MY SCHOOL IN THE PAST 1: LESSON OUTLINE

What was my school like?

Big and little questions

Equipment required:
- Pupils’ logbooks
- Worksheet 1 on big and little questions
- Interactive White Board/projector
- Old school photographs
- Highlighter pens

Stimulus:
To promote pupil interest.
Display photographs of pupils in your school, or use the photographs in the pack.
Remind pupils that they should record their responses in their logbook, highlighting what they think are important points.
Ask the pupils if they know anyone who used to go to the school, and if they have told them anything about their experiences.

Main body of lesson
Reminiscences: Ask the pupils to talk to their partner about their first day in school.
What had they expected – hoped for/were worried about
Who they remember – teachers/pupils
What is important to them about school – friends, work, success, etc.?
They should log what they think are the significant points.

Explain the difference between big and little questions.

Ask the pupils to get into pairs, give them some more stimulus photographs, and tell them to discuss and write down what sort of questions they want to ask about their school in the past.
Then they should sort the questions into big and little questions, using Worksheet 1
As they do this ask them to justify why some are big and others are little questions.

Now ask them to pick out themes, according to the aspect of schooling – e.g. school pupils, discipline, school dinners, sport, etc.

Plenary

Choose representatives from each pair to feedback two big and two little questions, justifying why they are big or little.

Allow pupils to share questions across the group, if there are issues that they want to investigate. Other people’s questions should be identified on their charts.