



## ACTIVITY 1

### UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

Read the content for this topic then answer the following questions to see how much you understand about what you read.

1. What does the expression 'laughter is the best medicine' mean?
2. List three effects laughter can have on us.
3. Which word in the text means: funny, comical or amusing?
4. What date is April Fool's Day?
5. What is a fool's errand?
6. Before the calendar changed, when was New Year celebrated?
7. Finish this sentence: Practical Jokes are meant to be done in fun and not meant to \_\_\_\_\_ .
8. When playing the rubber band trick on someone, where does it suggest you place the rubber bands?
9. Which word in the text means: a mischievous trick or joke, especially one in which something is done rather than said?
10. List the three ingredients needed to make fake bird poo.



## ACTIVITY 2

### Having a laugh

Read the following story and replace all the highlighted words with a synonym.

#### Why parents aren't laughing about April Fool's Day joke

EDUCATION officials don't see the **funny** side of an April Fools' Day **prank** which saw an emergency SMS message sent out to 1000 parents saying a school had been **damaged** by fire and **closed** for the day.

The New South Wales Department of Education confirmed the school's computer system appeared to have been **hacked**.

The school was **forced** to issue a statement on its website saying classes were on.

*Please **disregard** text message sent earlier this morning.*

*There is no malicious damage to the school.*

*School is **open** today as normal and Year 12 Half Yearly Exams will **go ahead** as per timetable.*

The Education Minister is promising **swift retribution** if the person responsible is **found**.

"I mean April Fools, if they are harmless jokes are **fine**, but something like that, a huge disruption and a **huge** amount of anxiety for hundreds of parents is not a joke," he said.

"I just think it is a **stupid** thing to do."



## Don't be a fool



### ACTIVITY 3

#### The Campaign

April 1 is a date to remember not only because it is April Fool's Day but it is a reminder for us to check our smoke alarms.

**The paragraphs have been mixed up. Place them in the correct order so the newspaper article makes sense**

"We encourage all Queensland to take preventative actions by changing their smoke alarm batteries and rehearsing a home escape plan to ensure everyone in the family knows what to do in time of emergency."

Beaudesert Fire Station Captain Andy Rose said each year people should replace and test out their smoke alarms to make sure they are working.

FIREFIGHTERS are warning people not to be a fool today and check their smoke alarms, which can spell the difference between life and death.

QFES Inspector David Sutch said while 99 per cent of Australians have smoke alarms, 700,000 admit that have not changed the battery in the past year.

The Don't be a Fool campaign is run by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) each year on April 1 to remind community members to check their alarms.

Captain Rose said the best type of alarm to install is a photoelectric smoke alarm which responds to a wide range of fires.

"Basically, what we are trying to get across is this - there is no point having an alarm if the batteries are dead, when you are asleep your nose also goes to sleep, which means the only thing between you and a fire is a smoke alarm."

Last year, Queensland firefighters were called to more than 1800 residential fires and as well as the destruction of property, 12 people lost their lives.

## Don't be a fool



### ACTIVITY 4

#### WORDS AT WORK

In Wordy News this week we defined the word BAFFLES which was used in the following way:

## Bridge access baffles residents

**Word forms: baffle, baffles, baffled, baffling**

Choose the correct form of the word baffle to complete the following sentences.

How to overcome the common cold continues to \_\_\_\_\_ doctors.

What continues to \_\_\_\_\_ me is why anybody would want to be a bully.

The process \_\_\_\_\_ the scientists back then and continues to \_\_\_\_\_ them today.

Many common computer-age terms \_\_\_\_\_ the new users.

Do you remember that \_\_\_\_\_ murder mystery on TV?

It's fascinating, but really, it \_\_\_\_\_ me as much as it \_\_\_\_\_ you.

It was a \_\_\_\_\_ case that the detectives could not break.

The Council's decision not to replace the broken bridge \_\_\_\_\_ residents.

How the boat ended up in his pool \_\_\_\_\_ my neighbour.



## ACTIVITY 5

### CHECK IT OUT

#### In Review

The following is a review of the Disney animated film Tinker Bell and the Legend of the Neverbeast.

From this review fill out the info bar below giving a star for each area on a scale of 1(worst) to 5 being (best).

You need to know that Tinker Bell and the Legend of the Neverbeast is a more adventure-focused instalment in the Tink series.

It focuses mainly on animal fairy Fawn and features Gruff, a big furry monster who's lovable but also can be quite scary. There are some intense chase scenes, a band of Scout Fairies who use high-action warfare to tame and repel predators, some fierce storms and lightning, and trippy graphics when Gruff transforms into a monster. Plus, Tink and Fawn are injured and appear unconscious and hurt. There's also a fair bit of emotional intensity in this film, particularly when friends must separate. Overall it's a testament to curiosity, heart, independence, the power of teamwork, and unlikely friendships, but very young kids may be frightened in a few instances or have questions about loss.

#### INFO BAR

	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Educational value</b>					
<b>Positive messages</b>					
<b>Positive role models</b>					
<b>Violence and scariness</b>					
<b>Entertainment</b>					
<b>Consumerism</b>					

Write your own review of the film even if you haven't seen it.



## ACTIVITY 6

### NEWS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

#### DIAL- O - FISH

ABC's This Day Tonight ran a segment about the Dial-O-Fish, a new electronic fishing rod that could be set to catch any desired species. Hundreds of viewers reportedly called in wanting to know where to buy one, and a Japanese manufacturer declared it was ready to go into production immediately.

#### Design a display advertisement for a Dial – O – Fish.

Remember to include information about the product, where it can be bought and images to support the advertisement.

Example of a display advertisement

