



## Tickle your Funny Bone

#### Chuckles, Giggles, and A Belly Laugh are Good for your Health

"Always laugh when you can. It is cheap medicine." That's a quote from the 19th century British poet, Lord Byron. Medical science in the 21st century is taking him up on his advice. It is becoming more and more common for doctors to recommend this "funny" medicine that is free...and has no negative side effects.

Medical and psychological research are now taking laughter seriously and studying its benefits in people of all ages. One such study was conducted at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. They found that people with heart disease are 40% <u>less</u> likely to laugh (even in positive situations) than people without heart disease. Laughter seems to protect the heart, although they don't know how at this point.

A hearty response to humor may have other benefits, as well. Maybe that's why Milton Berle felt "Laughter is an instant vacation."

#### **BENEFITS**

Humor, and its resulting laughter, make you feel good on 3 levels - emotional, cognitive, physical. Here are some of the ways in which a good belly laugh may pay off.

- •Lowers blood pressure and improves circulation.
- •Boosts the immune system.
- •Relaxes muscles.
- •Massages the major organs in the body.
- •Reduces stress and anxiety, while helping to cope with scary and unpleasant situations.
- •Relieves pain, distress and grief.

### Show Me the Funny

You can improve your sense of humor. Increased exposure is the key. Focus on placing yourself into more experiences that will make you laugh.

- •Watch funny movies/TV shows and read funny books. Include a humor break in every day.
- •Socialize with funny people and those who see the bright side of things. On the other side of the coin, avoid the negative types.
- •Look for (and laugh at) the absurd and silly things that happen in everyday life.
- •Share your fun. If you hear a joke you like, tell it to others. If remembering jokes is not your forte, write it down and practice telling it so you get the timing right.

by Amy Mascott of teachmama.com for Scholastic

# McKinley Health Center Memory Support Activity Calendar - July 2020

| Sunday   |             | Monday   |                              | Tuesday  |                  | Wednesday |                        | Thursday |                              | Friday   |                            | Saturday |                 |
|----------|-------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|------------------|-----------|------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|----------|-----------------|
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  | 1         |                        | 2        |                              | 3        |                            | 4        |                 |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  | 9:30 AM   | Patriotic Craft        | 9:30 AM  | Snoozelen                    | 10:30 AM | Patriotic Videos           | 9:30 AM  | Reminisce       |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  | 10:00 AM  | Short Stories          | 10:00 AM | Peaceful Music               |          |                            |          |                 |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  | 10:15 AM  | Outdoor Strolls        | 10:15 AM | All About Scents             |          |                            | 3:30 PM  | Activity Visits |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  | 3:30 PM   | Snoozelen              | 3:30 PM  | Water Gun Battles            |          |                            |          |                 |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  | 4:15 PM   | Dramatic Reading       | 4:00 PM  | Oldies Music                 | 4:15 PM  | Dramatic Reading           |          |                 |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  |           |                        |          |                              |          |                            |          |                 |
| 5        |             | 6 7      |                              |          | 8                |           | 9                      |          | 10                           |          | 11                         |          |                 |
| 10:15 AM | Hymn Sings  | 11:00 AM | Let's Go Fishing             | 9:00 AM  | Church with Ray  | 9:30 AM   | Music-N-Motions        | 9:30 AM  | Balloon Ball                 | 9:30 AM  | Coloring Circle            | 9:30 AM  | Reminisce       |
|          |             |          |                              | 9:45 AM  | Gospel Music     | 10:00 AM  | Sing The Next Line     | 10:00 AM | National Sugar Cookie<br>Day | 10:00 AM | Relaxation Music           |          |                 |
|          |             | 3:30 PM  | Outside Fun                  | 10:15 AM | Pretty Nails     | 10:30 AM  | Water Painting         | 10:30 AM | Oldies Music                 | 10:30 AM | Short Stories              | 3:30 PM  | Activity Visits |
|          |             |          |                              | 3:30 PM  | Outdoor Strolls  | 3:30 PM   | Name The Scene         | 3:30 PM  | Chat Time                    | 3:30 PM  | Outdoor Strolls            |          |                 |
|          |             |          |                              | 4:15 PM  | Dramatic Reading | 4:00 PM   | Cheerful Chats         | 4:00 PM  | Name That Tune               | 4:15 PM  | Dramatic Reading           |          |                 |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  |           |                        |          |                              |          |                            |          |                 |
| 12       |             | 13       |                              | 14       |                  | 15        |                        | 16       |                              | 17       |                            | 18       |                 |
| 10:15 AM | Hymn Sings  | 10:00 AM | Finish The Phrase            | 9:00 AM  | Church with Ray  | 9:30 AM   | Paint Your Name        | 9:30 AM  | Snoozelen                    | 9:30 AM  | Peaceful Music             | 9:30 AM  | Reminisce       |
|          |             | 11:00 AM | Dining Room Music            | 9:45 AM  | Gospel Music     | 10:00 AM  | All About Horses       | 10:00 AM | Relaxation Music             |          |                            |          |                 |
|          |             | 4:00 PM  | Poetry Readings              | 10:15 AM | Pretty Nails     | 10:30 AM  | Short Stories          | 10:15 AM | All About Scents             | 3:30 PM  | Outside Fun                | 3:30 PM  | Activity Visits |
|          |             | 4:30 PM  | Chat Time                    | 3:30 PM  | Parachute Ball   | 3:30 PM   | Snoozelen              | 3:30 PM  | Courtyard Chats              | 4:15 PM  | Dramatic Reading           |          |                 |
|          |             |          |                              | 4:15 PM  | Dramatic Reading | 4:00 PM   | Peaceful Music         | 4:00 PM  | Outdoor Games                |          |                            |          |                 |
| 19       |             | 20       |                              | 21       |                  | 22        |                        | 23       |                              | 24       |                            | 25       |                 |
|          |             |          | National Pennsylvania<br>Day |          | Church with Ray  | 9:30 PM   | Target Toss            | 9:30 AM  | Music-N-Motions              | 10:00 AM | Laughter is the Best Medi- | 9:30 AM  | Reminisce       |
|          |             | 10:00 AM | Beach Ball Toss              | 9:45 AM  | Gospel Music     |           | Name The Car Logo Game |          |                              |          | cine                       |          |                 |
| 11:15 AM | Devotionals | 10:30 AM | Room Visits                  | 10:15 AM | Pretty Nails     | 10:30 AM  | Reminisce              |          |                              |          |                            | 3:30 PM  | Activity Visits |
|          |             | 3:30 PM  | Cheerful Chats               | 3:30 PM  | Ball Toss        | 3:30 PM   | Snoozelen              | 3:30 PM  | Outdoor Strolls              | 3:30 PM  | Outdoor Strolls            |          | <u> </u>        |
|          |             | 4:00 PM  | Outdoor Strolls              | 4:15 PM  | Dramatic Reading | 4:00 PM   | Relaxation Music       |          |                              | 4:15 PM  | Dramatic Reading           |          |                 |
|          |             |          |                              |          |                  |           |                        |          |                              |          |                            |          |                 |
| 26       |             | 27       |                              | 28       |                  | 29        |                        | 30       |                              | 31       |                            |          |                 |
| 10:15 AM | Hymn Sings  | 10:00 AM | Ball Toss                    | 9:00 AM  | Church with Ray  | 9:30 AM   | Travel The Country     | 9:30 AM  | Dice Game                    | 9:30 AM  | Serenity Day               |          |                 |
|          |             | 10:30 AM | Room Visits                  | 9:45 AM  | Gospel Music     | 10:00 AM  | Name That Tune         | 10:00 AM | Snoozelen                    | 10:00 AM | Piano Music                |          |                 |
|          |             | 3:30 PM  | Outdoor Strolls              | 10:15 AM | Pretty Nails     | 10:30 AM  | Name The Place         | 10:30 AM | Relaxation Music             | 10:30 AM | Short Stories              |          |                 |
|          |             | 4:00 PM  | Courtyard Chats              | 3:30 PM  | Outdoor Strolls  | 3:30 PM   | Chat Circle            | 3:30 PM  | Courtyard Chats              | 3:30 PM  | Outdoor Strolls            |          |                 |