



0.12: Girls and boys

Pull up the girl & boys (fully dressed) pictures on the board.

Now looking at the pictures on the board...

Which are girls and which are boys?

How can you tell?

What about their clothes?

What about in class? Are all the girls alike?

What about the boys?

Do the girls all have long hair?

Actually girl's and boy's bodies at your age often look very similar. It is usually only through looking at the hair styles and clothes that we choose to wear that other people can guess if we happen to be male or female.

It is only when we are naked we can see the real difference, **(Click to the next image of the same characters this time naked)** because boys have a **penis** (and testicles) and girls have a **vulva** (and vagina).

NB: You may well have a child whom, even at this early age, doesn't feel like they fit the binary stereotypes of their birth gender. This is an ideal opportunity to talk to the class about the issue and ensure that their classmates are supportive and understand.

"Some people may feel that actually they like to dress in clothes or behave in a way we would usually associate with the opposite gender. Some children may even feel that their body doesn't really fit how they feel, even though they were born with the body parts of a boy, that actually inside they feel like they are a girl, or vice versa. This can be really confusing for some children and for the grownups that support them so it is important that we accept them for who they say they are."