

## Interviewing Children

Developmentally appropriate, open-ended interview questions are essential for developing descriptions and recording videos. Learn as much as possible about the child's history from files, caretakers, and workers--this can prevent seemingly innocent questions from becoming landmines. Then, with the topics to pursue in mind, get the child started and press for colorful details. The questions below could start the conversation:

- \* What games do you like to play?
- \* What are your favorite toys, video games, movies, books, television shows, or CDs?
- \* What's your favorite thing to do outdoors?
- \* What job would you like to have as an adult?
- \* What is your best subject in school? What do you like about it?
- \* Who is your favorite teacher? Why?
- \* What do you like to eat?
- \* What chores do you help with around the house?
- \* What are you most proud of?
- \* What are you good at?
- \* What sports do you enjoy?
- \* What activities do you participate in at school (choirs, plays, clubs)?
- \* What do you do when you are with your friends?
- \* If you could have one wish, what would you wish for?
- \* What could a person learn about you by looking at your room?
- \* What do you do during vacations from school?
- \* What holidays do you like to celebrate? What do you do for them?
- \* What school trips or vacations have you gone on and especially enjoyed?
- \* If you could visit any place on earth, where would you go? Why?
- \* What does adoption mean to you?
- \* Why would you like to be adopted?
- \* What do you want your adoptive family to be like?

### Next

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