

SPEAKER 1: I'm with Abigail, who is four years old. Are you still four years old?

ABIGAIL: Yeah.

SPEAKER 1: And I'm going to ask Abigail some questions. And these aren't questions that have right answers or wrong answers. They're just whatever you think, OK?

ABIGAIL: OK.

SPEAKER 1: I'm going to start with a really easy one. Are you a girl or are you a boy?

ABIGAIL: I'm a girl.

SPEAKER 1: You're a girl? Are you a boy?

ABIGAIL: No.

SPEAKER 1: No? You're a girl?

ABIGAIL: Yeah.

SPEAKER 1: Oh, OK. When you were a baby, were you a boy or a girl, or sometimes were you a boy and sometimes you were a girl? When you were a baby.

ABIGAIL: I think I was still a girl.

SPEAKER 1: You were still a girl?

ABIGAIL: Yeah.

SPEAKER 1: OK. When you grow up, will you be a man or a woman, or sometimes will you be a man and sometimes you'll be a woman?

ABIGAIL: I think I will be a woman.

SPEAKER 1: A woman when you grow up. OK. Now, what if you went into that room and we put you in the kind of clothes that boys wear and we cut your hair real, real short. Would

you really, then, be a boy, or would you still be a girl?

ABIGAIL: I think I might be a boy.

SPEAKER 1: You might be a boy if we did that. What if we took a boy and we put them in that room, and we put a bow in his hair and we put him in a skirt and we made him wear high heels. Would he still be a boy, or would he be a girl?

ABIGAIL: He would be a girl.

SPEAKER 1: He would be a girl if we--

ABIGAIL: He would look like be a girl.

SPEAKER 1: Well, he certainly would with a bow in his hair and a skirt. When you grow up, if you did the kind of work that men usually do, would you be a boy or would you be a girl?

ABIGAIL: A girl.

SPEAKER 1: You would be a girl. What if a boy wore nail polish?

ABIGAIL: Ah!

SPEAKER 1: Would he become a girl?

ABIGAIL: Well, I think when he put nails-- something like that-- he would become a woman.

SPEAKER 1: OK. Wow. I understand that. What if a girl had really short hair? Would she be a boy?

OK. If a boy plays with baby dolls, would he become a girl?

ABIGAIL: Yes, because I think some girls only play doll stuff.

SPEAKER 1: OK, so girls play with doll stuff. If he played with girls--

ABIGAIL: And I think boy stuff play with robots.

SPEAKER 1: Oh. And how about trucks? What if a girl played with a truck? Would she become a

boy?

ABIGAIL: No. She's still a girl.

SPEAKER 1: She'd still be a girl. What if you really, really wanted to be a boy? Could you be?

ABIGAIL: No.

SPEAKER 1: No? You think you would still be a girl?

ABIGAIL: Yeah.

SPEAKER 1: OK.

ABIGAIL: Because sometimes some girls always accents their voice, like when they're almost grown up. Then they will be-- their voices is different, like a woman.

SPEAKER 1: Oh, OK. But a girl would still be a woman when she grows up. Is that right?

ABIGAIL: Yeah, because you're already grown up like my mom.

SPEAKER 1: OK. Good. Those were very nice answers. Thank you.

Now, I have some questions for you, OK, Nathan? And some of them maybe seem a little silly, but just give me your best answer, OK? Are you a girl, or are you a boy?

NATHAN: Boy.

SPEAKER 1: You're a boy. Are you a girl?

NATHAN: No.

SPEAKER 1: No? Are you still a boy?

NATHAN: Mm-hmm.

SPEAKER 1: Oh, I see. Now, what about when you were a baby? Were you a boy, were you a girl, or sometimes were you a boy and sometimes you were a girl when you were a baby.

NATHAN: I don't know.

SPEAKER 1: You don't know what you were? Think hard. Back when you were a baby. Were you a boy, were you a girl, or sometimes you were a boy and sometimes you were a girl?

NATHAN: A boy.

SPEAKER 1: Now, when you grow up are you going to be a man, are you going to be a woman, or sometimes will you be a man and sometimes you'll be a woman?

NATHAN: Boy.

SPEAKER 1: When you grow up you'd be a man, a woman, or sometimes a man and sometimes a woman?

NATHAN: A boy.

SPEAKER 1: OK. You're not going to grow up to be a man?

NATHAN: Yes.

SPEAKER 1: Yes, uh-huh. That's what I thought you would say. Now, what if you went in the other room and I put a big ribbon in your hair and put you in a skirt and let you wear high heels? Would you really be a boy or really be a girl?

NATHAN: Boy.

SPEAKER 1: You would still be a boy?

NATHAN: Mm-hmm.

SPEAKER 1: OK. Why do you think you would still be a boy? Is it because you don't want to be a girl, or because you just can't change?

NATHAN: Because I have a hat on.

SPEAKER 1: You have a hat on. Is that what helps to make you a boy? That looks like a boy's hat. When you grow up, if you wanted to have a job that usually only women do, would that make you a man or would you be a woman?

NATHAN: A wo-- a boy.

SPEAKER 1: You think you would still be a boy. How about one more question. If a boy wore nail polish, would he become a girl?

NATHAN: No.

SPEAKER 1: No? He would still be a boy?

NATHAN: Mm-hmm.

SPEAKER 1: OK. How about if a girl had really short hair? Would she be a boy?

No? What would she be?

NATHAN: A girl.

SPEAKER 1: Still be a girl. Hmm. What if a boy played with baby dolls? Would he become a girl?

NATHAN: He would become a baby.

SPEAKER 1: He'd be a baby if he played with baby dolls? Hmm. What if a girl played with trucks? Would she become a boy if she played with trucks?

What would she be?

NATHAN: A girl.

SPEAKER 1: She'd still be a girl? Hmm. What if you really, really wanted to be a girl? Could you be a girl?

Do you think you'd always be a boy?

NATHAN: Mm-hmm.

SPEAKER 1: OK.

I have some questions for you now that are going to sound kind of silly. Some of them will. But I still want to know what you think, OK? So again, would you remind me, Nathan, how old are you?

SAMUEL: Eight and a half.

SPEAKER 1: Eight and a half. When's your birthday?

SAMUEL: April 28.

SPEAKER 1: Well that's coming pretty soon. Couple of months. You still have to wait awhile. That's a good thing. OK, ready for my first question? Are you a girl or are you a boy?

SAMUEL: Boy.

SPEAKER 1: Are you sure you're not a girl? Pretty sure?

SAMUEL: Yeah.

SPEAKER 1: Now, but what about when you were a baby? When you were a baby, were you a boy, were you a girl, or sometimes you were a boy and sometimes you were a girl?

SAMUEL: Boy.

SPEAKER 1: Even when you were a baby. Hmm. Now, what about when you grow up? When you grow up, are you going to be a man, are you going to be a woman, or sometimes a man and sometimes a woman?

SAMUEL: Man.

SPEAKER 1: OK, going to grow up to be a man. Now, wait. What if you went in the other room and I put a bow in your hair and I put a skirt on you and I'd let you wear high heels? Then would you really be a boy or would you really be a girl?

SAMUEL: Girl.

SPEAKER 1: You would be a girl if we did that to you? OK. When you grow up and you're going to go to work, what if you went to work and you did something that usually ladies only do? Would you be a boy or a girl?

SAMUEL: Boy.

SPEAKER 1: What if a boy wears nail polish? Would he become a girl?

SAMUEL: No.

SPEAKER 1: What if a girl had really short hair? Would she become a boy?

SAMUEL: No.

SPEAKER 1: What if a boy played with baby dolls? Would he become a girl?

Well, what if a girl played with trucks? Would she become a boy?

Hm. What if you really, really wanted to be a girl instead of being a boy? Could you be a girl?

That's a good set of questions. Thank you for answering those questions for me.