

It's April Fool's Day, Katie Kazoo!

"How do you stop a rotten tomato from smelling?" George Brennan asked.

"How?" Kevin asked him.

"Hold its nose!" George answered. "Good one, huh, Katie Kazoo?"

(Out to Lunch, Page 2)

"Do you know what kind of music the Pilgrims danced to?" Kadeem asked Katie.

"No. What kind?"

"Plymouth rock!" Kadeem chuckled.

(On Your Mark, Get Set, Laugh!, Pages 22-23)

Between George and Kadeem, there are plenty of jokes in the Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo books. Both boys are always ready with a riddle, a pun, or some kind of hilarious antic. Their humor often helps to lighten up a situation. We all have heard that laughter is the best medicine, and George and Kadeem prove that a good giggle makes everyone feel better.

The kids in your crew should follow George and Kadeem's lead and hold a joke-fest. Each of you should gather funny stories, jokes, and silly songs. You might start with some of the jokes in the Katie Kazoo books. Go through them and pick out your favorites. We bet your parents, grandparents, older sisters and brothers, and neighbors have favorite jokes they'll share with you, too. You might even find jokes in the newspaper or in magazines as well.

As your crew builds up its joke collection, you can organize the material into kinds of jokes:

- Riddles
- Elephant jokes
- Knock knock jokes
- Puns and wordplay
- Others

Now it's time to practice, practice, practice! Kids can pair up for routines or do monologues. Add an emcee to introduce each "act," and then take your comedy show on the road.

Your teacher or a parent can contact a local senior citizen center and arrange for you to perform there. A perfect date for your performance would be April 1st—April Fool's Day—a day everyone is ready for an extra portion of silly fun. We know your audience will have a great time, and that you, too, will enjoy making people laugh.

Don't discard your jokes and funny stories. Write them down, illustrate them, and bind them together in a book or album. This way when you are feeling down, you can go to it for a good laugh.

