

## Tell a Clean Joke!\*

Kids (and grown-ups) love to hear and tell jokes and riddles. Telling clean jokes is a healthy way to shine and build speaking skills, and *there's nothing like a good laugh* to set people at ease! Clean jokes don't make fun of other people or use bathroom language. They often are made by playing with words – a pun is fun! They can teach vocabulary and the multiple meanings of words. Riddles can teach us to listen for clues and think logically. The important thing is to laugh together with kids to build happy memories.

### Here are suggestions:

- 1) *Be on the lookout* for jokes or riddles. Often supermarkets sell little joke books, or you can check for them in the library, in kids' magazines, daily newspapers, and at bookstores. The Internet is also a great source, but parents need to be careful to screen the children's jokes sites carefully.
- 2) Plan a family-joke night, or a family-joke car ride, or a family-joke meal – or just encourage kids to tell jokes spontaneously. OR get a joke and riddle book and pass it around so each person can read one. Let yourselves laugh out loud!
- 3) If your child is shy about telling jokes, *encourage them* to memorize one and practice telling it. Perhaps your child will want to plan a joke to share with grandparents, other relatives, or friends. 'Knock, Knock!' jokes are a special favorite of children.
- 4) If you're a parent who has ever said, "I can't tell a joke," or "I never can remember jokes," here's your chance to change that!
- 5) When family members come up with jokes they want to remember, *write them down* and put them in the **Our Treasures** section of your

**WAY TO GO!** FAMILY LEARNING JOURNAL™.

Then you'll always know where you can go to find the punch lines you may forget. Many professional comedians write down and carefully study and practice their comedy material. You can, too.



"Jokes are a gift. Humor can turn away sadness and defuse anger. It makes the world look better. Laughing can make your body feel better. **Knock, knock! Who's there? Joe. Joe who? Jokes create laughter and it's the best medicine!** I made that one up myself!"

— Grandma Anna

\*Tell a Clean Joke! supports the English-Language Arts Content Standards related to oral communication and word recognition. Next month, go to [www.familylearningjournal.com](http://www.familylearningjournal.com) for a new Family Activity!

