Summary
This DVD programme could be used as support to materials in Unit 10 of the Student’s Book. It provides examples of native speakers telling anecdotes about their childhoods, and can be used at any point during the unit, or before or after the anecdote on page 93.

Language focus
Vocabulary: dress up, end up, fare, get off, giggling, grounded, grow up, knock out, look out of, naughty, nun, run into, set up, spend on, teasing, tell off, turn away

Background information
Daniele has an accent which is typical of the north of England and Ryan has an American accent.

Procedure
Before you watch
1 Divide the students into pairs and ask them to match the words on the left with their definitions on the right.

   a) 4   b) 3   c) 1   d) 6   e) 5   f) 2

2 Tell the students they are going to watch two people talking about their childhood. Ask the students to anticipate what kind of things they may talk about and in particular to think about how they might use the words in Exercise 1.

While you watch
3 Ask the students to answer the questions by ticking the boxes. Play the programme.

   a) R   b) D   c) R   d) D   e) R   f) R
   g) D   h) R   i) D

4 Ask the students to work in pairs. Ask them to discuss the statements, all of which are incorrect, and ask them to correct any they can remember.

   a) R   b) D   c) R   d) D   e) R   f) R
   g) D   h) R   i) D

After you watch
5 Ask the students to complete the extracts with the words in the box. Some of the expressions are phrasal verbs, others are either prepositional verbs or expressions using a preposition.

   You could play the programme again so the students can check their answers.

   a) Ryan now lives in LONDON.
   b) RYAN’S FRIEND JOHN was once bitten by a dog he had been teasing on his way to school.
   c) Daniele and her friend used to go on ’missions’ and FOLLOW people.
   d) Ryan and his friend were rescued from the tree by the FIRE BRIGADE.
   e) Daniele and her brother used to spend their bus fare on SWEETS.
   f) ‘The Wolfman’ was Ryan’s LEAST FAVOURITE teacher.
   g) Ryan got his teeth knocked out when he RAN INTO SOMEONE PLAYING KICKBALL.
   h) Daniele used to like dressing up as A PIRATE OR A PRINCESS OR A COWGIRL.
   i) Ryan became a professional skateboarder when he was TWELVE.
   j) Daniele wanted to be either a NUN or a pilot.

6 Put the students into groups to discuss the questions. If necessary, prompt the students by giving one or two examples from your own childhood. This exercise aims to recycle some of the vocabulary in Exercise 5. Ask a few groups to report back to the class on anything interesting from their discussions.
(I = Interviewer; R = Ryan; D = Daniele)

I: Did your life use to be very different to how it is now?
R: My life is very different than it used to be. Um, when I was growing up I lived in San Diego, California, in America where it was hot and sunny every day even including Christmas. Now that I’ve grown up I live and work in London where it’s rainy and cold almost every single day.

D: This is the park that my brother and I used to come and play in at the weekends. I don’t remember it being quite so scruffy and also today’s quite grey – I remember it always being sunny.

I: Who were your friends?
R: My best friend was a boy named John Curtis and the thing I remember most about John was the fact he was a really fast runner. And we used to walk to school every day and we passed this big, vicious dog every day and John would run back and forth teasing the dog. However, one time he wasn’t fast enough and the dog bit him right on the bottom so he stopped after that.

D: I had a best friend called Claire Gibson. We used to play together all the time. We used to, when we were about eight we used to enjoy playing spies. I remember we set up a secret society in my garage and I remember we enjoyed going out pretending we were on a mission by following other people.

I: Did you ever do anything naughty?
R: I didn’t do too many naughty things when I was a kid. However, when I did the one time I got in quite a bit of trouble. Me and John climbed to the top of a very tall tree that ran alongside the building where we went to school. It was quite high up and when we got to the top we realised that we were too scared to climb back down, so they ended up having to call the fire brigade and they put a big ladder and brought us down and both of us got suspended and grounded by our parents.

D: My older brother was quite a bad influence on me. When we used to take the bus home from school we used to avoid paying fares by sitting at the back of the bus and when the conductor, bus conductor, came around to collect our fares, we used to turn away and look out of the window so that he, the conductor would think that he had already collected our fares. Then we would get off the bus and spend our bus fare on sweets.

I: Let’s talk about your schooldays. Were there any teachers you particularly liked?
R: There was one teacher I particularly liked when I was going to school in the States and her name was Mrs Date and we called her ‘The Date’ because she was plump and very sweet and just a really nice, wonderful woman and that’s why we called her ‘The Date’.

D: There was a particular teacher, I went to, um, a Catholic school and my favourite teacher was a nun called Sister Berkman because she was a fun nun.

I: Were there any teachers you particularly disliked?
R: There was one teacher all the children disliked and his name was Mr Wolken and because he was mean and he was covered with hair we called him ‘The Wolfman’ because he really was a monster. He could make any child cry within about three seconds.

D: There was a teacher called Miss Storey who I didn’t like because she was quite cold, strict and frightening and she was constantly telling me off for giggling.

I: What was your favourite game?
R: My favourite game when I was growing up was a game called kickball and kickball is just like American baseball except it’s played with a bigger ball and you actually kick it. Um, one time when I was playing kickball I was running out to catch a ball that had been kicked very high and as I just went to catch it I turned around and ran into another child and it knocked all of my teeth out. Luckily they were able to put most of them back in.

D: When we came home from school we had a friend at the end of the road who had a dressing-up chest. We used to go there and we
used to play dressing-up. My favourite was
dressing up as a pirate or a princess or a cowgirl,
then we would play in an imaginary world.

I: What was your greatest wish?
R: My greatest wish when I was eight, growing
up, was to be a professional skateboarder, so I
worked really hard, I skateboarded a lot and by
the time I was twelve I achieved my goal and I
became a professional skateboarder.
D: I always wanted to be either a nun or a pilot. A
nun because of Sister Berkman, my favourite
teacher, and a pilot because I thought it'd be
really exciting.