

Crazy Chit Chat

(Target Audience: Ages 9–12)

Pick and choose and adapt activities as appropriate to your location, audience, time, supplies, etc.

1. Actual Label Instructions

- On Sears hairdryer: Do not use while sleeping.
- On a bag of Fritos: You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside.
- On a bar of Dial soap: Directions: Use like regular soap.
- On some Swann frozen dinners: Serving suggestion: Defrost.
- On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert: (printed on bottom of the box) Do not turn upside down.
- On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: Product will be hot after heating.
- On packaging for a Rowenta iron: Do not iron clothes on body.
- On Boot's Children's cough medicine: Do not drive car or operate machinery.
- On Nytol sleep aid: Warning: may cause drowsiness.
- On a kitchen knife: Warning: keep out of children.
- On a string of Christmas lights: For indoor or outdoor use only.
- On a food processor: Not to be used for the other use.
- On Sainsbury's peanuts: Warning: contains nuts.
- On an American Airlines packet of nuts: Instructions: open packet, eat nuts.
- On a child's Superman costume: Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly.

These examples may make you look twice at the labels you find at home! If there was a warning label on you, what would it say? Pick some objects and ask the kids for silly warnings or instructions they might put on the labels.

2. Funny Book Titles

Here is a list of funny made-up book titles. Can you think of others? Maybe a funny display could be made with the titles. Or the audience could choose a title and illustrate it.

All Fall Down by I.C. Pond

April Fool! by Sue Prize

Archery by Beau N. Arrow

Bad Cow Jokes by Terry Bull

Children's Songbook by Skip Tumalu

Come on In! by Doris Open

Golly Gosh! by G. Whiz

Gotta Go by C. U. Later

He Disappeared! by Otto Sight

Hide and Seek by I.C. You

How I Won the Marathon by Randy

Hoelway

How to Get to the Top by Ellie Vator

Cut the Grass! by Moses Lawn
Danger! by Luke Out
Desert Crossing by I. Rhoda Camel
Falling Off a Cliff by Eileen Dover
Falling Trees by Tim Burr
Flips and Tumbles by Jim Nastics
Genie in a Bottle by Grant Wishes
Get Moving! by Sheik Aleg
Italian Cooking by Mac Aroni

Italian Cuisine by Ravi Oley
Italian Delicacies by Liz Onya
Life as a Comic by Stan Dupp
Pain in My Body by Otis Leghurts
Peek-a-Boo by I.C. Hugh
Say the Magic Word by Abby
Cadabra

Snakes of the World by Anna
Conda

Surprised! by Omar Gosh
The Monkey Cage by Jim Panzee
Why Cars Stop by M.T. Tank
Why Should I Walk by Iona Carr
Winning the Race by Vic Tree

Without Warning by Oliver Sudden
You're Kidding! by Shirley U. Jest

How to Read a Book by Paige Turner
I Like Fish by Ann Chovie
I Love Crowds by Morris Merrier
I Love You! By Alma Hart
I Was Prepared by Justin Case
In the Arctic Ocean by Isa Berg
It's All in Your Head by Madge Ination
It's Springtime! by Theresa Green
Joe Wins at a Track Meet by C. Howie
Runns
Long Walk by Miss D. Bus
Mosquito Bites by Ivan Itch
NHL Hockey by Stanley Kupp
Parachuting by Hugo First
Rapunzel, Rapuzel! by Harris Long
Shaky Knees by Cliff Diver

Songs for Children by Barbara Blacksheep

Swimming in the Arctic by I.C. Waters
The Good Breakfast by Hammond Deggs
The Palace Roof has a Hole by Lee King
Things to Do at Parties by Bob Frapples
Wind in the Maple Trees by Russell
Ingleaves
You're a Bundle of Laughs by Vera Funny
You're So Sweet by Mable Syrup

3. LOL

"How many words can you form from the words "Laugh Out Loud?" The person with the most words could win a prize.

4. Tom Swifties

Tom Swifties are quotations. Tom makes a joke about what he is saying by using adverbs. An example will help explain. "I love trees," Tom said **woodenly**. Or "I need to get to the other side of the street," Tom said **crossly**. I'll list more examples that you can listen to, but they are also fun to make up. Try some yourself! Everyone can share their creations and the group could vote on the funniest one.

"Would you like a piece of candy?" Tom asked **sweetly**.

"I need a pencil sharpener," said Tom **bluntly**.

"It's twelve noon," Tom **chimed in**.

"I've struck oil!" said Tom **crudely**.

"We have no oranges," Tom said **fruitlessly**.

"I'm waiting to see the doctor," said Tom **patiently**.

"I can take photographs if I want to!" Tom **snapped**.

5. **Crazy Conversation**

- In your opinion, what is the funniest-looking animal?
- What is the strangest food you have ever eaten? (or worst food?)
- What's an unusual food combination you like? (e.g. peanut butter and bacon sandwiches?)
- Who is your most unusual relative?
- Make a list of sounds you find irritating (see also the **Sounds Program**)
- What is the funniest book you have ever read?
- What is the funniest dance you have ever seen?
- What is the funniest movie you have ever seen?
- Ask "What if?" questions like:
 - What if you could become invisible? What would you do?
 - What if you could be a cartoon character? Who would you be?
 - What if you could be an animal? Which animal would you be?

6. **Would You Rather?**

It's not required, but if available you could refer to the book *Would you Rather...* by John Burningham. Have the audience try to answer these silly questions and, if possible, explain their answers. *OWL* magazine often has these types of questions. The children can also make up their own funny "would you rather..." dilemmas.

Examples:

- Would you rather eat squid ice cream or drink a tuna fish milkshake?
- Would you rather step in dog poop or step in vomit?
- Would you rather be eaten by lions or eaten by ants?
- Would you rather be able to fly or read other people's thoughts?
- Would you rather live without music or live without TV?
- Would you rather spend the day surfing the Internet or the ocean?
- Would you rather be nervous but excited or relaxed but bored?

7. **Sing** some of the silly *LOL* songs in the manual with the group. If available, show the children some of the books on silly songs. Have the children choose a well-known song and let them make up their own silly words to it.

8. **Limericks**

Read some silly limericks to the group. You could provide them with the first line or two of a limerick and ask them to come up with the silly lines to complete it, or they could try creating complete limericks on their own. Participants could also illustrate limericks (their own or a favourite) and a display could be created in the library of their creations.

9. **Find the Missing Link**

The following three items have something in common. Let the audience try to figure them out. And then, they can try to make up their own.

Funny, wish, dog – The answer is bone, e.g., funny bone, wish bone, dog bone

Log, bed, melon – water
Mister, kidney, green – bean
Flash, night, day – light
Water, baby, perfume – bottle
Ice, whipping, shaving – cream
Storm, box, wick – sand
Pen, dough, time – play
Watch, rock, rubber – band
Table, car, swimming – pool
Burn, day, flower – sun
Fire, black, fruit – fly
Light, watch, sign – stop
House, board, monk – key
Class, ball, bed – room
Towel, washer, rad – dish
Show, power, radish, race – horse
Outer, parking, suit – space

10. Program Introduction

Start the program with this silly mixed-up introduction, or feel free to adapt it to your needs.

Ladies and gentlemen, I stand before you to sit behind you, to tell you something I know nothing about. Thursday, which is Good Friday, we are having a Father's Day party for mothers only. Admission is free, so pay at the door. Pull up a chair, and sit on the floor. The show is over, but before you go, let me tell you a story I don't really know.

Other fun chit chat elements to add to this type of program include palindromes, oxymorons, spoonerisms, and tongue twisters. Additional material may be found within the *LOL* Staff Manual, in the Booklists and on the Internet.