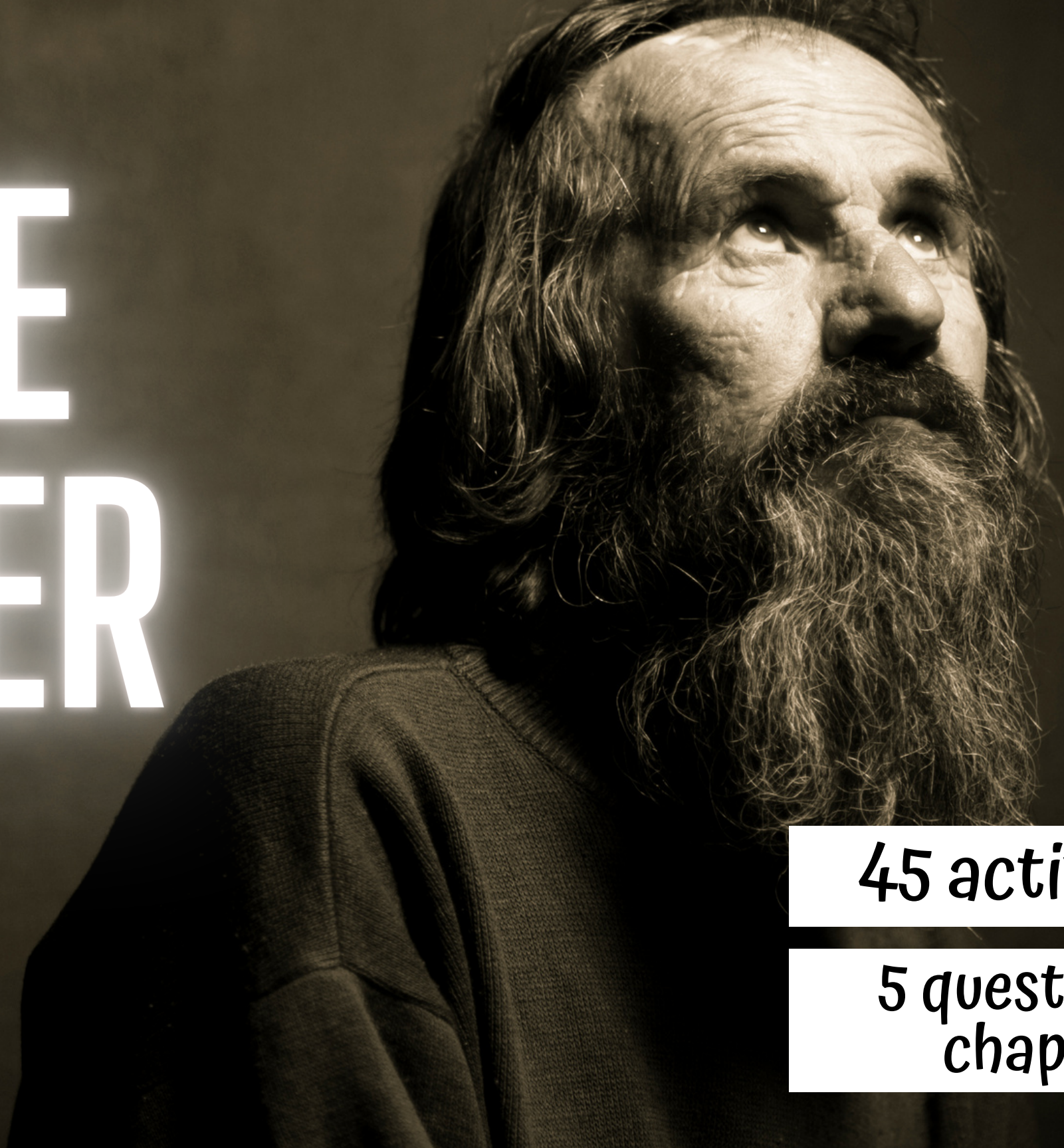


**Special Ed**

# THE GIVER



**45 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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Christa Joy, Spec  
The Picture Communication Symbols ©1  
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ds for Special Kids  
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This novel unit has **45** different activities. These activities are NOT comprehension-based. So, even if your students do not pay attention, they can still complete the activity.

Jonas talks about how important it is to choose the right word. Look at each picture below and match it with the best adjective on the next page.

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

Match the emotion below with the picture on the previous page.

 happy	 scared	 angry	 headache
 sad	 excited	 exhausted	 bored

Jonas talks about how words are important. You need to carefully choose the right word. Students will match the best word with each photo describing what they see.

## Suggestions for Use

- I made this unit to go along with the book, *The Giver* by Lois Lowry.
- 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.
- 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.

# The Giver

## Novel Unit for Special Education

By  
Christa Joy  
Special Needs for Special Kids

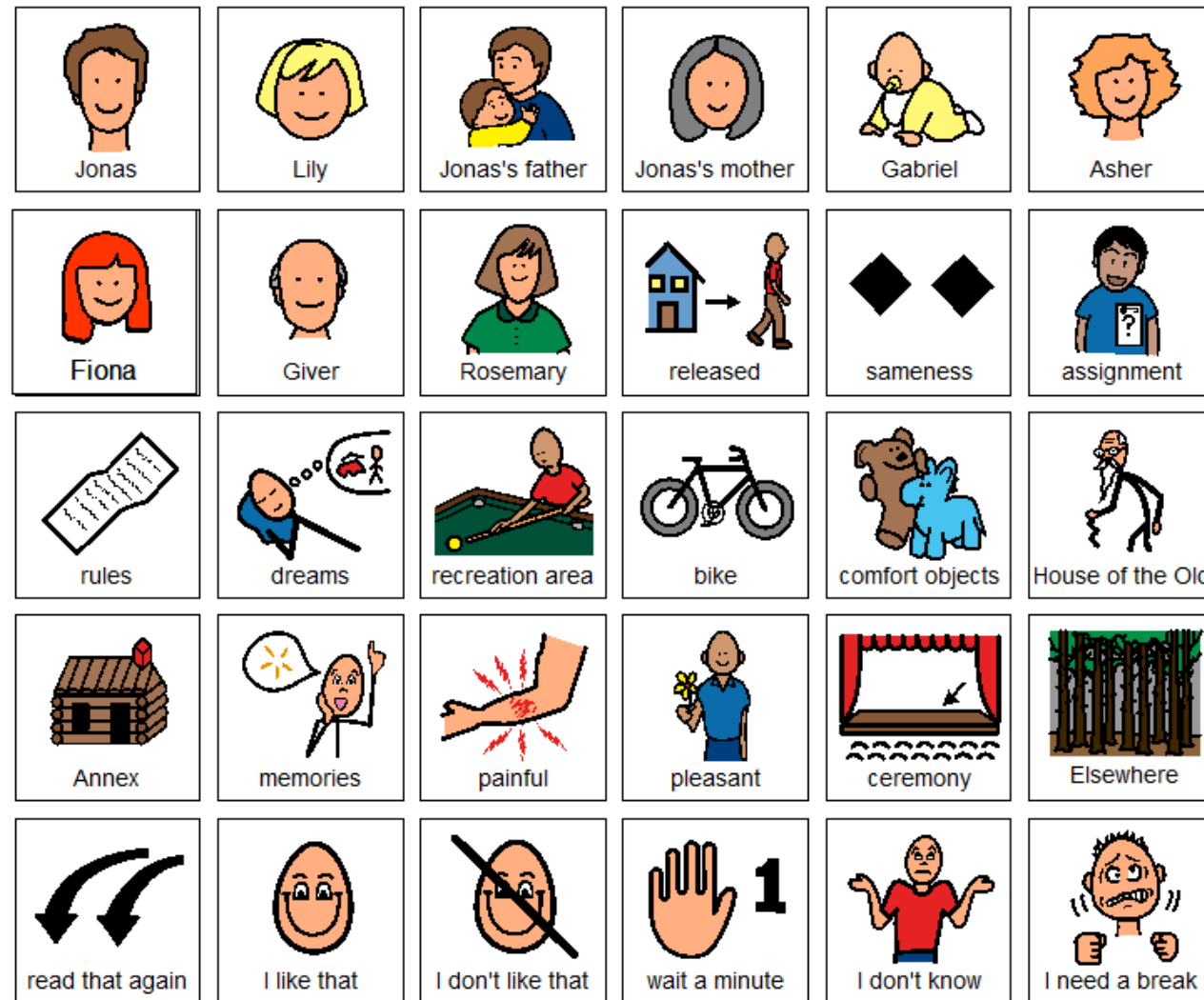


*This entire novel unit comes in 2 separate files. One is completely in color and one is completely in black and white.*

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!!

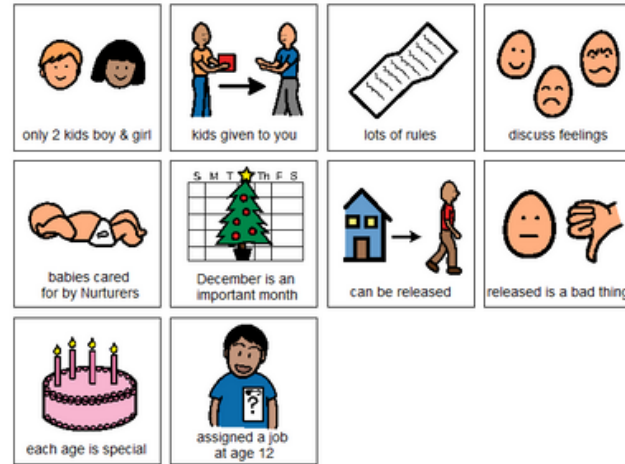


Story Board : to use in reading and for class discussions. Laminate and make 1 copy for each student.

Life seems very different here. What are some ways we can tell it may be a **different** kind of place?

Errorless version

Place the following pictures in the circle map on the previous page to show how life is different here.



Place the following pictures in the circle map on the previous page **ONLY IF** it shows how life is different here.

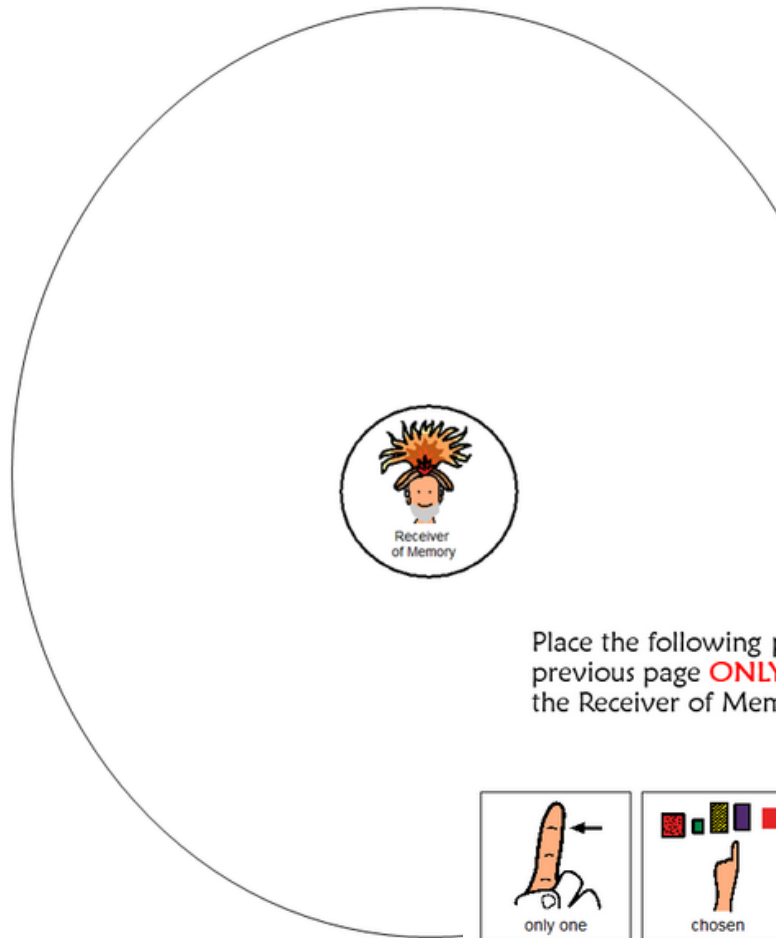


There are circle maps in this unit. Circle maps are a great way for students to see the big idea.





Use the circle map below to show what we know about the Receiver of Memory



Errorless version

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



Place the following pictures in the circle map on the previous page **ONLY IF** it relates to what we know about the Receiver of Memory.



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 memories we have are painful and some are pleasant. Sort the memories on the next page into the correct column.

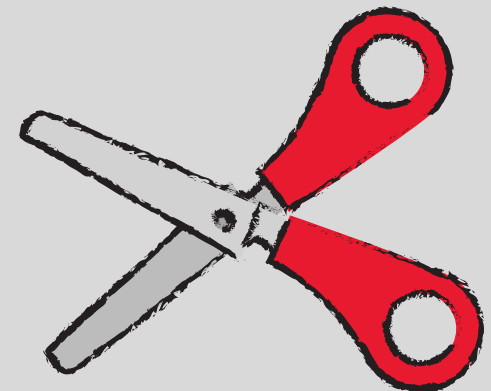


Sort the following into the column you think it best fits in.

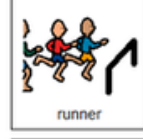
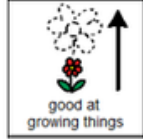
 accident	 stuffed animals	 vacation	 sledding	 bite others
 fishing	 sick	 mean	 cruise	 cheat
 alone	 Christmas	 birthday	 pizza party	 hit others
 ambulance	 celebrate	 fall	 funeral	 present

There are sorting activities.

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

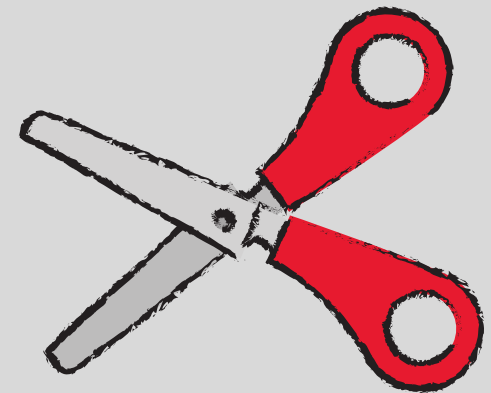


Draw a line to match each adjective with the best assignment.

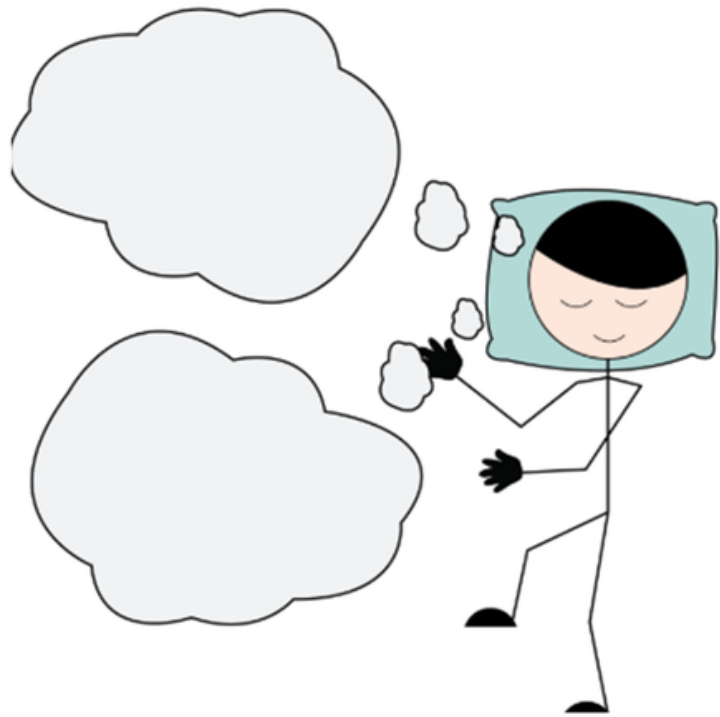


*There are matching activities.*

*Differentiated versions with dashed lines to trace are included.*



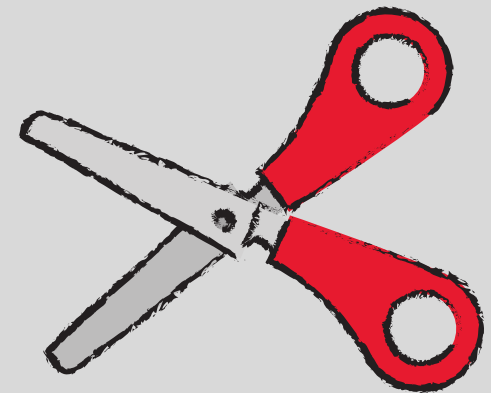
# Sharing your Dreams



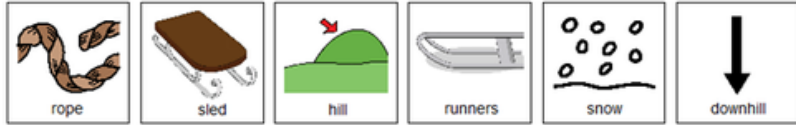
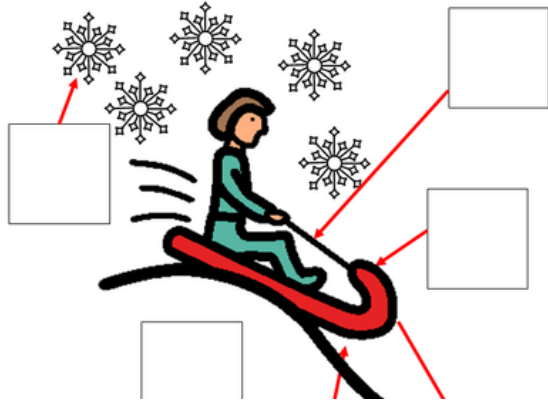
Students can use the following pictures to show what they dream about. Students can also come up with or draw their own responses.




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



Jonas has a memory of something he has never experienced before: snow. Label the picture below with the new words he learns with this memory.



History and memories can teach us a lot about the effects of our actions. Look at the picture and description in each box below and decide what we can learn from it.

 Long ago, farmers didn't know that they needed to rotate crops.	 The early settlers came in and killed all the buffalo.
 Long ago we did not have any restrictions on how cars were made.	 It is a lot easier for factories to dump their waste into the nearby rivers.
 Countries often go to war to fight for what they think is theirs.	 Homes were built really close to the water's edge.







Jonas has to think of snow to make him and Gabriel cold so the planes cannot see him. What are some other things he could think about.



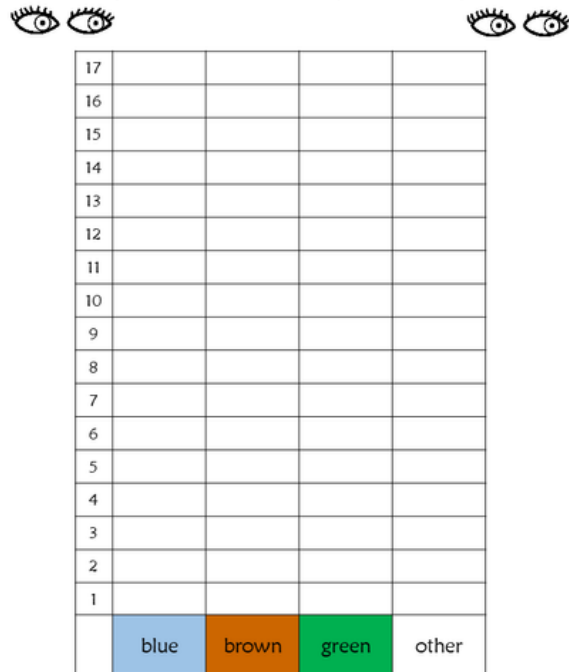
Sort the following into the column you think it best fits in.

 snowing	 heater	 hot pool	 hot tub	 snowball
 North Pole	 fire	 snowman	 sledding	 sauna
 leg warmers	 ice fishing	 heating pad	 skiing	 fireplace
 snowflakes	 oven	 ice cubes	 sun	 ice skating

Match the effect with each action on the previous page.

 fish died	 global warming	 people were starving
 fewer crops	 many died	 washed away in flood

Have students graph eye color of their classmates. Color in the squares to show how many have each eye color.



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

1. What color are most citizens' eyes?



2. What does Jonas and the newchild have in common?



3. What is Gabriel's comfort object?



4. What did Jonas get in trouble for bringing home?



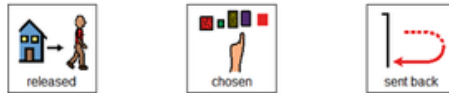
5. Why did Jonas bring the apple home?



1. Did the Chief Elder make a mistake skipping Jonas?



2. Jonas was not assigned, he was what?



3. What was Jonas selected to become?



4. What will Jonas need?



5. What does the chief elder warn Jonas he will feel?



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!!](#)**