



Who Am I?

Creative Ways to Introduce Yourself to Your Class

Opening-day letter

Primary, Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Writing, Informal Letter

Write a letter to your students. In that letter, introduce yourself to students. Tell them about your hopes for the new school year and some of the fun things you'll be doing in class. In addition, tell students a few personal things about yourself; For example, your likes and dislikes, what you did over the summer, and your hobbies. Ask questions throughout the letter. You might ask what they like most about school, what they did during the summer, what their goals for the new school year are, or what they are really good at. In your letter, be sure to model the correct parts of a friendly letter. On the first day of school, display your letter on an overhead projector. Then pass each student a sheet of nice stationery. Have the students write a return letter to you. In this letter, they will need to answer some of your questions and tell you about themselves. This is a great way to get to know each other in a personal way!

Opening-day letter







www.freepik.com

Ask the teacher a question

Primary, Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Speaking, Asking and Giving Information

Invite your students to call out a question they would like to ask you. For example, Where are you from? What languages do you speak? What kind of music do you like? As they ask the questions don't answer them immediately but write them on the board. As you write, correct any errors in the questions. When you have about 10 different questions on the board, answer all of them for the class so they learn something about you.

Ask the teacher a question





www.freepik.com

Two truths and a lie

Primary, Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Speaking, Asking Information

Come up with several small, obscure facts about yourself and/or your life. Present these statements in groups of three. Two statements will be true, and one will be false. False statements can be either completely fabricated or a slight alteration of the truth. Start with false statements that are more obvious and progress to more subtle differences. Students will guess which statement is false. To turn this into a game, have teams write their answers down and then award points to the teams that have guessed correctly.

Two truths and a lie



https://www.ricotta.team/blog/two-truths-and-a-lie

Read, Run, Write

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Writing, Note taking, Speaking, Giving information

Create a list of facts about yourself, your country, and your family. Print off several copies and attach them to the board at the front of the room. Divide the students into groups of four. Each group will need a sheet of paper. One person in each group will be the scribe. The others will take turns running up to the board, reading and memorizing as much as they can, then running back to their group and reciting what they can remember to the scribe who will listen and write it down. The first group to finish wins.

8/9/2023

Read, Run, Write

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Writing, Note taking, Speaking, Giving information





All About Me Bag

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Writing, Note taking, Speaking, Giving information

Fill a small brown lunch bag with items that best 'describe' you. Pull out each item and tell the children a short story about it. The bag might include things such as baby pictures, pictures of pets, an object from a collection, a food you do not like, and so on. Then students are given brown bags to decorate. For homework, the students must fill their bags with items that speak about themselves. Those bags are shared throughout the first week of school in community circle. This activity gives the teacher a great understanding of each student right from the beginning of the new school year.

8/9/2023

All About Me Bag



https://www.tes.com/teachingresource/all-about-me-bag-12317312

8/9/2023

Who Am I?

Creative Ways to have students introduce themselves to the class

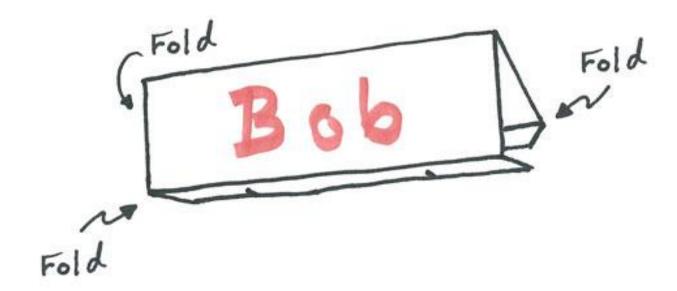
Name tents

Primary
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Writing – Artistic skills

Ask students to fold an A4 size piece of paper or card and write their name on one half. They can color the paper and decorate it as they like. As an extension, students can add three pieces of information about themselves, such as their favorite hobby, the name of their tow/village or their pet. They stand the folded card in front of them until everyone is familiar with their name.



Name tents



http://kb.mit.edu/confluenc e/pages/viewpage.action? pageId=152584661



20 questions jar

Primary Grades 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Speaking, Asking and Giving
Information

Write a list of simple, get to know you, questions. For example, Do you like sports? What is your favorite song? What did you eat for breakfast? What time to you go to sleep? Cut the questions into small strips and put them in a small jar. Students take turns choosing a piece of paper from the jar and answering the question. This activity also doubles as a fun way to review specific grammar points you will cover later in class. Just formulate your questions using the target grammatical structure and see if your students can answer with the correct grammar.



20 questions jar



https://www.teachingexpertis e.com/classroom-ideas/firstweek-of-school-forelementary-activities/



Interview your partner

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Speaking, Asking information Writing, Note taking

Put students in pairs and ask them to interview each other. You should prepare a set of questions on the board or on handouts which students use to interview their partner. These can be general questions about their country, hobbies, studies, etc. While students carry out their interviews, ask them to write down their partner's answers to the questions.

As a follow-on activity, ask each student to present the person they interviewed to the whole class, using the information from their interview. With large classes or if time is short, you can limit them to saying three pieces of information about the person.





Getting to Know You Survey

Ask your classmates questions with 'Do you...?' or 'Are you...?' in order to complete the sentences below, e.g. 'Do you play a musical instrument?' Complete each sentence with the name of a student who answers 'yes' to your question.

Also, ask follow-up questions to gain more information and note down the answers, e.g. 'What musical instrument do you play?'

1
2has an older brother.
3 likes to play sport.
4is afraid of spiders.
5
6 is good at cooking.
7
8
9hates shopping.
10 thinks learning English is difficult.
11 wants to travel the world.
12 walks to school.
13 is left-handed.
14speaks three languages.
15 sleeps eight hours a night.
16does yoga.
17 is feeling happy today.
18learns English at the weekend.
19gets up early every day.

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Interview your partner

https://www.teachthis.com/functional-activitiesworksheets/getting-to-know-you



8/9/2023

20. Is a vegetarian.

First day survey

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Speaking, Asking information

On the first day of school do an activity to bring the class together such as a classroom survey. The students walk around and talk to the other students and fill out a questionnaire. At the same time, they are getting to know each other.





First day survey

https://en.islcollective.co m/english-eslworksheets/search/class+ survey

Classmate scavenger hunt

Primary Grades 4, 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Writing, Personal
information

Provide each student with two index cards. Ask each student to write a brief description of his or her physical characteristics on one index card and his or her name on the other. (Physical characteristics usually do not include clothing, but if you teach the primary grades, you might allow students to include clothing in their descriptions). Put all the physical characteristic index cards in a shoe box, mix them up, and distribute one card to each student (making sure that no student gets his or her own card). Give students ten minutes to search for the person who fits the description on the card they hold. (There is no talking during this activity, but students can walk around the room.) At the end of the activity, tell students to write on the card the name of the student who best matches the description. Then have students share their results. How many students guessed correctly?

Classmate scavenger hunt





https://www.twinkl.gr/reso urce/t-t-6778-transitionguess-who-activity



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Fun fact match up

Primary Grades 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Speaking, Asking information

Have each student write a fun or unexpected fact about themselves on a sticky note (I have a pet squirrel, for example). Collect all the sticky notes and put them on your front board. Students come up one at a time and point to a fact. They then guess who the fact describes. If they guess right, they keep the sticky note. If they guess incorrectly, they leave the note on the board. Students take turns until all the notes are gone. The person with the most notes in their possession at the end of the activity wins.



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Fun fact match up



https://theesleducator.com/how-can-i-use-sticky-notes/

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Primary Grades 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Speaking, Asking information

Student bingo

On a blank Bingo board, fill in the boxes with phrases that might describe the students in your class: likes soccer, was born this month, has more than two siblings, speaks more than two languages, comes from the same home country as you, etc. Give each person a copy of the sheet. Then on your go, have students mingle and talk to each other, looking for someone who fits the description in one of the boxes. When they find someone who does, that person should sign their name in the box. When someone gets five boxes in a row, he calls Bingo and wins the round. If you like, play another round, but you will need a bingo board with different descriptions in the boxes to make the second round as challenging as the first.



Student bingo

В	I	Ν	G	Ο	
read a book this summer	likes ice cream	plays a musical instrument	is left - handed	likes to sing	
has a brother	is wearing something blue	went to the movies in August	likes to swim	has gone camping	
is the oldest child in their family	dog Fre		has visited another country	is the youngest child in their family	
has a sister	went to Sappo last year	went to the beach this summer	has pierced ears	likes to cook	
can stand on one foot for 30 seconds	gone more than another		has blue eyes		

В		N	G	0		
Went camping this summer	Has never used Zoom	Has a reptile for a pet	Completed a puzzle this semester	Speaks more than one language		
Kills house plants	Has been interrupted when on Zoom or studying	rrupted nen on omer with there camera on camer		Attended a virtual workshop		
ls vegan	Uses a virtual background	Free!	Has an October birthday	Doesn't drink coffee		
Has never used Zoom	Likes spicy food	Forgot about an assignment	Joined a club	Ate pizza yesterday		
Attended a Zoom in PJs	Forgot to unmute yourself	Has broken a bone	Has seen a movie 5 or more times	Has never been to a MiraCosta campus		

https://bingobaker
.com/

8/9/2023

Musical chairs

Primary Grades Lower Secondary Speaking, Presentations Kinesthetic skills

Set a circle of chairs with one less chair than the number of students in the class. Play music as the students circle around the chairs. When the music stops, the students must sit in a seat. The student without a seat is out, but before he/she leaves the circle, he/she must present himself/herself to the class. Then remove another seat and start the music again. Repeat the procedure until all the students have presented themselves.



Musical chairs



https://www.gamesver.c om/musical-chairsbenefits-advantagesfor-kids-and-adults/

8/9/2023

"Me" puppets

Primary Grades Speaking, Presentations, Artistic skills

On the first day of school, young children are usually reluctant to talk about themselves. A creative and fun idea is to make "me" puppets using paper plates for the head, yarn for the hair, and construction paper for facial features, with a popsicle stick for a handle. Upon completion, you can stage a puppet show. The students hide their faces with the puppets and tell their classmates all about their families, hobbies, pets, etc.



"Me" puppets



https://masandpas.com/e motions-activity/

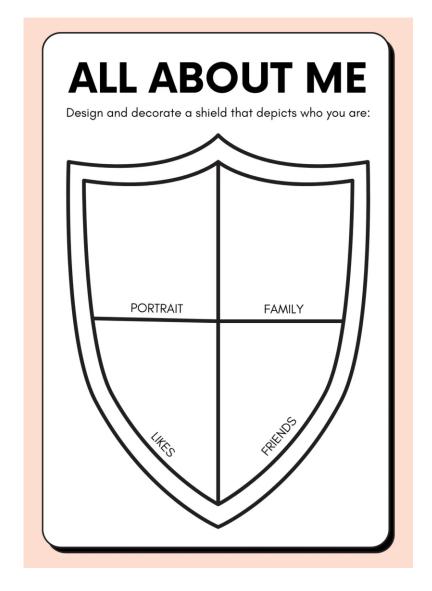


Primary Grades 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Writing, Giving Information

The "ME" shield

Use a copy of a banner drawn like a shield and divided into 4 sections. Pose to students seven questions they can answer about themselves: What are 3 things you are good at? What do you like most about your family? What do your friends like about you? What do you think you can do better than almost anyone else your age? What do you dream about doing one day? What is something you have already done that makes you feel really good? What is one thing you are planning to change about yourself so you will be even better? Each student writes his/her name at the top of the paper and then answers four of the seven questions, one answer per section, on the banner. They can write the answer or use a combination of art and writing to express themselves. The students volunteer to share their banners, and then the teacher can proudly display them after the students have had a chance to decorate them.

The "ME" shield



https://www.canva.com/worksheets/templates/all-about-me/



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Names word search

Primary Grades Lower Secondary Vocabulary

In order for the students to get to know their classmates, create a word search with their names.

After all the names are found, make sure that the remaining letters reveal a hidden message:

"Welcome back to school"



Names word search

Ε	J	Α	M	Ε	S	Н	Н	G	Α	D	0	L	С
R	W	В	Α	R	Ε	С	0	Α	Т	Α	R	S	R
Ε	Ε	K	М	Ε	Т	Ε	K	U	S	Z	U	С	M
Ι	R	Α	Υ	С	0	М	Ε	N	Κ	Ε	Ε	Α	L
Υ	D	N	D	Ε	N	М	Ε	I	I	R	Α	С	N
R	N	N	Α	I	0	Α	U	С	Ε	Α	N	N	U
R	Α	L	V	K	Ε	Z	N	0	R	М	Н	Α	I
Α	V	Α	I	Ε	Α	S	В	L	Α	Υ	0	L	N
В	Ε	D	D	U	Ε	Ε	I	Ε	N	Z	L	Ε	Α
R	0	N	0	С	R	0	S	U	С	Α	L	I	L
D	Ε	D	Ε	K	K	Α	Т	Ε	0	0	I	N	Α
M	Κ	0	L	I	Α	Υ	W	N	D	L	Ε	Α	U
N	U	N	I	S	I	0	R	K	Α	Α	Α	D	R
Α	L	D	R	J	Α	K	Ε	S	Ε	Α	K	Ε	Α

KIERAN AMY **BARRY** SEAN DAVID EMMA LAURA **JAMES** JAKE KATE CONOR ZOE LOUISE LUKE CLODAGH ROISIN HOLLIE **ANDREW** DANIEL NICOLE

http://www.puzzlemaker.com



Ice breaker Jenga

Primary Grades 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Speaking, Asking and Giving
Information

A simple set of Jenga style stacking blocks Is a fun game and easy to play. In order to add a language element and use it with your students, write an icebreaker question on each block. Have groups of students play the game, and whatever block they pull, they have to answer the question on it. It's a great way to learn about each other without putting a lot of pressure on students, and the game aspect gives them all something to enjoy while they are answering questions.



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Ice breaker Jenga



https://www.etsy.com/listing/9 32327846/unique-ice-breakergame-fun-get-to-know



Would you rather?

Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Speaking, Grammar
Asking and Giving Information

Would you rather have only peanut butter or only jelly? Would you rather have eyes like a fly's or eyes like a spider's? Would you rather clean your floor, or wait in line at the bank for 30 minutes? Students must choose one and explain why. Asking questions such as these is an easy way for students to get to know each other. Have your students stand up, give them a question, and have them go to opposite sides of the room based on their answer. Then choose a few volunteers to share why they made the choice they did. Though this is a simple icebreaker, students will have to be comfortable with the conditional structure to understand and answer appropriately, which is why it's perfect for advanced students.



Would you rather?



https://eslspeaking.org/wouldyou-rather-an-esl-warm-upactivity/



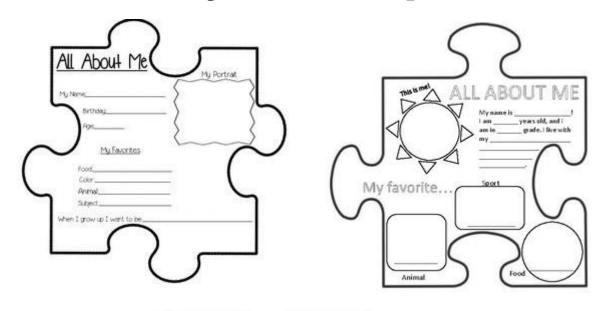
First day name puzzle

Primary Grades 3 - 12 Lower Secondary Speaking, Writing Giving Information

On the first day of school, make a name puzzle with your students. Take a large piece of poster board and mark out lines that can be cut into pieces. Make sure that the puzzle will have enough pieces for each student to have one. Then gather all students on the floor to write their name on the blank side of the poster board. You can write your name in the middle, and the students write their name in all different directions. Then cut the board into puzzle pieces. As a class students should each find the spot where their puzzle piece belongs. Tape the puzzle together after school and post it on the wall in the classroom. When the students return the next day, they will be excited to see the puzzle, and to show off their name. Students have fun talking and working to put the puzzle together.



First day name puzzle



https://www.tes.com/teachingresource/all-about-me-jigsawpiece-12395904



Spell your name

Primary Grades 3 - 12 Lower Secondary Speaking, Artistic skills Classroom Decoration

On the first day of school, have plenty of pre-cut letters in lots of different colors on a table. As the students come in, tell them to find the letters that spell their names and glue them together. Hang these from the ceiling!

Give an example by hanging a "Welcome" sign in front of the board!





Spell your name



https://in.pinterest.com/pin/20 9839663871255440/



Snowball activity

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Speaking

Students write on a piece of paper three things about themselves. Then they crumple the paper up into a 'snowball' and have a one-minute snowball fight. At the end of the minute, everyone grabs the closest snowball and has to try to find the person who wrote it. They then introduce that person to the rest of the group, sharing the three facts.



Snowball activity



https://www.thoughtco.co m/ice-breaker-snowballfight-31389



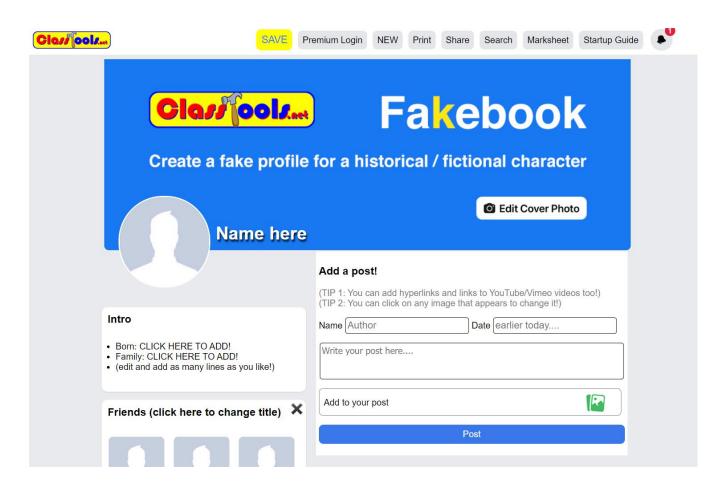
Write a profile

Primary Grades 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Writing, Descriptions
Speaking, Giving Information

Ask the students to write a short profile about themselves or their partner. Tell them it should be the kind of profile you might read on a social media site, so it needs to be short but focus on the interesting information. As an extension, ask the students to pin their work around the classroom and spend some time reading about each other. Collect in the writing at the end in order to assess their ability but also to learn more about the lives and interests of your students.



Write a profile



https://www.classtools. net/FB/home-page

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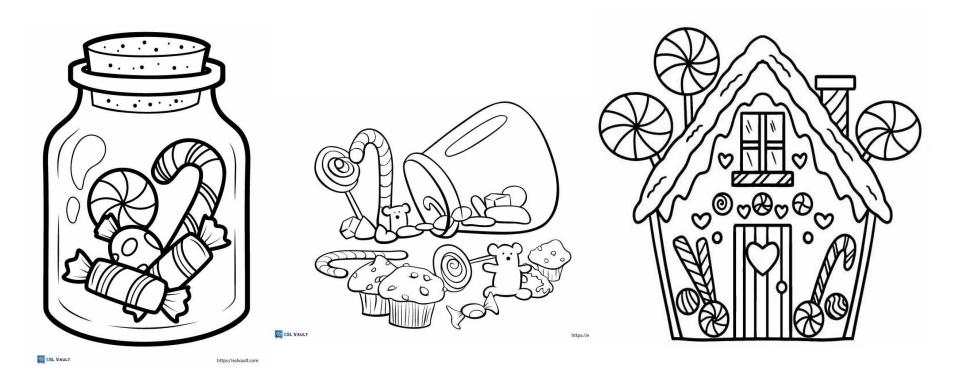
Sweet tooth

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Speaking, Giving Information

Bring a big bag of M&Ms or a basket of candy to class on the first day and pass them around but tell your students to wait before they indulge. Once everyone has taken at least one candy, it's time to get to know each other. Go around the room and give each person a chance to share about himself or herself. He/She will have to share one piece of information for every piece of candy he/she took. Some students may not have much to say if they only took a few pieces of candy. Others with a sweet tooth may end up sharing twenty or more pieces of information about themselves. After a student shares, he can enjoy his chocolate while listening to his classmates.



Sweet tooth



https://eslvault.co m/candycoloring-pages/

Get to know you collage

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Artistic skills

Start by setting up a shadow tracing station in your classroom. Simply direct a bright bulb at a blank wall. Students work with a partner to trace each other's profiles. One person stands in front of the light, and the other person traces their shadow on a piece of white paper. Students then cut out their profiles and paste them on a colored piece of paper. Once students have their profiles, have them look through a collection of old magazines to find pictures of things that interest them. They should glue their interest pictures inside their profile cut out. After the collages are finished, give each student a few minutes in front of the class to talk about the pictures in their collage. After the presentations, you can display the collages around your classroom.





Get to know you collage

https://englishteaching101. com/self-portrait-ideasesl/



POETIC INTRODUCTIONS

(Some) Forms of Poetry

- Acrostic
- Concrete
- Cinquain
- Free Verse
- Haiku
- Limerick
- Sonnet
- Clerihew



Primary Grades 5 & 6
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary
Creative writing

https://songsandpoetryforesl.we ebly.com/exploring-andexploiting-poetry.html



Free verse

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Creative writing

Ask students to use the form below to create poems that describe them.

Name	
Title (of poem)	
I will never	
I will never	
and I will never	
But I will always	

This activity is another that lends itself to being done at the beginning of the school year and again at the end of the year. You and your students will have fun comparing their responses and seeing how the students and the responses have changed.



People poems

Primary Grades 5 & 6 Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Creative writing

Have each student use the letters in his or her name to create an acrostic poem. For example, Bill could take his name and write:

Big

Intelligent

Laughing

Loving.

Tell students they must include words that tell something about themselves -- for example, something they like to do or a personality or physical trait. Invite students to share their poems with the class. This activity is a fun one that enables you to learn how your students view themselves. Allow older students to use a dictionary or thesaurus. You might also vary the number of words for each letter, according to the students' grade levels.



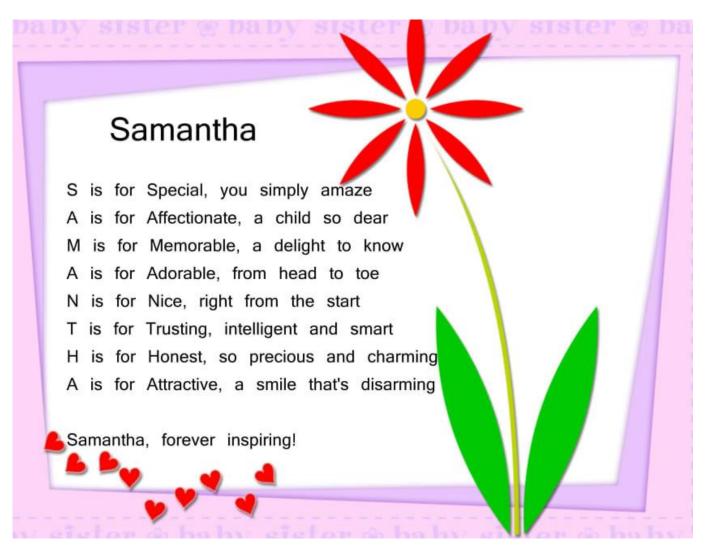
An all about me acrostic

Lower Secondary Upper Secondary Creative writing

Start by brainstorming with your class a large list of adjectives that might be used to describe people. Put these words up on the board (and if you have a daring class, you might even want to have students act out some of the adjectives). Once your lists are complete, have each person write his full name vertically down the left side of a piece of paper. He must then choose an adjective that begins with each of the letters of his name that also describes him/her and write it next to the letters. Once the acrostics are complete, have students share their adjectives with the rest of the class. You might even invite your class to suggest other adjectives each person might have used to describe himself.



An all about me acrostic



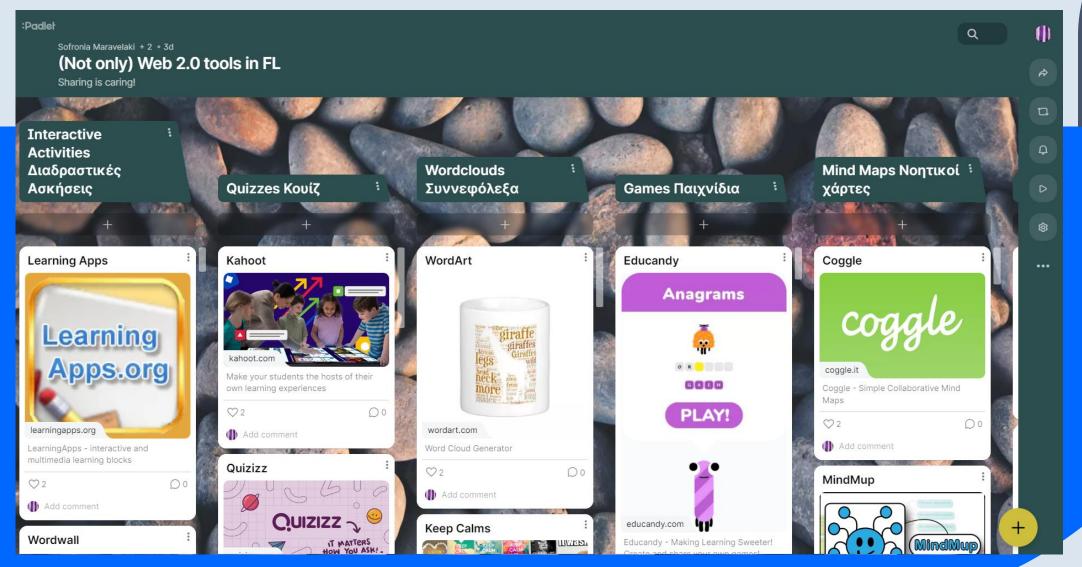
https://letterpile.com/poetry/acros tic-namepoems#gid=ci026eadbbb004257e &pid=acrostic-name-poems

https://everydaychaosandcalm.co m/acrostic-name-poems/

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https://padlet.com/fmarvel/not-only-web-2-0-tools-in-fl-b1ioqgz9mhfxarxn



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https://www.teach-this.com/

https://www.eslprintables.com/

https://www.weareteachers.com/

https://www.eslactivity.org/

https://www.twinkl.gr/

8/9/2023

Thank you for your attention

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