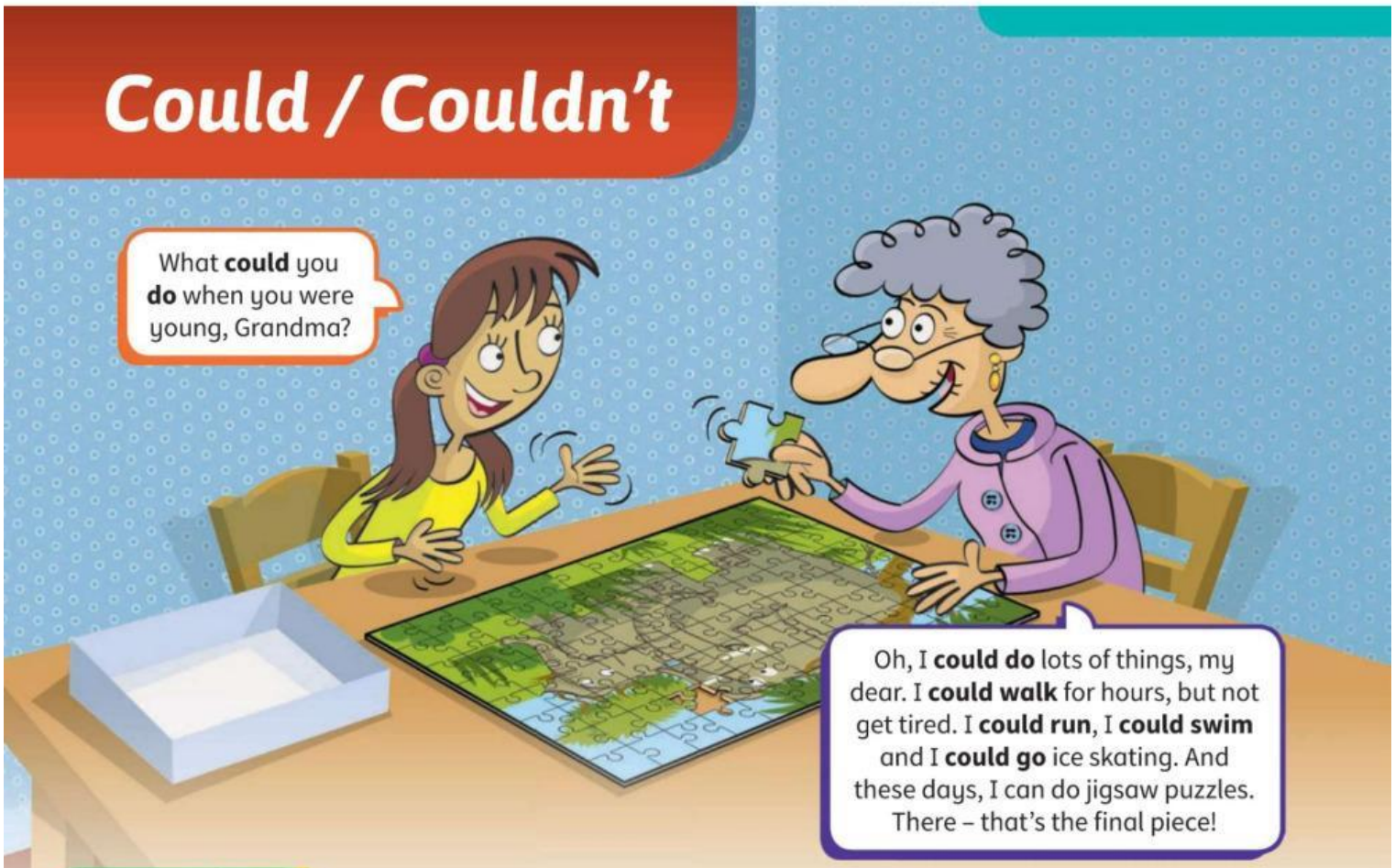
# Could / Couldn't




**Language focus**

Use **could** / **couldn't** to talk about abilities you had or didn't have in the past.

*When she was a girl, she **couldn't** swim, but she **could** ride a bike.*

Yes/No questions are formed in the following way:

***Could** you / he / she / we / they make pancakes?*

*Yes, I / he / she / we / they **could**.*

*No, I / he / she / we / they **couldn't**.*



**1** **Answer the questions with *Yes, I could* or *No, I couldn't*.**

1 Could you walk when you were six months old? No, I couldn't.

2 Could you speak when you were one year old? _____

3 Could you run when you were three years old? _____

4 Could you catch a ball when you were four years old? _____

5 Could you read when you were five years old? _____

6 Could you write when you were seven years old? _____



LIVEWORKSHEETS

**2** **Complete the questions with the verbs from the box.**

speak play climb ~~run~~ ski ride

www.theoldpeopleswebsite.co.uk



## The Old People's Website

***When you were a young man ...***

1 ... could you run fast?
2 ... could you _____ mountains?
3 ... could you _____ any other languages?
4 ... could you _____ the guitar?
5 ... could you _____ a motorbike?
6 ... could you _____ or snowboard?

**3** **Match the questions in Activity 2 with the answers.**

a No, I couldn't, but my brother could. He was a member of a club. He went up Everest once! 2

b Yes, I could. I didn't like driving cars, but I loved my second-hand Harley-Davidson! ☐

c No, I couldn't. I didn't go on winter holidays. They were too expensive! ☐

d No, I couldn't. I could play the violin, but I didn't learn to play anything else. ☐

e Yes, I could. I lived in Buenos Aires for five years when I was in my twenties, so my Spanish was very good. ☐

f Yes, I could. I loved doing that. I used to run by the river near my house every morning. ☐



LIVEWORKSHEETS