

## Favorites Bar Chart

**Level:** A1.1, A2.1/ A2.I, A2.2

**Age:** 6-10

**Organization:** whole class

**Aims:** To say your favorite thing in a particular category; to build up a bar chart on the board; to understand how to read a bar chart; to show Interest and respect for other people's opinions.

**Language focus:** in the example: sports, be, present simple, questions with Who, What, How many, like, numbers.

**Alternatives:** animals, colors, food, fruit, school subjects, types of music, eg pop, rock, classical, jazz, rap, reggae, types of stories, e.g. animal stories, adventure stories, detective stories, ghost stories, fairy tales, science fiction.

**Materials:** *Essential:* pieces of paper or card to fit in the bar chart on the board (one for each child), blu tack/*Optional:* large piece of paper or card.

### Procedure

1. Draw a line near the bottom of the board and divide this into six or however many sections you wish to include in the activity
2. Write the names of the sports, or draw symbols, in each section, e.g. *basketball, football, tennis, karate, judo, swimming.*
3. Draw a vertical line and write numbers going up the board on the left side of the chart.
4. Give each child a piece of paper (the same size as the sections in the chart on the board) and ask them to write their name on this in large letters.
5. Ask individual children to say their favorite sport in tum, e.g. *my favorite sport is swimming and to come and stick the card with their name in the appropriate place on the chart.*
6. When all the name cards are in place, use the bar chart to talk about the class's favorite sports, e.g. *What's thee/ass's favorite sport? Who likes karate? How many girls/boys like judo? What's David's favorite sport?*

5						
4						
3		Maria				
2	Isabel	David				
1	David	Alex	Jessica			
	<b>basketball</b>	<b>football</b>	<b>tennis</b>	<b>karate</b>	<b>judo</b>	<b>swimming</b>

## Comments and suggestions

- This activity is useful in helping children understand how a bar chart works. Point to the numbers on the left of the chart and the name cards children have stuck in each section to demonstrate how to read the chart.
- As a follow-up, children can write or complete sentences about the chart, e.g. *In our class, the favorite sport is .... / ... girls/boys like ...*
- If you wish to display the bar chart after the activity, build it up on a large piece of paper or card instead of the board. For best effect, the chart and the pieces of paper with children's names should be in contrasting colors.
- With older children, it may be appropriate to ask them to make a version of the bar chart using computers and PowerPoint.