Childhood and memories ESL lesson plan (A1)

A1 (beginner) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

Stage	Time
Warm-up	5–10 min
Vocabulary	15 min
Controlled practice	10 min
Grammar focus	10 min
Speaking	15 min
Wrap-up and homework	5 min

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- Where were you born?
- Where did you live when you were a child?
- What was your favourite toy or game?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

Elicit each word before you give it, model the pronunciation, then check meaning with a quick question.

Word	Meaning	Example
child	a young boy or girl	I was a happy child.
baby	a very young child	This is a photo of me as a baby.
kid	a child (informal)	When I was a kid, I lived in Rome.
toy	a thing children play with	My favorite toy was a red car.
doll	a toy that looks like a small person	My sister had lots of dolls.
ball	a round object for playing games	We played with a ball in the street.
game	an activity you play for fun	Hide-and-seek was my favorite game.
bike	a bicycle	I got my first bike when I was six.
garden	an area of land next to a house with grass and plants	We played in the garden every day.
playground	an area outside where children play	There was a playground near our house.

Grammar focus (10 min): Was and were

It's Monday at the office. Sofia asks Dan: "How was your weekend?" Dan says: "It was great! I was in Edinburgh with my sister. The weather was cold, but the people were very friendly." By the end of this lesson you can talk about the past with was and were.

Form	Pattern	Example
Was	I · he · she · it + was	It was great.
Were	you · we · they + were	The people were friendly.
Questions	Was / Were + subject...?	Where were you? — I was at home.
Time	yesterday · last ... · ... ago	two years ago · last night

Watch for: ~~I were at home last night.~~ → **I was at home last night.**. I: was.

Speaking (15 min): Three objects from your childhood

The learner chooses three objects they remember from childhood and tells the story behind each one: what it was, where it was kept and what happened to it. You choose the one you want to hear more about.

Useful language

- When I was a child, I used to...
- I remember + -ing...
- I was allowed to... / I wasn't allowed to...
- We would spend hours...
- I'll never forget the day...
- It reminds me of...

Wrap-up and homework (5 min)

- Each learner says the three new words they will remember, and one sentence with each.
- Homework: write 80–120 words about childhood and memories using at least six words from the lesson and the grammar point.
- Self-study: the A1 childhood and memories vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 21 words.

Childhood and memories (A1)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

candy · remember · born · grandparents · grew up · little · young · teddy bear

B. Complete the sentences

Use a word from the word bank. Then compare with a partner.

1. I slept with my _____.
2. I spent every summer with my _____.
3. I was _____ in 1995.
4. I was very _____ then.
5. When I was _____, I was afraid of the dark.
6. I _____ my first teacher.
7. I _____ in a small town.
8. I loved _____ when I was little.

C. Talk with a partner

Ask and answer. Make notes of one interesting answer to report to the class.

1. Who was your best friend at school?
2. What did you like eating?
3. Were you a good student?
4. What did you do in the summer holidays?
5. What did you want to be?

Write

Write 80–120 words about childhood and memories. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 teddy bear · 2 grandparents · 3 born · 4 young · 5 little · 6 remember · 7 grew up · 8 candy