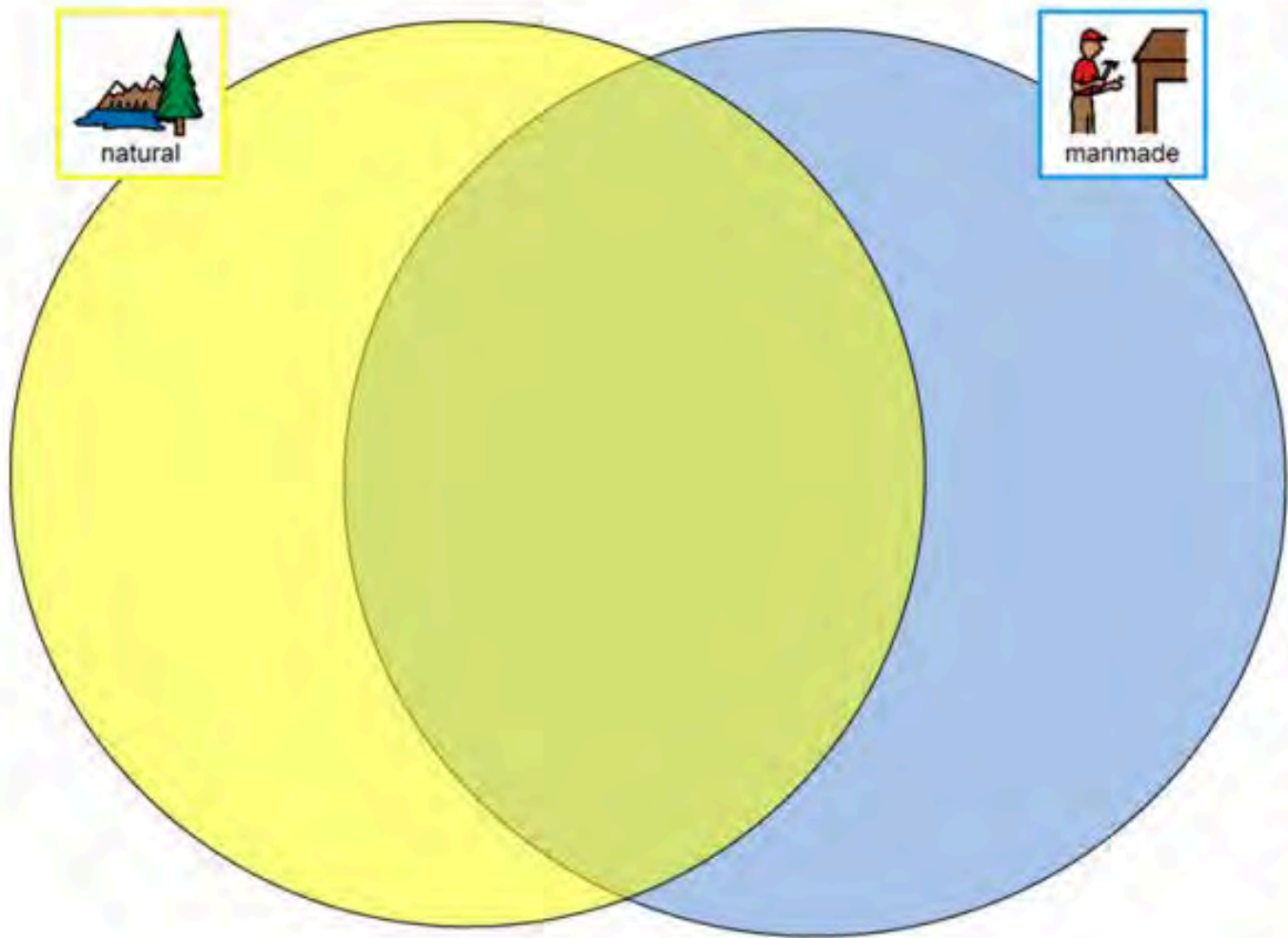
visitors

There are 2 sets of digital activities. All the activities in both sets are click and drag; there is no typing done by the student.

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Perfect for any learning level



Place each characteristic in the correct location on the Venn Diagram.

- |               |               |          |
|---------------|---------------|----------|
| forest        | monument      | elevator |
| special place | chiseled      | visitors |
| protected     | hike          | river    |
| eroded        | skyscraper    | bridge   |
| state park    | United States | famous   |

Each unit comes with a set of slides that are differentiated with color.

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**Still have questions?**

**Reach out at [specialneedsforspecialkids@gmail.com](mailto:specialneedsforspecialkids@gmail.com)**

**I will answer your question personally and promptly.**

