

Find the difference

by Maria Toth

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aim: To talk about present activities

Time: 20 minutes

Student grouping: Pairs

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per pair (cut up)

Language focus: A girl/boy is ... eating a sandwich / an apple, dancing / singing / studying next to a radio, playing football / basketball, drinking cola, throwing paper into a bin, climbing up a tree, pushing a boy into a bin, standing on a bicycle / riding a bicycle. A man is driving a car.; must / mustn't ...

Aim of the game: To find the nine differences between the two pictures

Key:

1. In picture 1, the tall boy is eating a sandwich. In picture 2, he is eating an apple.
2. In picture 1, four boys are playing football. In picture 2, there are only three.
3. In picture 1, the girl is standing on the bicycle. In picture 2, the girl is riding the bicycle.
4. In picture 1, a boy is dancing next to the radio. In picture 2, there is a girl.
5. In picture 1, three children are playing basketball. In picture 2, there are four.
6. In picture 1, a girl is pushing a boy into the bin. In picture 2, the girl is throwing paper into the bin.
7. In picture 1, a boy is climbing a tree. In picture 2, there isn't anybody climbing the tree.
8. In picture 1, a man is driving a car through the school gates. There isn't a car in picture 2.
9. In picture 1, a girl is drinking cola. In picture 2, a boy is drinking cola.

Warmer

Look for a picture in a textbook or online with lots of actions (or look out of the window if your school is in a busy area). Revise actions with the class, getting the children to describe what they can see. Write up a couple of the sentences so that the children have them to refer to (sentences similar to those in the language focus above).

Playing the game

Step 1

Divide the class into pairs. Give child A in each pair picture 1 and child B picture 2 from the worksheet. Tell the children not to show each other their pictures. It is probably best if they sit opposite each other.

Step 2

Tell the children that there are nine differences between the two pictures. They have to describe their pictures to one another and mark the differences with crosses. For example, child A (with picture 1) might say 'A boy is eating a sandwich.' Child B looks at their picture and finds a boy eating an apple, not a sandwich. They say 'A boy is eating an apple.' So both children mark the picture of the boy eating with a cross.

Step 3

This activity works well if you make it into a race. The first pair to finish are the winners.

Step 4

Ask the children what things are wrong in the playground. What *must* or *mustn't* children do in the playground? This can be followed by a writing activity in which the class write their own list of 'rules' for their playground.

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