ACTIVITY
Whole class: speaking
Mixer (For detailed instructions and advice on using mixers, see Notes for Teachers at the beginning of the Resource Pack.)

AIM
To speak to as many partners as possible, asking and answering questions about abilities.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS
Can you...?
Yes, I can./No, I can't.

VOCABULARY
Everyday and leisure activities

PREPARATION
Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of up to 12 students. Cut the worksheet into cards as indicated. You will need to keep one card for yourself to demonstrate the activity.

TIME
15 minutes

PROCEDURE
1. If there are more than 12 students in the class, divide them into groups. Give one picture card to each student in the class. Keep one for yourself.

2. Tell the students that they are going to ask and answer questions using the pictures on their cards as cues. Write an example dialogue on the board, indicating the words and expressions the students should use.
   For example:
   Student A: Can you make a cake?
   Student B: No, I can't. Can you play the piano?
   Student A: Yes, I can.

3. Demonstrate the activity with individual students, using the card you kept for yourself. Tell the students to hold their cards so that the side with the picture on is facing them. Students ask the questions using their picture cards as prompts and answer the questions honestly.

4. Ask several pairs of students to demonstrate the activity to the whole class, using their cards as cues and taking turns asking and answering questions.

5. Now ask the students to go around their group asking and answering questions with as many different partners as possible, using their picture cards as cues. In this part of the activity, the students repeat the same question several times but practice different answers each time they change partners.

6. When the students have spoken to several different partners, ask them to exchange cards and go around their group again, this time holding their cards the other way round so the picture is facing their partner. The students take turns asking questions using the pictures on their partners' cards as cues. In this part of the activity, the students ask a different question each time they change partners.

OPTION
In Procedure Point 2 above, it is a good idea to introduce the natural responses I can, too / I can't / I can't either / I can and to extend the sample dialogue.
   For example:
   Student A: Can you make a cake?
   Student B: Yes, I can.
   Student A: I can, too / I can't!
   Student B: Can you play the guitar?
   Student A: No, I can't.
   Student B: I can't, either / I can!