

DECEMBER HOLIDAYS

December



Special Needs for Special Kids

ALSO INCLUDES GOOGLE SLIDES



This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader, and loves the sound of piano keys. With some support he is able to do this unit, and enjoys the challenge. He is my tester!!

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89-90	Terms of Use

In separate files, you will find:

- Lesson plans
- Voice recorded PowerPoints
- Directions and links to digital activities

This unit contains over 100 pages of material. I have included a detailed lesson plan to help you make the most of everything in this unit including how to add some group activities.

December Holidays Lesson Plan

Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
 - Laminate or place in page protector
- Books
 - Print out, laminate, and bind

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.
 - a. For more info, watch this video here:
<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Making-File-Folder-Activities-3474240>
4. *Reteaching*
 - a. Often, my students do not learn everything the first time around. It is not uncommon for me to re-teach the entire sequence of lessons.
 - b. To add variety, I try to mix it up a little

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• Vocab board activity• Circle map	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Cooking activity
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Cooking activity	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Venn Diagram
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Word map	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Venn Diagram
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Cooking activity	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Venn Diagram
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocab board activity• Circle map		

The lesson plans contain:

A quick look at what you will do each day

Day 8

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read the book: December, What a Wonderful Month!! (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
Venn diagram review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the Venn diagram completed yesterday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• worksheet completed yesterday
Venn Diagram (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will complete the second Venn diagram comparing Christmas and Kwanzaa.• There is a color-coded option provided if students need more support.• Make connections back to book.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Venn diagram• Scissors• Glue
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each student shares their finished worksheet with the group using the communication method of their choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed worksheets• Communication devices

The lesson plans contain:

Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run

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!!



Some people light candles on the menorah during Hanukkah.



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There is a book that reviews some of the customs from Christmas, Kwanzaa, and Hanukkah.

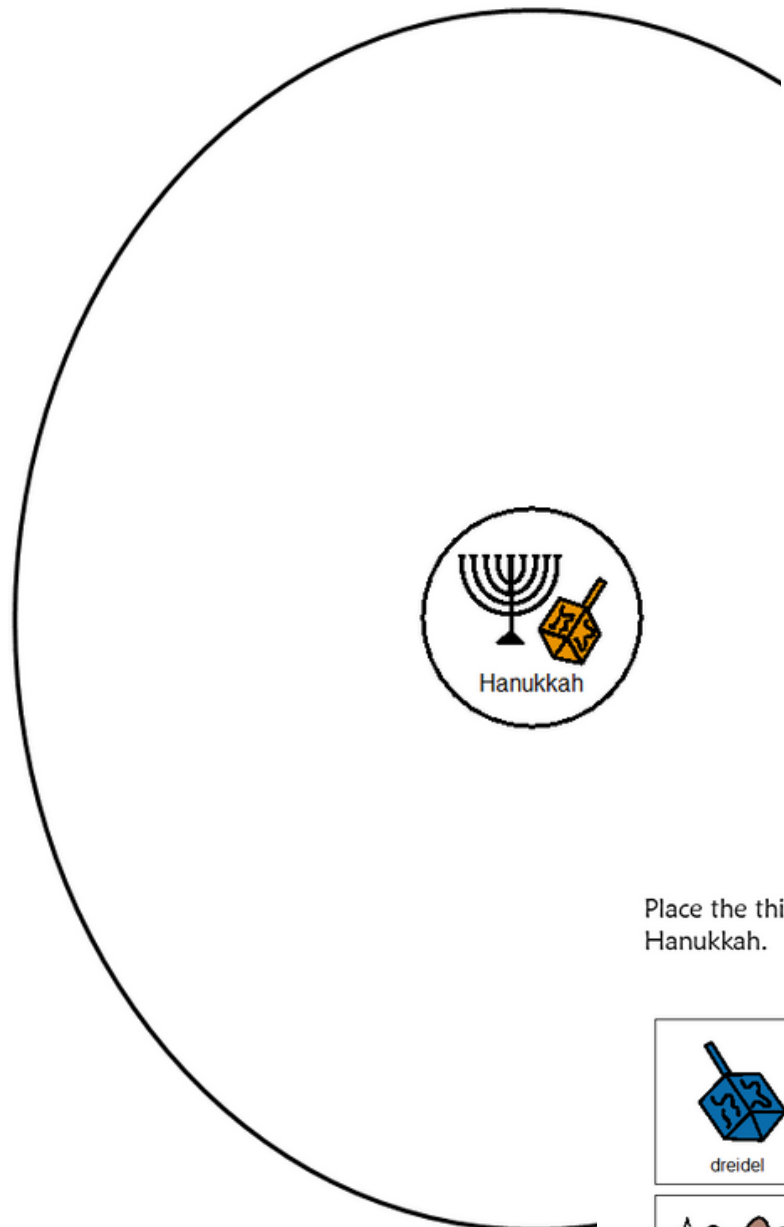
Families decorate with bright African colors using art and cloths.



Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

It comes in pdf version as well as a voice recorded PowerPoint (so you don't have to print it out.)





Place the things in the circle map that relate to Hanukkah.



errorless

Place the things in the circle map **ONLY IF** they relate to Hanukkah.



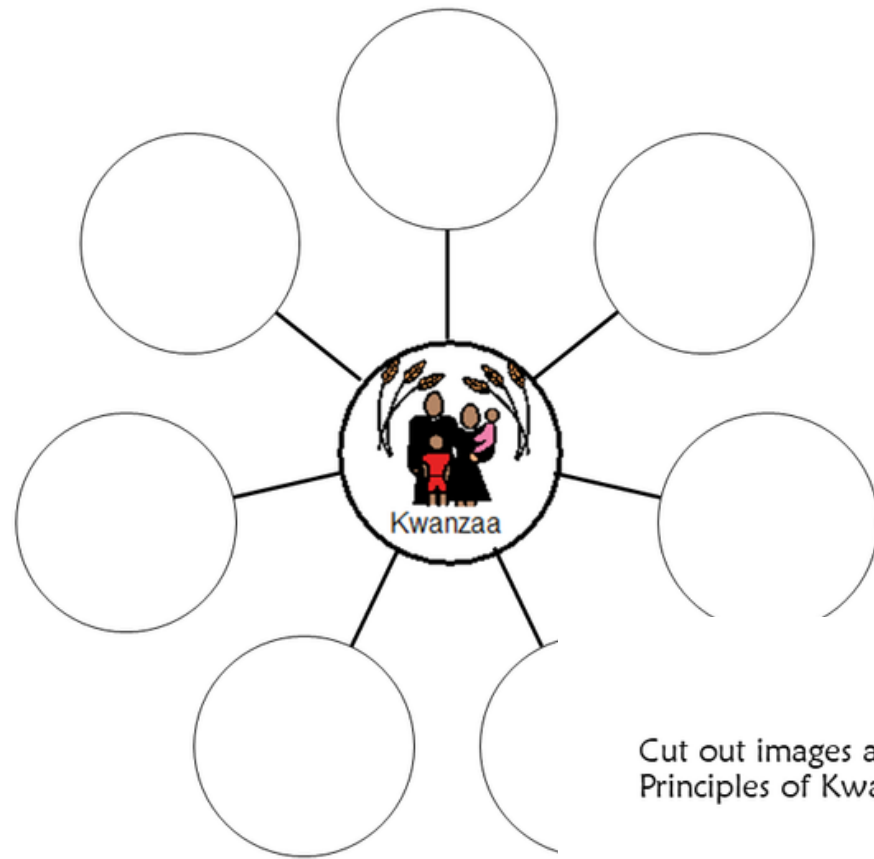
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There are 2 circle maps. One on Christmas and one on Hanukkah.

Circle maps are a great way for students to see the concept at a glance. There are 2 versions:

- One is errorless
- One has wrong answers mixed in students will have to set aside

7 Principles of Kwanzaa

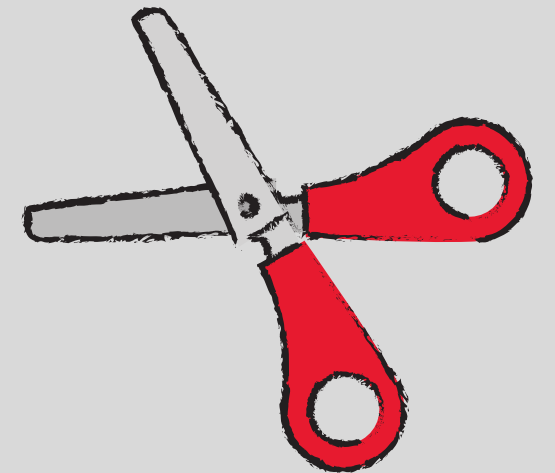


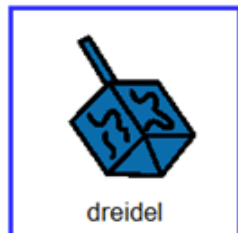
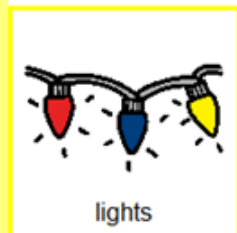
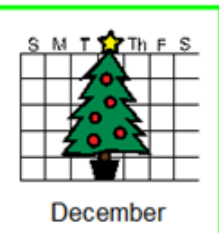
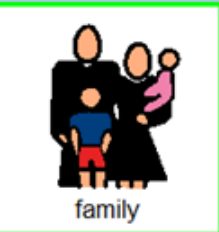
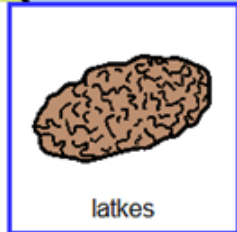
Cut out images and place in the circles showing the 7 Principles of Kwanzaa.

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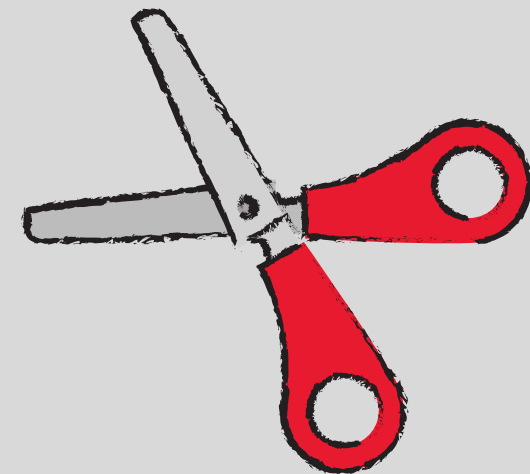
There is a thinking map that reviews the 7 principles of Kwanzaa. This is an errorless activity.

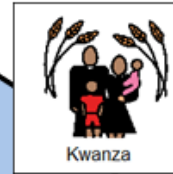
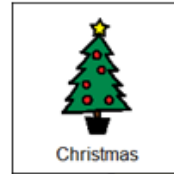










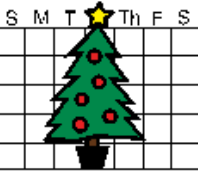





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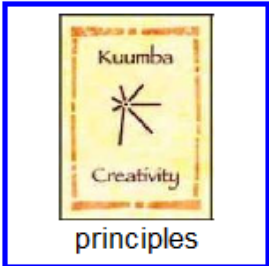
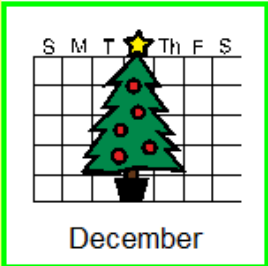
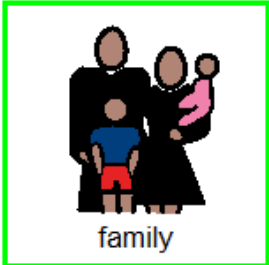
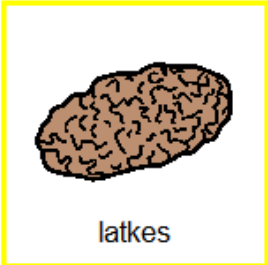
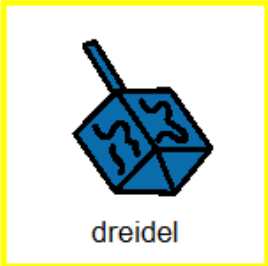
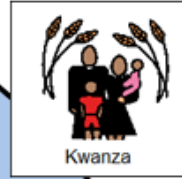
There are 3 Venn diagrams to compare the holidays. Each one comes with a color-coded option. This one is on Christmas and Hanukkah.






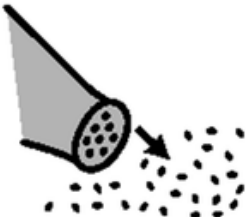




 Santa Claus	 gifts	 candles	 African holiday
 colorful cothes	 Christmas tree	 lights	 family
 December	 caroling	 Christmas card	 nativity

This one compares
Christmas and
Kwanzaa.



This one compares Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

Ingredient Labels

 frosting	 chocolate sprinkles
 colored sprinkles	 chocolate chips
 candies	 sugar cookie

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Directions

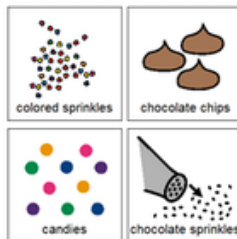
1. Get 1 cookie



2. Spread frosting with a knife



3. Add decorations



4. Eat!








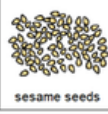

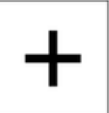




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There are 3 picture recipes, one for each holiday. This one is a simple one for decorating Christmas cookies.

Ingredient Labels


 baking powder	 salt	 sesame seeds
 brown sugar	 butter	 egg
 vanilla	 lemon juice	 flour

Directions

- Mix until creamy  
- Add:   
- Mix    
- Add: 
- Mix 
- Roll in balls and place on cookie sheet  
- Bake at 325 for 15 minutes 

Each recipe comes with ingredient labels and step-by-step picture directions. This one is for Benne cakes made for Kwanzaa.

Recipe 1 (using pre-measured ingredients)

1.  Preheat oven to 350

2.  Mix  









3.  Add   



4.  Add 

5.  Spoon onto cookie sheet 

6.  Bake 350 for 25 minutes

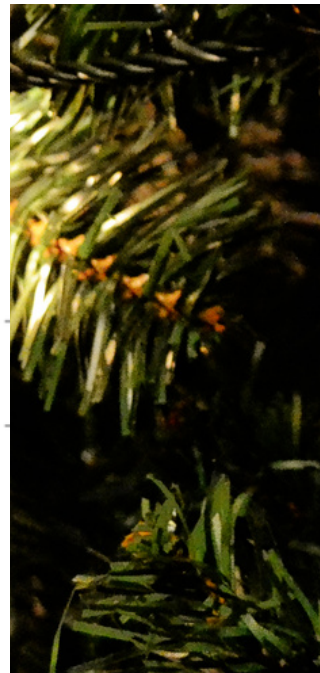
Recipe 2 (if students are measuring ingredients)

4.  Add  
-  
-  
-  

5.  Spoon onto cookie sheet 



6.  Bake 350 for 25 minutes




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Recipe 2 (if students are measuring ingredients)

1. Preheat oven to 350

2.  Mix  
-  

3.  Add  
-  
-  

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Each recipe comes in color and black and white. This one is for Honey Muffins served during Hanukkah. This recipe has 2 versions, one has fewer steps and is simpler.

Watch the
movie about
December
holidays

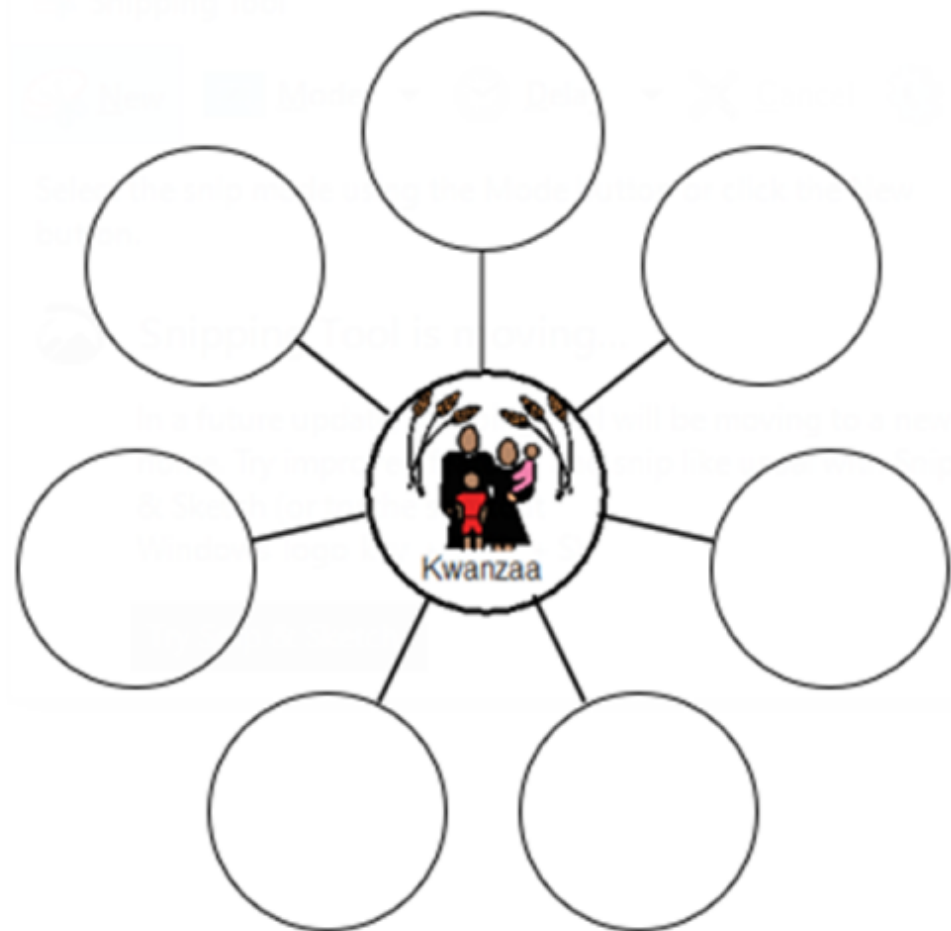
Hanukkah is another holiday celebrated
in December.



*This unit also has digital
activities. There is a
movie version of the
book.*

*See the video preview to
see a walk through of all
the slides.*

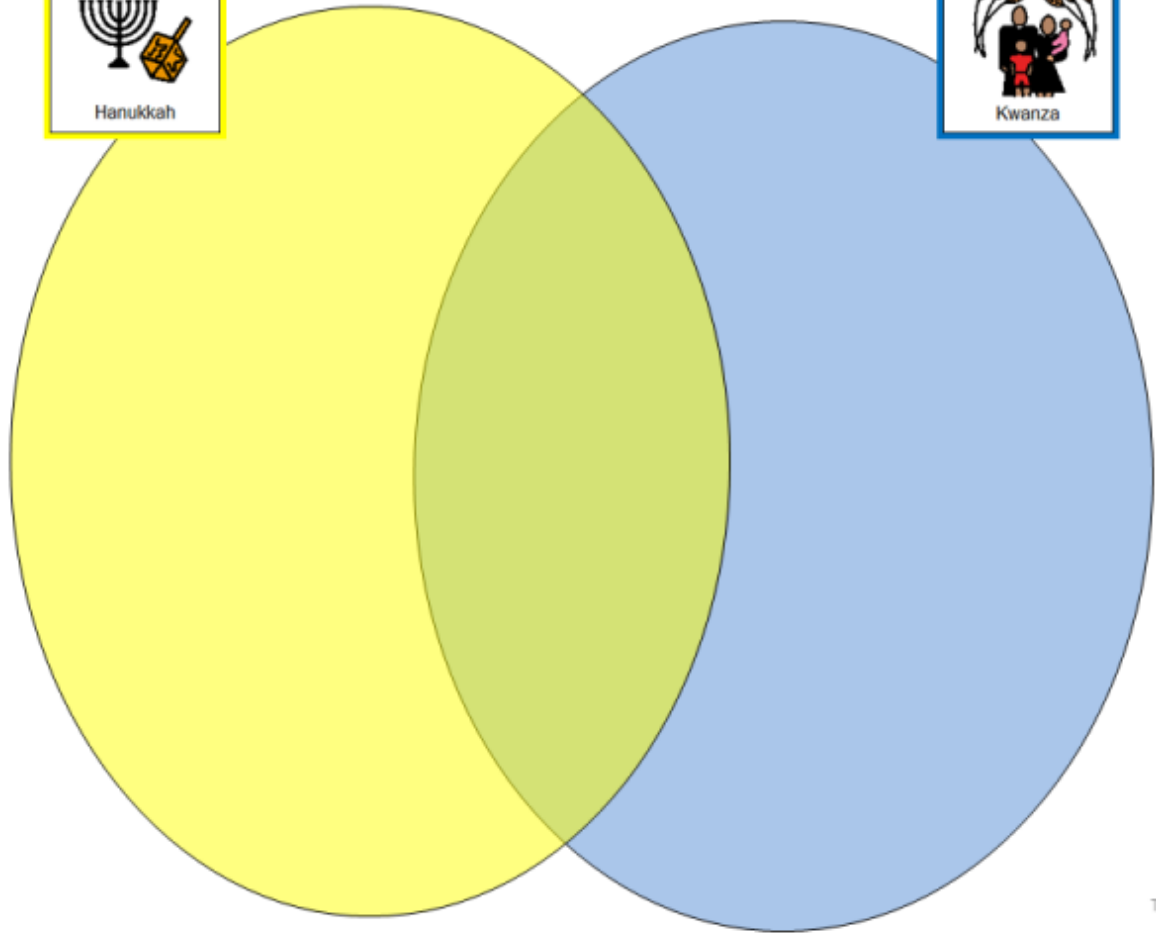
7 Principles of Kwanzaa



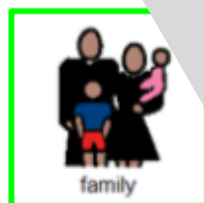
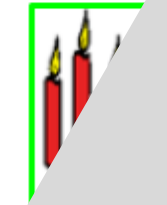
Place the pictures in the circles showing the 7 principles of Kwanzaa.



There are 14 total slides (2 sets with 7 in each)



Place the pictures in the correct location on the Venn diagram.



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There are 2 complete sets of slides. One set is completely differentiated with color.



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!!

Most of the activities (except the book) come in color and black and white.

[Click Here to read more!!](#)