

**DOMAIN 3: SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT****SUB-DOMAIN: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT****PRAGMATIC BEHAVIOR****GOAL 33: CHILDREN DEVELOP A SENSE OF HUMOR.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
<b>60 Months through Kindergarten</b>	Uses humor to consolidate understanding of concepts and language use. Uses some abstract thinking and humor as a social skill.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Uses word play, rhymes, magic tricks, and jokes.</li> <li>▪ Tells riddles and jokes with a format (Knock-Knock); riddle stage.</li> <li>▪ Participates in social interaction with humorous situations (e.g. absurd, slapstick, pretend play).</li> <li>▪ Uses deliberate, humorously provocative actions.</li> <li>▪ Uses physical humor (jumping, silly walks).</li> <li>▪ Uses humor for leadership and group acceptance.</li> <li>▪ Likes stories with funny characters, expressions, outcomes.</li> <li>▪ Uses humor to initiate and extend interactions with trusted adults.</li> <li>▪ Uses humor with peers to initiate or extend social interactions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Respond to and create opportunities for humor.</li> <li>▪ Recognize differences in expression of and responses to humor, and accept those variations.</li> <li>▪ Provide books with word play and situational humor.</li> <li>▪ Recognize that children in this age group are in transition between concrete joke telling and humor and understanding more abstract absurdities. Acknowledge and expand humorous situations and word play to help children move to higher levels of thinking.</li> <li>▪ Use humor to extend child's thinking and problem solving, using absurdities to help children explain reality.</li> <li>▪ Clarify jokes and humor for child who is slightly younger to scaffold understanding.</li> <li>▪ Recognize that children learn from repetition, retelling, and finding understanding in riddles and jokes.</li> <li>▪ Read and reread riddle books, and routinely engage child in "riddle time."</li> </ul>