

Titles and Brief Descriptions for Wiser Now's *Current* MindPlay Connections™



Each 25 - 30 -page publication in this series of downloadable material created by Kathy Laurenhue and found at www.WiserNow.com offers at least a dozen activities. New titles are added monthly, and most include a cross-section of trivia quizzes, word games, discussion topics and imagination or reminiscence exercises.

Purchase and download them now at <http://shop.wisernow.com>.

Read them at your leisure.

And check back often to see what we've added!

Brainy Thoughts is for anyone fascinated with how the brain works. Written in layman's language, it covers the five senses, a wide variety of other topics like remembering jokes and names, procrastination, and why friends are good for your brain. Mostly composed of discussion topics, its pages are interspersed with a few "brainy" word games. It's *all* great food for thought!

By George! Geographic Names is a world-full of playful material that's both fun and informative. After a few exercises with irresistibly punny geographic names, we've given you lots of opportunities to use your imagination for more, along with fascinating facts on why places are called what you might least expect. This title is also a great accompaniment to **Nifty Names** and **It's All Relative**.



Color Me Beautiful will put you in the pink as you test your knowledge of the symbolism of colors, fill in the blanks on colorful expressions, match colors to moods, learn about color in other cultures, and much more.

December Holidays is our longest publication – but then we all need more entertainment during the month of longest nights. Enjoy the extra discussions and exercises while getting into the jubilant and generous spirit of the season.

Fast Food for Thought covers more than a dozen exercises related to hotdogs, pizza, coffee, tea, beer, sandwiches, popcorn, and other comfort food. Enjoy the trivia, word games, discussion topics and reminisce about some of your favorite – or most decadent? – meals. You might need a snack by the time you finish.

Firsts is not about winning, but about doing. It offers word games, trivia quizzes, and imaginative exercises on first letters of the alphabet, first time events, entertaining firsts, first class, first cousins, firsthand knowledge, and the first to invent – and that's just for starters.

Foreign Language Fun offers quizzes and discussions related to language and its tricky translations in Spanish, French, German, Japanese, plus British, Scottish, Irish and Aussie English to prove the diversity even among English-speakers! The exercises will amuse and amaze you, while inspiring you to reminisce on the language gifts and gaffes that have affected you in your lifetime.

Happy Halloween

Forget the vampires, zombies and skeletons and say hello to trick-or-treaters, pumpkin carving, and apple bobbing. We've got trivia on Halloween history, but mostly we're knocking on your door with knock-knock jokes, charming exercises, good fortune and enchanting memories.

Happy New Year is focused on parades, charms, and resolutions for the New Year with an emphasis on fun, good fortune and refusing to take yourself too seriously. Break out the champagne or the blacked eyed peas and settle in with friends with pens.

Humorous Quotations lets you lean on the wit of others when you are at a loss for words. We've taken the funny (and a few poignant) sayings of comedians, playwrights, authors and humorists and turned them into trivia quizzes, word games and imaginative exercises. The goal is not to know all the answers, but to appreciate the ideas – and perhaps apply them to your own life.

In the Garden focuses on flowers, fruits, vegetables and nuts (mostly the plant variety) and covers perennials and puns, garden gifts, garden gnomes, and much more. This flower-centric publication will put you in a beautiful frame of mind.

Inspiring People includes biographies and/or quotations from dozens of amazing individuals in the form of trivia quizzes, discussion topics and word games. It's feel-good content sure to restore your faith in humanity, while providing many hours of conversation on what's best about human beings.



Inventions, Part 1 uses the broad topic to cover punny words, new words, Ig Nobel awards (a spoof of Nobel prizes), technical frustrations, accidental inventions, your own ideas – and the importance of letting your mind wander – in the form of discussion topics, trivia quizzes, word games and imaginative exercises.

It's All Relative, Part 1 covers the previous generation – grandparents, aunts and uncles – plus how we got our surnames, how we're related, and how we see our families. Here's a chance to remember and share your best family stories. It makes a perfect accompaniment to **It's All Relative, Part 2**, and **Nifty Names**.

It's All Relative, Part 2 offers more on surnames, and then focuses on famous siblings, our siblings, children and grandchildren, with a couple of related word games thrown in. Learn why nostalgia is a mood lifter, and then share your best family stories. It's a perfect accompaniment to **It's All Relative, Part 1**, and **Nifty Names**, which among them provide more than a month's worth of activities for everyone to enjoy.

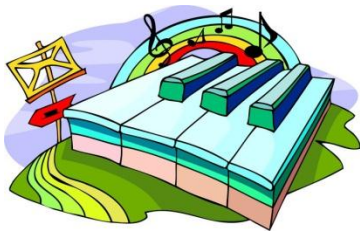
Literature Light

Literature Light covers awful authors, 6-word novels, children's authors, fairy tales, changing endings, book dedications, and other convincing reasons that reading is fun.

Love and Marriage, Part 1 offers more than a dozen exercises that include gender differences, pick-up lines, marriage rituals, terms of endearment, cynics' view of marriage and much more. You'll find much more than romance here. . .

Love and Marriage, Part 2 continues the fun of Part 1, using new topics including famous couples, punny marriages, to flirt or not to flirt, retro romance, add-a-letter word game and much more. We know you'll fall in love with it!

Movie Nostalgia – From movies like “Casablanca” in the Golden Age of the 1940s and 50s to the monster movie craze, you will find exercises to surprise and delight you in this memory-filled publication. Get out the popcorn!



Music to Lighten the Mood will have you whistling a happy tune as you imagine yourself as a rock star, play Mondegreens, match quirky country music titles, and learn about “The Really Terrible Orchestra,” among other interesting performers.

Mysterious Fun

Be forewarned: I do not like to be scared, so the mysteries you'll find in this content focus on fun and information more than fright. But if I don't send chills up your spine, I know I'll light up your mind.

Nimble Numbers

The numbers 1 – 10 (and some that are higher) pop up everywhere in our lives – in songs, slogans, proverbs and perfect 10s, and in calories burned, steps climbed and fabric measured. You'll be surprised by what you know and discover.

Nifty Names celebrates the fun and variety of people's names from apt names (names that fit a person's occupation) to zany names like Ina Funk and Lowe Gear. You will learn about pen names, eponyms and anagrams, how to remember names and clip names, and will end up, we hope, grateful for the name that's yours. A great accompaniment to the **By George! Geographic Names** and **It's All Relative** titles, too.

Nostalgia TV, unlike most of our titles, features just two types of exercises: trivia quizzes and discussions, and, oh, the fun you will have with them! Situation comedies and game shows are the primary focus; you will laugh at the past, learn something new about the performers, and linger over the happy memories.

Nostalgia TV – the 1950s is partly a continuation of Nostalgia TV (which wasn't limited to the 1950s) and partly a celebration of cowboys, comedy, and crime. If you had children or were a child in the 1950s memories will flow . . .

November Holidays covers Thanksgiving in both the U.S. and Canada (even though Canadians celebrate in October), Native American Heritage Month (First Nations in Canada), Games and Puzzle Week, Lifewriting Month and more. You will be thankful for all you are asked to think about!

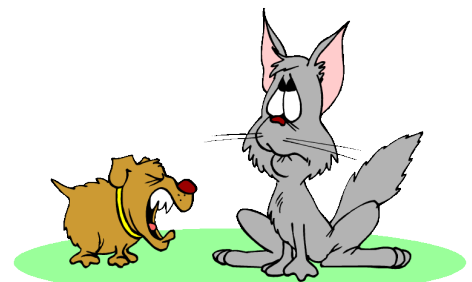
Occupying Occupations covers both those you would and wouldn't like to have and raises lively questions on how to satisfyingly occupy one's days. Sometimes you'll be glad to say, "That's not my job!"

Odd Celebrations proves beyond a doubt that people just want to have fun. A full range of exercises on quirky festivals of every sort from a baby jumping contest to the world's fastest couch will have you laughing and ready to start your own fun fest.

Offbeat Trivia Quizzes is a collection of a dozen trivia quizzes on subjects that mostly defy categorization: how radio action sounds are created, which is which (times three), which is a lie, games and puzzle creation, honorable mentions, "Could they have?" – and more. You will learn things you didn't know you didn't know!

Our Better Selves provides encouraging exercises related to happiness, kindness, friendship and more while drawing out compliments on your unique talents. Learning about doing good has never *felt* so good!

Pet Patter, Part 1 offers more than a dozen exercises and discussion topics that include riddles, "pet" words, pet intelligence, astrologically-matched pets, dogs in TV and movies and much more. If you've ever owned a pet or thought of owning one, you will be "amewsed" by this "arf-ully" fun content.



Pet Patter, Part 2 continues the fun of Part 1, using new topics including famous dog owners, going overboard with pet inventions, "catty" language, dogs in children's books, and more. Doggone, you need this one, too!

Pleasing Poetry

Most of us first encountered poetry in nursery rhymes and loved what we heard, but somewhere along the line, poetry's delights – the fun of language, the rhythm and the humor – got lost. This publication brings back those lost charms, and fits in a few words about Shakespeare. Activity leaders: Check out the accompanying guide under Staff Development to learn of other ways to incorporate poetry in programming.

School Daze

This is a publication full of memories, bloopers, and positive messages for overloaded brains. School was probably never this much fun, but why shouldn't it be now? These exercises will keep you from ever wanting to play hooky again! And if you're looking for great accompaniments, check out **By George! Geographic Names, Literature Light, Nimble Numbers,** and **Pleasing Poetry.**

Summertime and the Living Is Easy provides loads of ways to: reminisce about simple days, special events, and summer jobs; check your knowledge of crazy contests and classic toys; and play some sporting and sundae word games – plus much more. It's a perfect accompaniment to **Summertime 2, Odd Celebrations, Movie Nostalgia, TV Nostalgia,** and **In the Garden.**



Summertime 2 covers Disneyland and roller coasters, perfect summer days and summer camps, moon landings, baseball puns, light words, and more of summer's pleasures. Indulge yourself! Then check out **Summertime and the Living Is Easy** and the other titles listed as accompaniments.

Tree-mendous Trees is a title that's good for both brain and boosting spirits. You will learn more than you knew about a broad cross-section of trees, and you will enjoy exercises that contribute to the "aahness of being." Let the ideas take root!