

Special Ed

HOLES

55 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 **55 different activities**. These activities are **NOT** comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

What is a Fossil?



When an animal or plant dies in the wild, it will decay and sink into the earth. This is a natural process that helps recycle nutrients into a form the environment can use. Over time more mud and dirt piles on top of the animal's body and ends up dissolving it, leaving behind an impression where the bones once were. This impression can be seen in the stones and dried mud that has hardened over time. This impression is called a fossil.

Fossils are one way we have learned about plants and animals that no longer are alive on the earth. Fossils can take hundreds, thousands, or even millions of years to form. Certain scientists, called paleontologists, dig up, find and identify fossils.

Not all animals and plants that die become fossils. Conditions have to be just right. That is why if you ever find one, you should be excited. It is a rare find!

Answer the following questions about fossils.

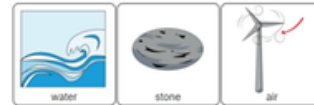
1. Fossils are often very:



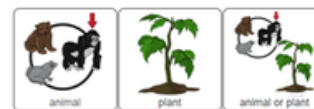
2. Scientists that find and identify fossils are called:



3. Fossils form in:



4. A fossil can be a:



5. Who found a fossil in the book, Holes?



For example, students will read a fact sheet about what a fossil is and then answer some questions concerning what they learned.

Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *Holes* by Louis Sachar.
- 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 story board (pg. 10) 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.
- As you finish each chapter, there is an activity for students to complete.
- 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.
- I purposefully did not include an assessment in this unit, because I did not feel that would be the goal of reading a higher level novel over such an extended period of time. Instead, you should be focused on shaping and teaching the behavior of sitting.

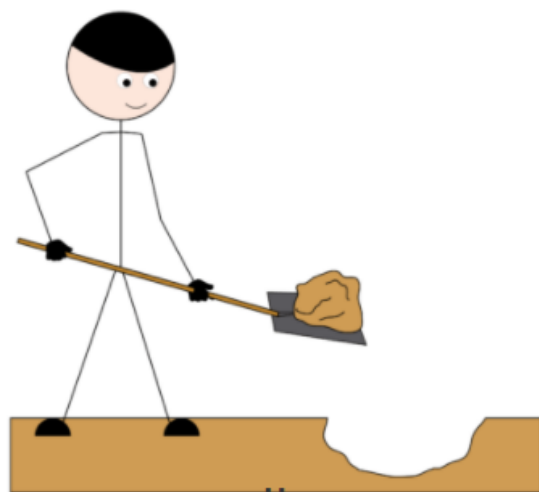
Suggestions on how I found this activity worked best in my classroom are provided. I typically had 6-8 students with one adult assistant in the room with me.

Color Version

Holes

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.

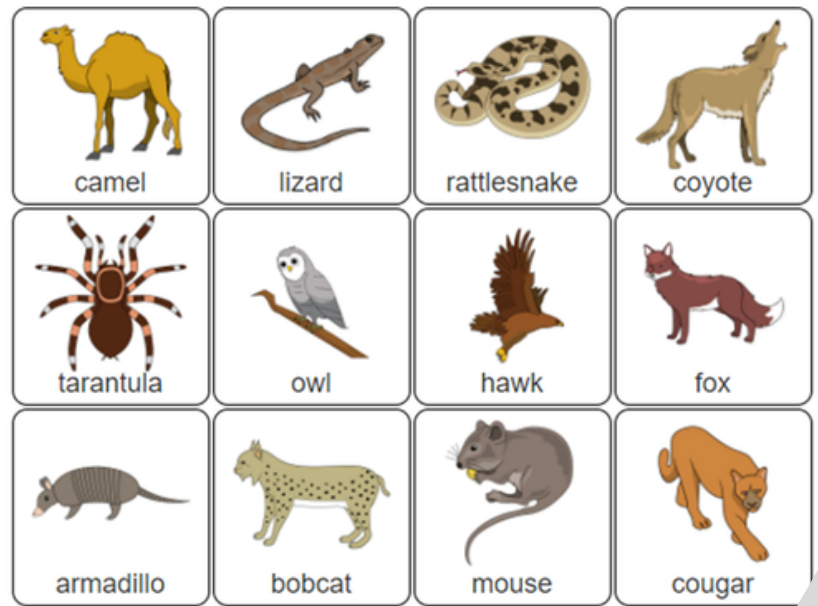
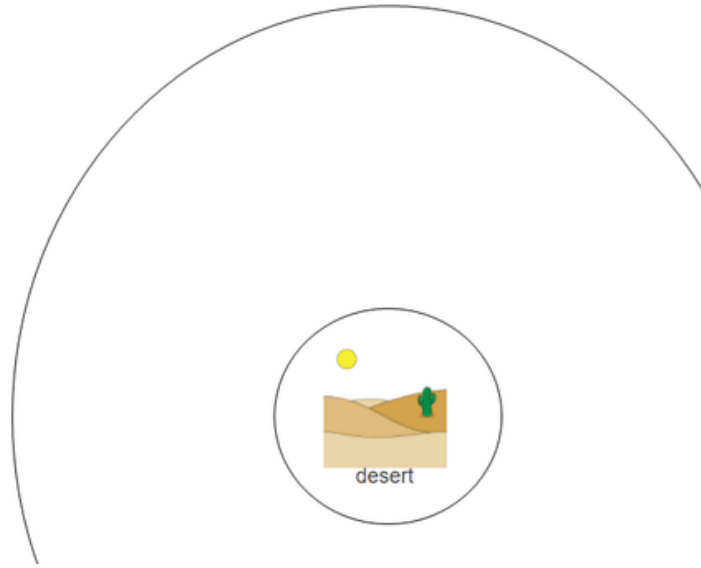
Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!



Story Board : to use with students and for class discussions. Laminate and make 1 copy for each student.

There are many animals that live in the desert. Complete the circle map below showing what animals you may find there.



Place the following in the circle map on the previous page **ONLY IF** you think they would be found in the desert.

Desert Animals

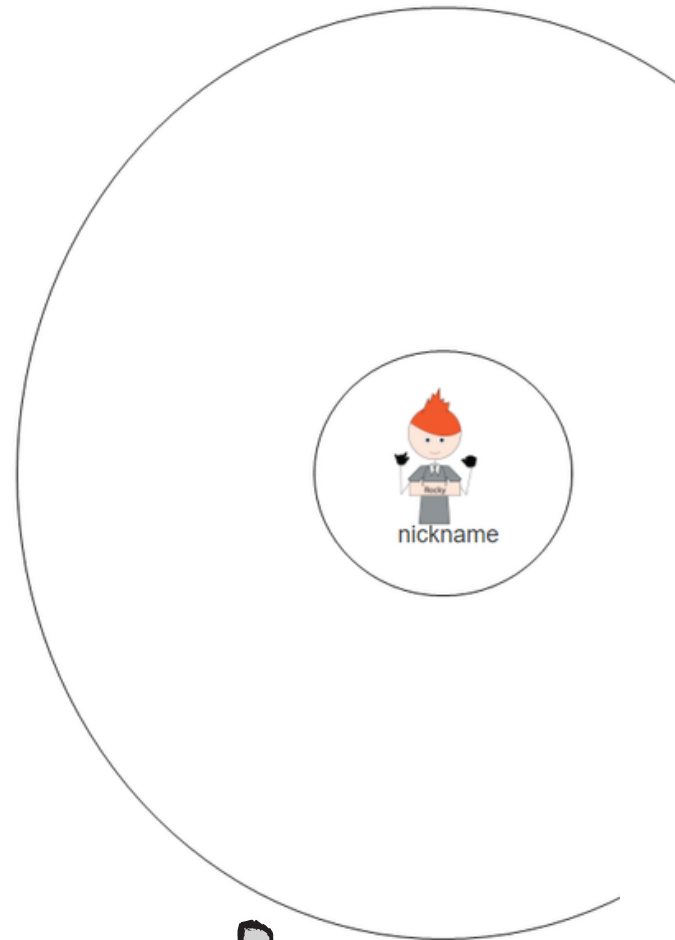


12

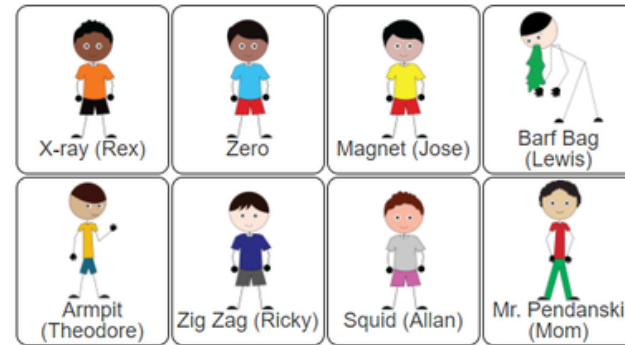
There are circle maps in this unit. Circle maps are a great way for students to see a big idea.



Many of the characters in this book have nicknames. Complete the circle map below with some of the characters we meet in this chapter noting their nickname.



Place the following in the circle map on the previous page.

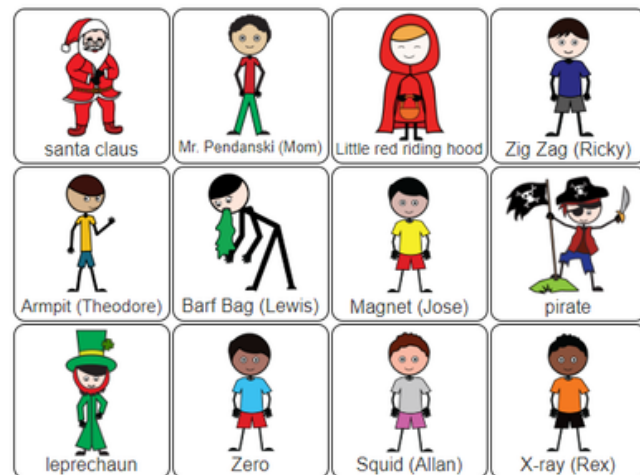


errorless

Each circle map comes with 2 choices:

An errorless option with only correct answers

Place the following in the circle map on the previous page **ONLY IF** you think they were a main character in the story.



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



Camp Green Lake is not like a normal summer camp. Sort the activities on the following page into those that would be done at a normal camp and those done at Camp Green Lake.

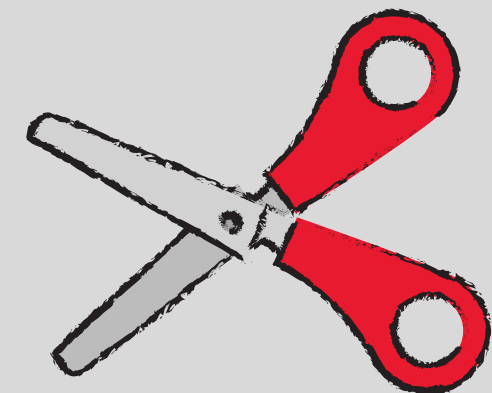


Sort the following activities into the correct column on the previous page.

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| dig holes | arts and crafts | work hard | canoeing |
| sing songs | s'mores | swim | campfire |
| guards | wake up at 4:30 | fishing | cold shower |

There are sorting activities.

Directions on how to add color coding or a separate differentiated version is included.






Trouble is brewing

Since X-ray did not tell the truth about where the gold tube was found, the digging has not led to more treasures being found. The warden is getting mad. Look at each picture below. Glue a T in the box if you think it will lead to trouble. Glue an OK symbol if you don't think it will not lead to trouble.

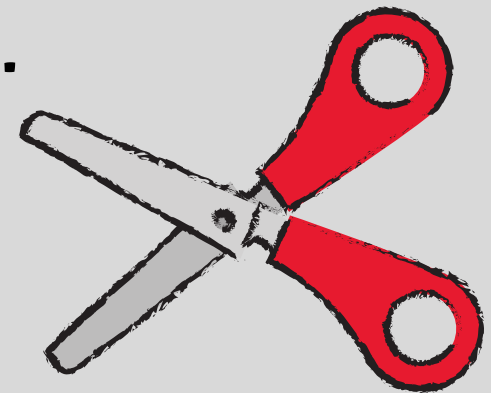
| | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
|  lie | <input type="checkbox"/> |  cheat | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  wash dishes | <input type="checkbox"/> |  study | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  fight | <input type="checkbox"/> |  make a mess | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  wrap present | <input type="checkbox"/> |  swear | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Place the letter T in the box if you think trouble is brewing. Place an OK symbol if you think everything will be okay.

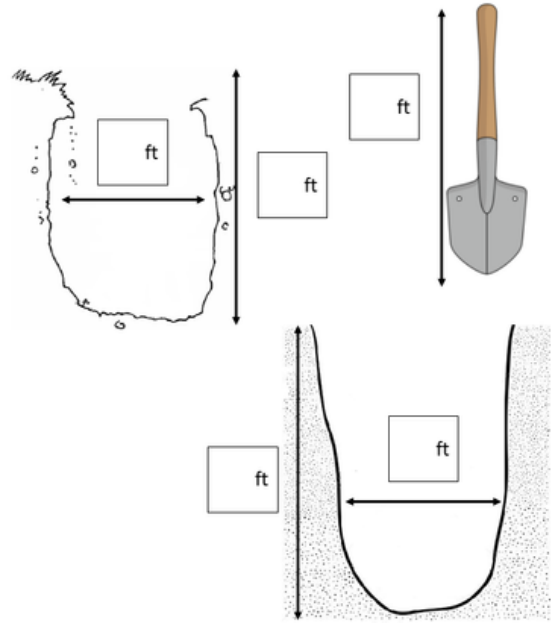
| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | T |  | T |
| T |  | T | T |

There are matching activities.

Directions on how to add color coding or a separate differentiated version is included.

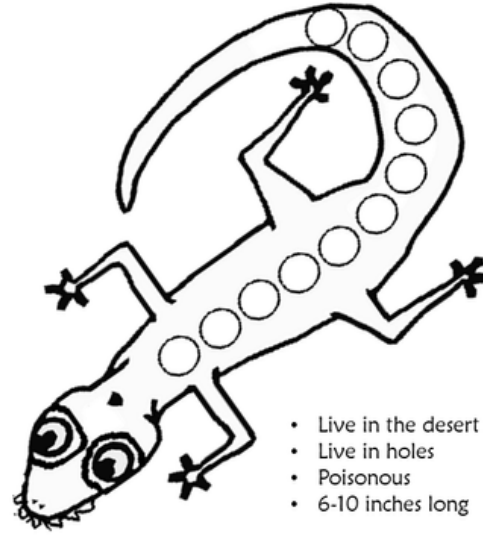


The boys at Camp Green Lake had to dig a hole that is **5 feet** deep and **5 feet** wide every day. They use their shovels to measure. Label the holes below with the correct size.



Color the yellow spotted lizard below.

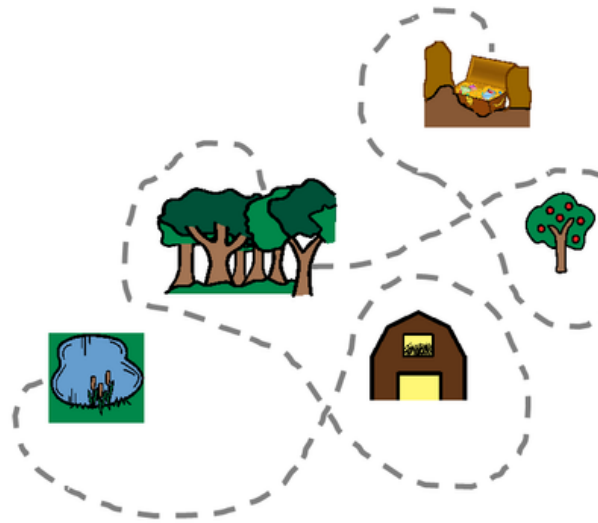
- Yellow body
- 11 yellow spots
- Red rimmed eyes
- Yellow eyes
- Black teeth



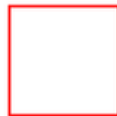
- Live in the desert
- Live in holes
- Poisonous
- 6-10 inches long

Elya was her fat! his pig get big enough. Sequence the events below to ensure Elya will have a big enough pig.

Look at the treasure map below. Start at the pond and trace the path and then record where the treasure is.



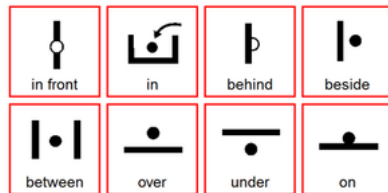
The treasure is



the



Choose the correct preposition and correct location of the treasure chest.



Place an X on the one things Elya does NOT do and leads to years of bad luck.



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

1. Does Camp Green Lake sound like a nice place to visit?



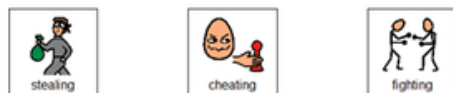
2. Who goes to Camp Green Lake?



3. Who does Stanley's family blame for all their bad luck?



4. Why is Stanley going to Camp Green Lake?

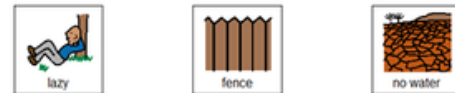


5. What will Stanley have to do each day?



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6. Why won't anyone run away from Camp Green Lake?



7. What do all the boys call each other at Camp Green



8. What is Mr. Pedanski's nickname?



9. What was Stanley accused of stealing?



10. How did Stanley get the shoes?



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This unit does come with comprehension questions. There are 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!!](#)