



Who am I? Friends at play – How to use this resource

Who am I? Friends at play is an interactive digital story that presents six *Who am I?* puzzles in a scenario of friends at play.

The resource can be used:

- to introduce *Who am I?* puzzles
- to explain the structure of puzzles
- to model writing puzzles
- for writing puzzles collaboratively, and
- as a reference for children's own writing.

The resource also includes access to:

- *Who am I? Friends at play – booklet* A printable copy of the story and puzzles which can be placed in the reading corner, used by individuals as a reference for independent writing, or used in reading groups. (Note: This booklet is available *only* from within the digital resource.)
- *Who am I? puzzle sheet* A template that children can use for writing their own *Who am I?* puzzles. (This sheet is available as a separate resource, *free* to registered users.)
- This *free* sheet of suggestions.

Introduce *Who am I?* puzzles

- Display *Who am I? Friends at play* on the interactive whiteboard. Read the story scenario to the children.
- Read the puzzles with the children, one clue at a time. Discuss each clue, explaining how the information may be used to eliminate some, but not all story friends. Explain that, although they may make guesses beforehand, it is only when all clues have been read and all information revealed, that a definite answer can be deduced.
- Invite children to select a story friend and reveal the answer.
- Discuss how the information in the clues matched the information in the illustration.

Explain the puzzle structure

- Setting out
 - Each statement begins on a new line.
 - Statements are written, one below each other.
 - Statements begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop.
 - The question *Who am I?* is written below all the clues and requires a question mark.
- Clues
 - Between four and six is a good number.
 - General statements are written first.
 - The final clue should make the answer obvious.

Process

When children are writing their own puzzles, it is best for them to brainstorm first, listing ideas and statements about their chosen topic. They should then write a rough draft, or at least number their clues in the order in which they will be presented.

Write *Who am I?* puzzles about story friends

The resource has four pages, each showing a story friend about whom a puzzle was not included. Use these pages for:

- Modelling how to write puzzles
- Writing puzzles collaboratively with children
(Use the interactive writing tool for these two options. Use a snipping tool or Print Screen Function if you wish to save or print your puzzles.)
- Children's independent writing (Children could choose a story friend and write a puzzle for the class to identify).

Note: When children are presenting their puzzles to each other, discourage wild guesses and encourage them to wait until all information has been presented and they can be more confident in their choice.

Write *Who am I?* puzzles about self

Although the *Who am I? puzzle sheet* is available to support children writing puzzles about themselves, a piece of A3 or A4 paper folded in half is really all that is required. Place the fold at the top so the page can be lifted to show the picture underneath. Children write their clues on the front and add a photo or drawing underneath, to be revealed when the clues are lifted.

If children are writing puzzles about animals or other topics, they can read their clues to the class. However, if they have written puzzles about themselves, you need to find other ways of sharing their puzzles.

A suggestion:

Display the puzzles in the classroom ensuring that the flaps cannot be lifted to reveal the answers.

- Number each puzzle as shown in the interactive digital resource.
- Children read the puzzles independently and write their guesses on a piece of paper. (*Hint: Print a numbered sheet. Children write their guesses beside each number. OR Print a class list and children write the appropriate number beside each name.*)

This is also a fun activity for a buddy class or if parents are coming to visit. After all guesses have been made, the flaps can be lifted and authors identified. Perhaps a prize could be awarded for the one making the most correct guesses.

Other topics suitable for *Who am I?* puzzles include:

Animals	2D and 3D shapes
Insects	Vehicles
Animals in the ocean	Things that fly
Planets	Items of clothing

Topics are limited only by imagination.

Who am I? puzzles are not only fun, they are great for developing reading, writing, and thinking skills. Have you tried them with your class yet?