

BECAUSE EVERY CHILD MATTERS



Children's curriculum that helps you reach kids with varied abilities to make a difference—in a child's future, in a family's worship experience, and in your church community.

DAVID  COOK
transforming lives together

OPEN THE DOOR TO CHILDREN WITH VARIED ABILITIES.



How does a special needs program work?

Most are set up in one of two ways:

- 1 Inclusion, where kids with special needs learn alongside children who are typically developing.
- 2 Self-contained, where kids with varied abilities learn together in a separate room.

The lessons, tips, activity adaptations, visuals, and extra helps provided by HeartShaper® can be used with either an inclusive or self-contained program.

How will I find activities to use with kids who have special needs?



Just look for the Special Needs Friendly symbol in your HeartShaper Teacher Guide to find activities that work well with all kids. This symbol also points to helpful tips and activity adaptations you can choose.

What other helps will I find?

Each age level's Teacher's Convenience Kit or Resources pack includes articles and other helps for teaching kids who have special needs. "Making Your Class Special Needs Friendly" will help you understand:

- sensory-sensitive teaching
- training for meeting different needs
- using a Friendship Model with buddies who give one-on-one support to kids who need a little extra help



WHAT DO SPECIAL NEEDS FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES LOOK LIKE?

TODDLERS & 2s

Texture Collage

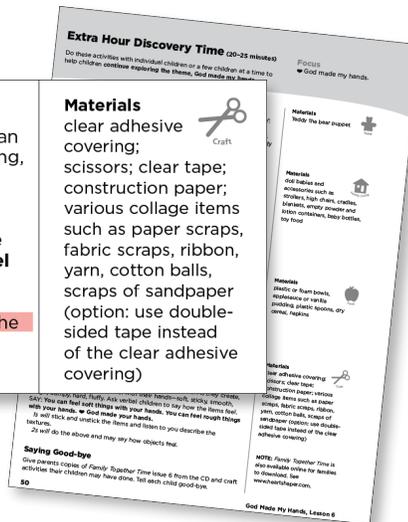


Before class, cut clear adhesive covering into pieces a little smaller than the construction paper. Peel the backing off the clear adhesive covering, and tape the pieces onto the construction paper, sticky side up.

Lay out some items children can stick onto the papers. As they create, talk about the textures they feel with their hands—soft, sticky, smooth, rough, bumpy, hard, fluffy. Ask verbal children to say how the items feel. SAY: **You can feel soft things with your hands. You can feel rough things with your hands. ♥God made your hands.**

1s will stick and unstick the items and listen to you describe the textures. Offering to do the activity with the child can be helpful for the child who has sensory issues or difficulty with motor planning.

2s will do the above and may say how objects feel.



PRESCHOOL

“God Told Noah” Rhyme

Children will pretend a classroom table is an ark-boat. They will carry in play food and sit underneath the table, acting out a rhyme that tells the story of Noah.

 Give help to children who need their space defined. Provide carpet squares to sit on, or use masking tape to create squares children can sit inside.

PRE-K & K

It Fits Together

Children will explore things God made on Days 1-4 of creation. They will work together to sort and match puzzle pieces.

 Put the puzzles together incorrectly. Let concrete thinkers tell you what is wrong and help you fix the puzzles.

EARLY ELEMENTARY

“I Can” Tic-Tac-Toe

Using a reproducible page and pencils, children will have fun asking for signatures and identifying things their classmates can do. (Examples: play softball, read the Bible, eat cookies)

 See the Resources lesson 10 printable files for another way you can offer this activity to children who have difficulty with multistep activities.

MIDDLE ELEMENTARY

Contentment Journal

Using a page in their Activities leaflets, kids will discuss and then write what they could focus on to help them be content, even when life seems to spin out of control.

 Some kids may prefer to draw on journal pages. Offer to help them with writing as needed.

PRETEEN

Celebrate!

 This activity works for all students, including those with special needs. Preteens will celebrate God’s offer of forgiveness by writing praises on lengths of crepe paper, singing praise songs, and reading Bible verses.

MORE HELPS ARE AVAILABLE AT HEARTSHAPER.COM

CHECK OUT MORE SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCES AT HEARTSHAPER.COM!



“ALL ABOUT ME” BOOK

Learn about *all* the kids in your class. Print copies of this book and let families have fun creating scrapbooks that will communicate to you the strengths and needs of their children.

SENSORY INVENTORY

Get to know every child's specific sensitivities better with this form and the Sensory Inventory Form Key.

PICTURE SCHEDULES

Lessen the anxiety of children who struggle with change. Instructions and picture icons are provided to help you create a schedule board that will enable children to plan for classroom activities and communicate preferred choices.

SHAPING SPECIAL HEARTS

Listen to this podcast series designed for anyone who wants to learn more about ministering to children with special needs and their families.

MINISTRY PARTNERS

HeartShaper is proud to serve as a ministry partner alongside others who are leading the way in providing for the needs of families who have children with varied abilities. See how these ministries can help your church:

- train volunteers
- offer respite opportunities
- provide parent and family support

SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILY CONNECTIONS

This editable monthly letter will keep parents informed about what's happening in your children's ministry.

INDIVIDUALIZED CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PLAN

Use this form to gather information about a child's different abilities and needs. Make the information available to teachers to help them plan activities.



800.323.7543
HEARTSHAPER.COM
CUSTOMERCARE@DAVIDCCOOK.ORG