

Knock, knock...



Spotlight



45 mins



Give it a go



Aim of activity

You don't have to be perfect to entertain. Try telling the worst joke and see if you can get the biggest groan from your unit...

What you'll get out of it

- Develop your performing skills.
- Discover how to improve your performance.
- Practise performing.
- Try out your comedic skills.

What you'll need

- A joke book (optional)
- Internet access (optional)



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding



What to do

1 Comedians try out their new material at test shows before they add it to their main set. Why do you think they do this? Spend a couple of minutes in groups chatting about your ideas.

2 What ideas did you come up with? Hint: test shows help comedians gauge how much the audience likes their jokes, practise their timings and get comfortable telling new jokes. Can you think of any negatives to trying out new material?

3 Let's have a go! What's the worst joke you can think of? Think about the jokes that come in Christmas crackers or ones that make you cringe. The examples will give you some inspiration.

Examples of bad jokes

What do you call cheese that's not yours?
Nacho cheese.

What did one ocean say to the other?
Nothing, it just waved.

What do snakes take for their allergies?
Anti-hisssss-tamines.

Why did the picture go to prison?
It was framed.

4 When you've thought of your bad joke, practise it a few times to yourself.

Top tip

Stuck for ideas? Use the internet or a joke book to help you.

5 Now take turns, one by one, to deliver your bad joke to your unit. Remember, you're trying to get the biggest groan from your audience!

6 Audience – after each performer has told their joke, groan to show how bad you think it was. Your leader will be the groan-o-meter and measure the groans. Measure them however you like – for example, who had the loudest or longest groan.

Try it this way

A little nervous? Perform your jokes in small groups rather than to your whole unit. And why not have a joke-off between the winners from each group?

7 Finally, in pairs, come up with a new joke. But this time, try to make your audience roar with laughter. Who can get the biggest laugh?