

Photo of Me

Level: All

Age: 8-12

Organization: pairs, whole class

Aims: To identify friends in photos; to describe what you were like when you were younger; to show interest in others; to develop self-esteem; to become aware of the way you change as you grow older.

Language focus: in the example: be, have got, present simple, parts of the body, adjectives to describe people, toys, favorites

Alternatives: was/were, past simple, used to

Materials: *Essential:* photos of the children when they were babies or toddlers (one photo of each child)

Procedure

1. During the previous week, ask all the children to bring in a photo of themselves when they were babies or toddlers.
2. Give each photo a number and stick them on the walls round the classroom.
3. Divide the class into pairs.
4. Ask the children to write the numbers in a list in their notebooks.
5. Ask them to go round the class together identifying who they think is in each photo, e.g. *I think it's ... /Me too! /No, /think it's ...*
6. Ask the pairs to report back to the class who they think is in each photo. *Ask Why?* And encourage them to justify their answers, e.g. *She's got big eyes.*
7. Give each photo back to their owner as it is identified.
8. If children are A1 level, ask them to hold up the photo and tell the class one or two things about themselves, e.g. *in this photo I'm two years old. I've got my favorite teddy bear.* If children are A2 level or higher, ask, e.g. *What were you like when you were younger?* and children respond, e.g. *I was fat. I had curly hair. I liked milk. / I used to cry a lot. / My favorite toy was a yellow duck.*
9. Alternatively, divide the class into pairs and ask children to tell each other five things about when they were younger.
10. They then report back to the class and/or write a description of themselves or each other.

Comments and suggestions

- A few children may either forget to bring a photo or not have one. In this case, you can ask them to draw a picture of when they were a baby or toddler instead.
- Children usually find it very enjoyable looking at each others' photos and talking about when they were younger. Interest and curiosity in each others' past also helps develop self.