



## Questions for Classroom Discussion

### **April Fools!**

- **Why would you play an April Fools Day prank, and who is an appropriate audience?**

- ⇒ Consider the origin of April Fools Day, though it's a bit unclear... it seems that at some point in history (on April 1st, obviously) people were unintentionally confused and looked a bit "foolish" (a likely origin is that there was a change made to the calendar and not everyone was aware)
- ⇒ Consider the spirit behind the modern day, which is to play lighthearted pranks... these can be fun for both the jokester and jokee (as opposed to mean-spirited pranks)
- ⇒ Consider that a joke can only be received correctly if you choose the right audience... little children are not a good target, nor are teachers or bosses — stick to your personal friends

- **What is basic "etiquette" that should be considered when planning an April Fools Day prank?**

- ⇒ Consider that April Fools Day should be about having fun, and if a joke takes away from this (such as it is cruel or embarrassing), then it is not a good joke
- ⇒ Consider that safety should always be a top concern... you do not want your joke to have someone get hurt, like unintentionally eating something that is not food, or be involved in other dangerous situations
- ⇒ Consider the "size" of the joke... it should not be too major or serious (*like yelling, "There's a fire!"*), or something that causes a major distraction
- ⇒ Consider that a joke can only be received correctly if you choose the right audience... little children are not a good target, nor are teachers or bosses — stick to your personal friends

- **What are pranks that would work well for April Fools Day?**

- ⇒ Consider the "white lie" jokes, which mean fooling your friends to think that something strange is true, but nothing too serious (such as *"I signed up to take unicycle lessons"*)
- ⇒ Consider safe and fun gags, such as changing the screensaver on your friend's computer, or filling Oreo Cookies with toothpaste, or covering an open walkway with plastic wrap (you'll be amazed how many people walk right through it)
- ⇒ Consider more involved gags, such as designing a fake webpage that you "stumbled upon", or perhaps getting a third-person to act as an accomplice to make a prank more believable