

Southwest Region for middle/high school



Special Needs for Special Kids

**For
Special
Ed**



This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader and lives in the northeast, but he is able to do this unit, and enjoys the challenge. He is my tester!!

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This unit contains over 130 pages of material. But, don't worry!! I have included a **12 day lesson plan** to help you make the most of everything packed in this unit.

The Southwest Region

Lesson Plan

Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
 - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
 - Print out, laminate, and bind
 - OR your students can listen to the pre-recorded version
 - There are also **2 books in this unit**. One is an overview of the United States and one is specifically on the Southwest region.

Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Choose the form of the assessment that best fits the learning level of your students
- Give the assessment to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding*: this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
 - a. For more info, read more here:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
 - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make your own copies of the activities*: Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:
 - a. I often complete the activity myself and often laminated it for easy review that I could use year after year.
 - b. My copies were also helpful as either a model for students who needed more support or as a way for more advanced students to self-check their work.
3. *Options for Use*: Turn any activity into a reusable file folder activity by laminating and adding Velcro.

The lesson plans contain:

Overall tips for teaching students with significant needs

Quick Look

Day	Activity	Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Circle map	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Taco recipe
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Color in the states	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Student booklet pages
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Circle map	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Student booklet pages
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Circle map	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Student booklet pages
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Circle map	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Student booklet pages
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Circle map	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment

The lesson plans contain:

A quick look at what you will do each day

Day 6

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book on the Southwest Region. (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read through the story, asking lots of questions• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocabulary board
Bean Bag Toss with vocabulary symbols (15 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Glue the cut apart symbols to the paper plates (one on each plate)• Arrange them around the room• Students toss the bean bag trying to get it to land on a paper plate• Students retrieve the paper plate• Find the matching symbol on their board, or name the symbol	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A copy of the vocabulary board for each student• A copy of the vocabulary board cut apart• Small paper plates (you can also use pieces of construction paper)• Bean bags
Circle map review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the circle map completed yesterday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activity completed yesterday
Circle map (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do the fourth circle map which is on the landmarks of the Southwest regions.• Choose the best version (errorless or not) depending on the learning level of your students• Students cut out symbols and place in circle map• Make connections to the book as necessary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• worksheet• Scissors• Glue
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each student shares their finished collage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed collage• Communication devices

The lesson plans contain:

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.



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

What is a REGION?

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

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

This unit contains 2 books.

The first is a 19 page overview of the United States

It is included in every one of my geography units.



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.



The other book is a 28 page review of the Southwest Region.

Both books come in a pdf version and a recorded powerpoint so you do not have to print it out.



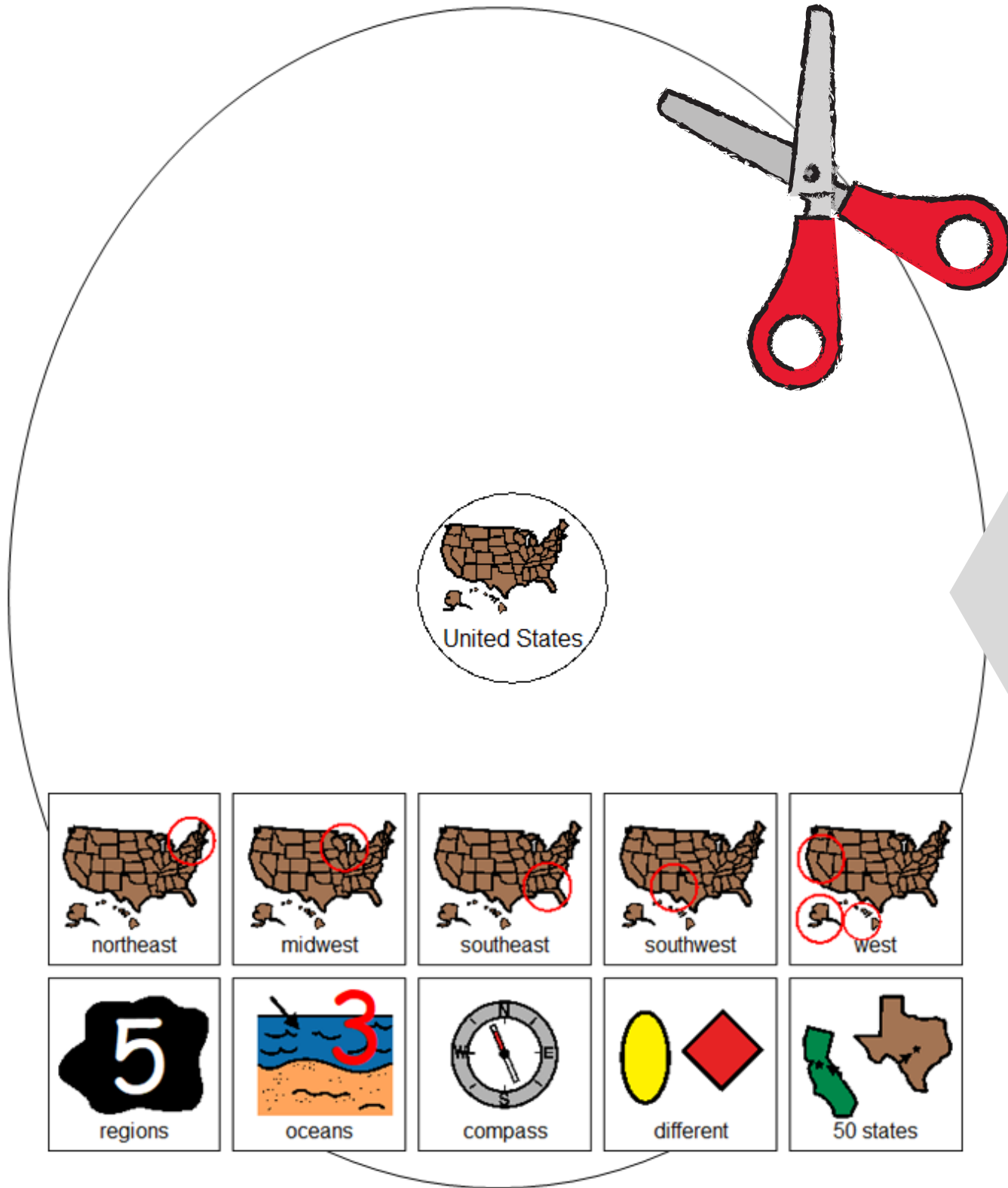
The Grand Canyon is the most famous landmark in the Southwest region. It runs through 217 miles of Arizona. The Colorado river has run through the bottom of the canyon for millions of years wearing away the rock.

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!!



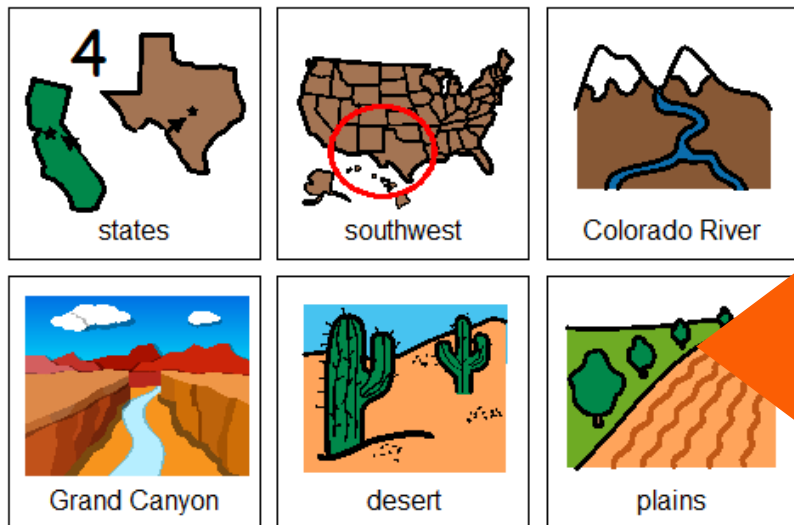
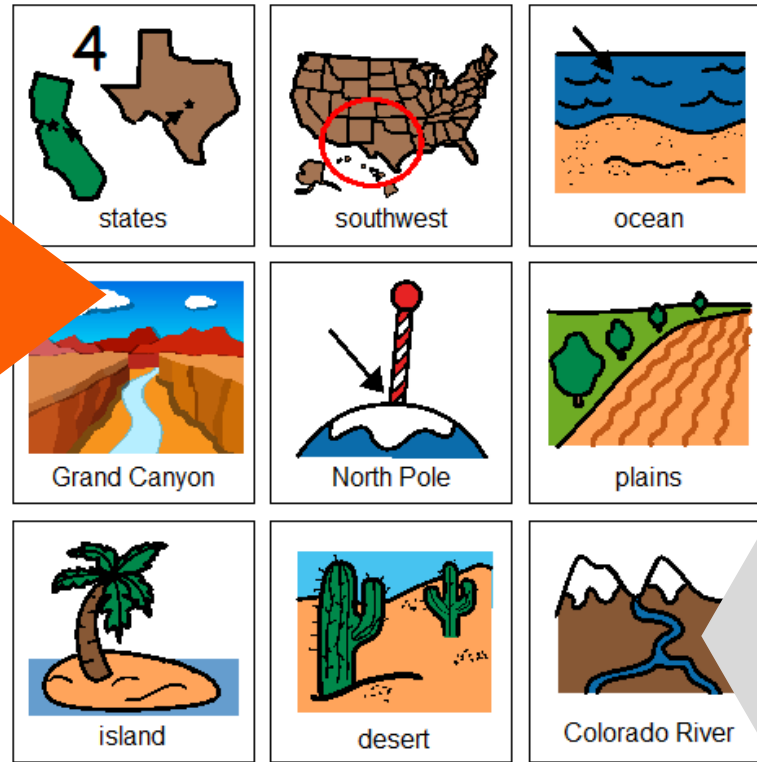


There is a circle map on a general overview of the US.

There are 2 versions. One is errorless and one has wrong answers mixed in students will have to set aside.

Southwest Region

wrong answers
mixed in



errorless

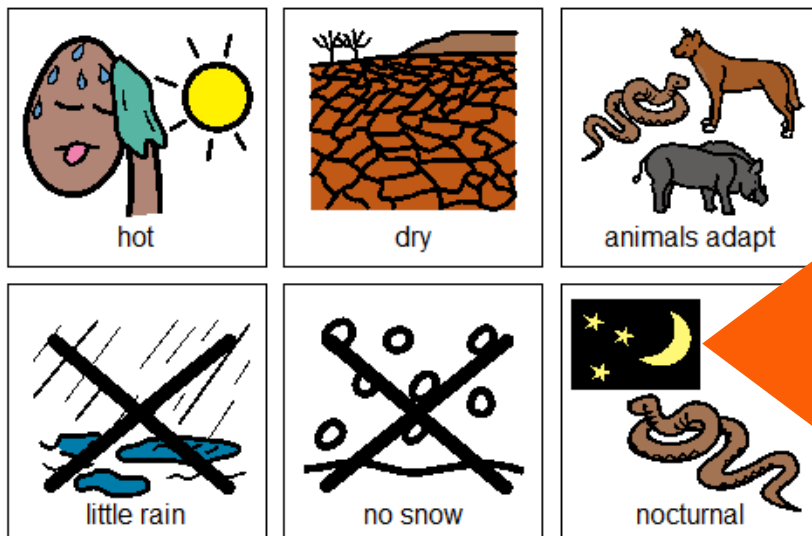
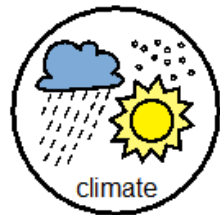


There are 4 different circle maps about the Southwest region in this unit.

Each circle map has an errorless version and one with wrong answers mixed in.

Southwest Region Climate

wrong answers
mixed in



errorless

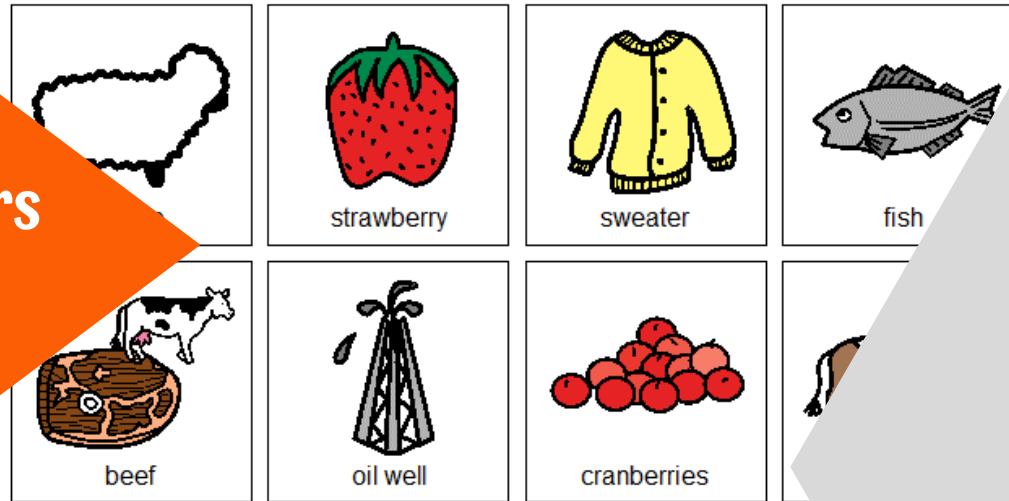


This circle map looks at
the climate in the
Southwest region.

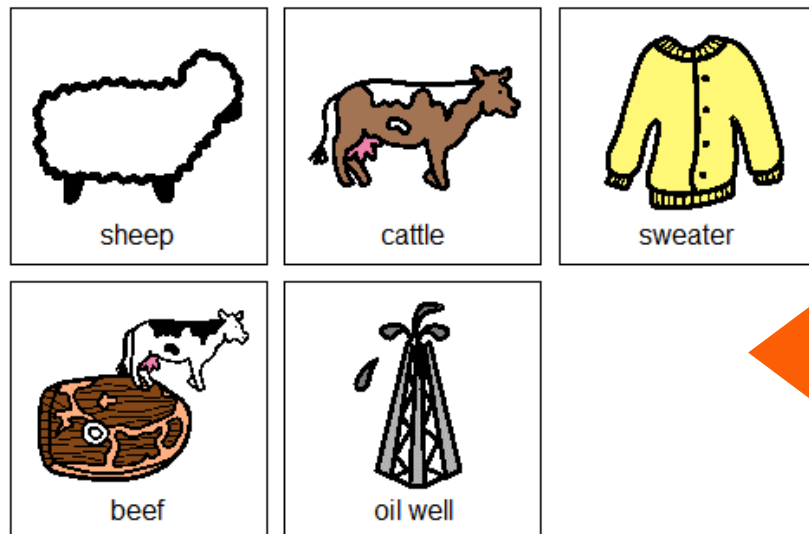


Southwest Region Natural Resources & Products

wrong answers
mixed in



This circle map looks at
natural resources and
products in the Southwest
region.

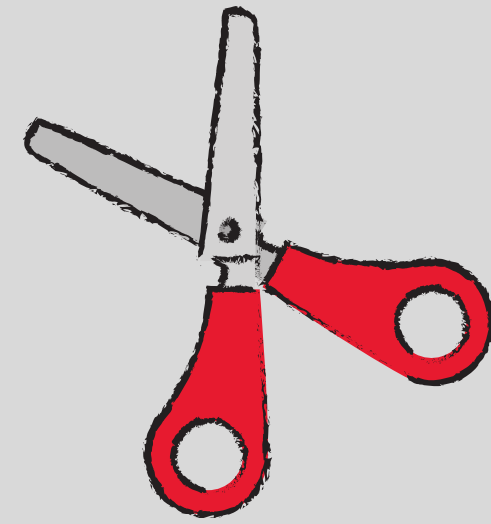


errorless



Southwest Region Culture and Landmarks

wrong answers
mixed in



This circle map looks at
landmarks in the
Southwest region.

errorless

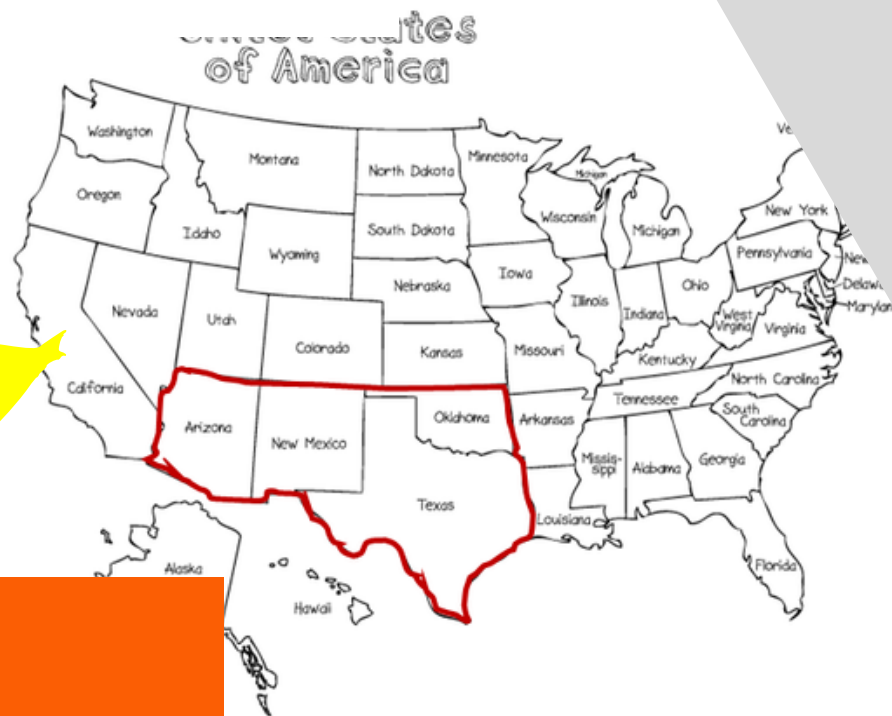


Color in the Southwestern States.



There is a coloring worksheet for student to locate and color in the Southwestern states.

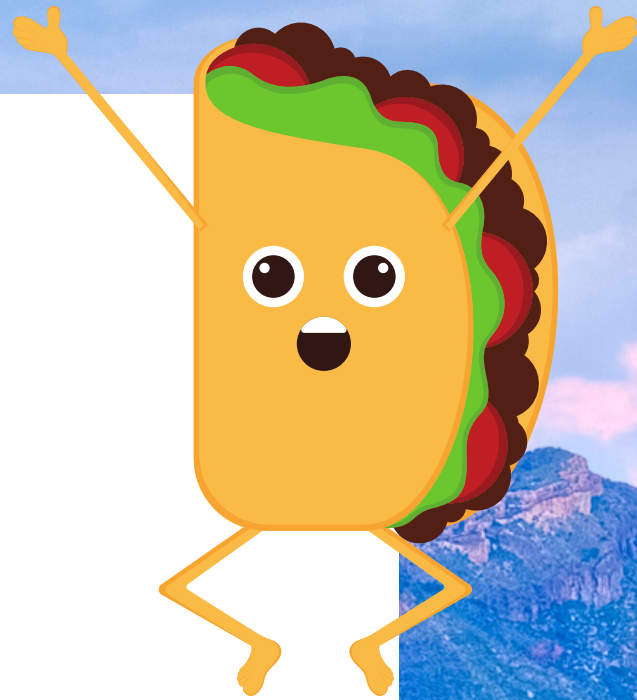
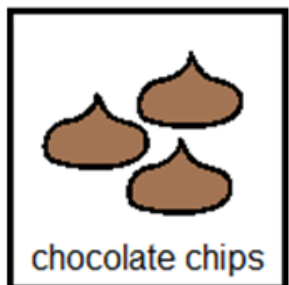
tes.



There is a differentiated version with the states outlined.

differentiated

Layers



There is a picture recipe for a dessert taco.


This is a simple recipe that most students should be able to follow and make on their own.


This version just shows the layers.




Recipe

1 1. Get 1 tortilla

 2. Spread peanut butter with knife

 3. Add raisins


 4. Add chocolate chips


 5. Eat!


Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids


Recipe

1 1. Get 1 tortilla

 2. Spread peanut butter with knife

 3. Add raisins

 4. Add chocolate chips

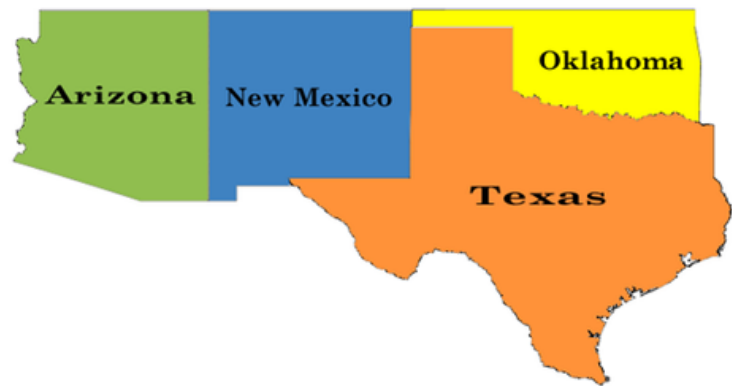
 5. Eat!

Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

There are 2 more differentiated versions. One has dashed lines so the recipe can be cut apart.



The Southwest Region



Products and Resources

Two animals that are raised in this region are _____ and _____.

_____ is collected from the sheep and woven into sweaters and other clothing.

From the cattle, _____ is shipped all over the world.

From the below the ground _____ is collected and refined into useable products.



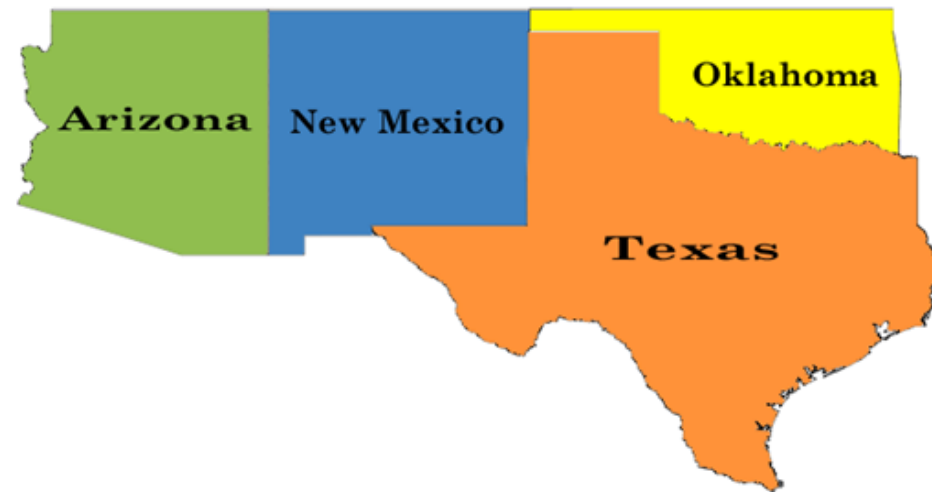
Students can cut out and paste if



There are 7 fill in the blank worksheets for students to review the material in this unit.

There are picture choices that can be cut apart and glued in the blanks.

The Southwest Region



Interesting Facts about the Southwest

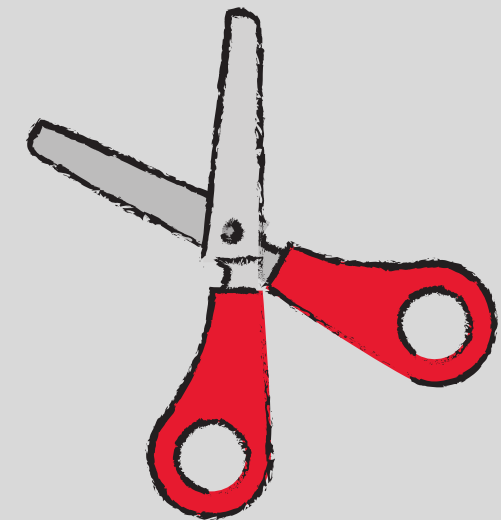
There are many missions or old churches in this region.

There is a strong influence from Mexico.

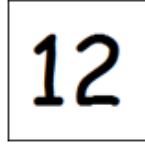
The largest tribe of Native Americans live in this region.

The Hoover Dam was built to control flooding from Colorado River and hold back Lake Mead.

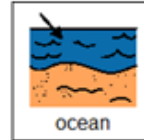
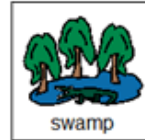
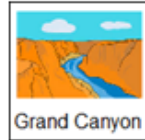
One set of worksheets is differentiated with the correct answers in gray that students can match.



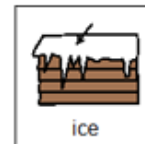
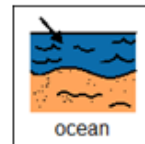
1. The Southwest is made up of how many states?



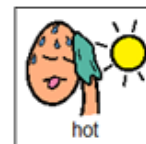
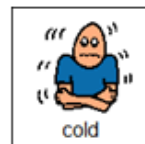
2. What main land feature goes through much of the Southwest Region?



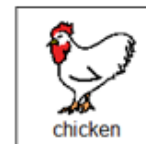
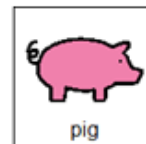
3. What formed the Grand Canyon over millions of years?



4. In the Southwest, the weather is often very:



5. What is one of the main animals raised in the Southwest?

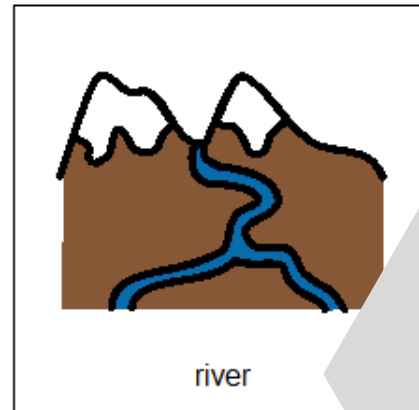
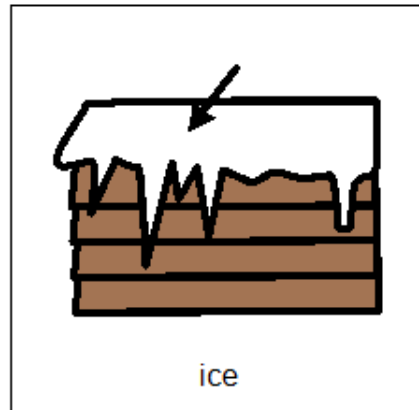
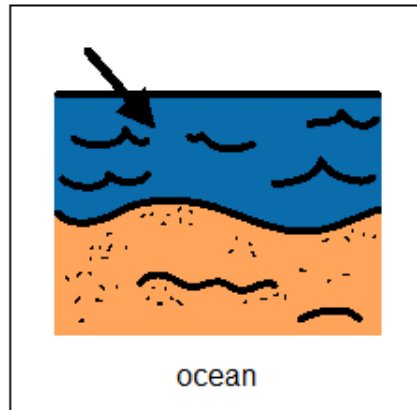


FINALLY the assessment!! There are 3 versions. This version has **10 questions** with 3 picture choices for each question.

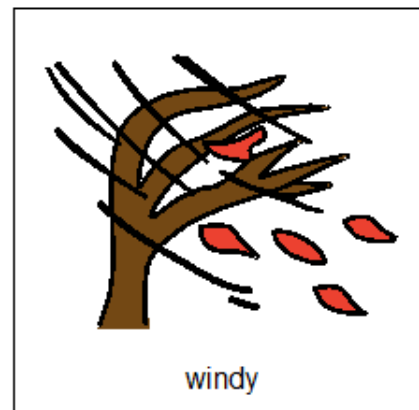
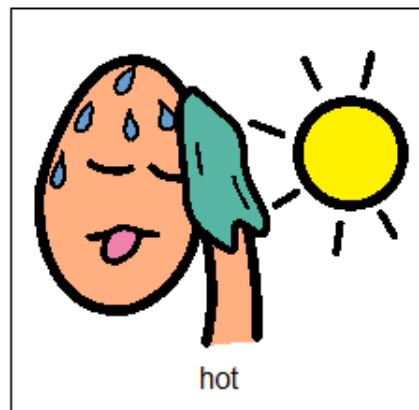
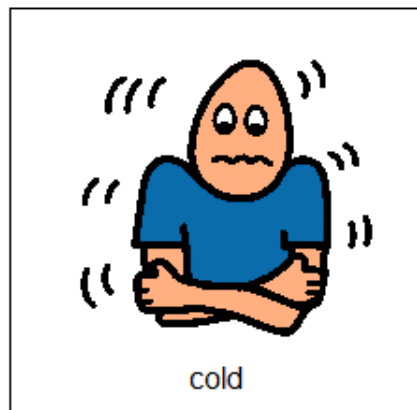
Answer key included.

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

Q 3



Q 4



With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.

1. The Southwest is made up of how many states?
 - A. 4
 - B. 50
 - C. 12
2. What main land feature goes through much of the Southwest Region?
 - A. Grand Canyon
 - B. swamp
 - C. ocean
3. What formed the Grand Canyon over millions of years?
 - A. ocean
 - B. ice
 - C. river
4. In the Southwest, the weather is often very:
 - A. cold
 - B. hot
 - C. windy
5. What is one of the main animals raised in the Southwest?
 - A. sheep
 - B. pig
 - C. chicken
6. What product is made from all the sheep raised in the Southwest?
 - A. furniture
 - B. glass
 - C. sweater

This is your traditional multiple choice version. It can also be used as a recording sheet if your students are using the version with index cards.



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!!](#)