

Spot the difference

This game is a great way to build children's conversation skills – and have wonderful fun doing it. Being attentive to changes in someone's appearance can be a good starting point for a conversation.

How it works

One of the group (Person A) leaves the room or puts on a blindfold. Someone else in the group changes their appearance in some way.

Person A returns to the room (or takes off the blindfold) and is asked to say what has changed. The next person leaves the room, and so on.

Getting started

It's best to start with changes that are pretty obvious; for example, take a shoe off, turn a jumper inside out, two people swap places, etc.

As the children get better at the game, you can make the changes more subtle. Example: roll up one sleeve higher than the other.

How to support

Encourage the children to work out what you need to do well to be good at the game.

- 'You need to look very carefully.'
- 'You need to remember things.'

Day to day
 What's different in the class today? Can we work out who is missing? What's different about Mrs Jones today? She's had her hair cut. Shazia has something different - she's lost a tooth. What about George? He's got new shoes.

Make it harder
 Change something about your appearance while in the classroom or out and about and see if the children can spot the difference.

Make it easier
 Have the person leaving the room be the one to change their appearance. Get the rest of the children to guess what's changed.

Remember
 Talk to the children about how it feels when people notice and comment on new things about their appearance.

