



## HOW TO TALK ABOUT LAUGHTER

to laugh because something is funny or because you are enjoying yourself

**laugh**

laugh at *I couldn't help laughing at Sally's silly jokes.*

laugh about *Do you really think it is proper to laugh about their situation?*

**have a laugh**

*I like to spend time with friends and have a laugh.*

**chuckle**

to laugh quietly

*What is she laughing about? I don't see anything funny.*

**to burst our laughing**

*When I saw his hat I burst out laughing.*

to begin to laugh

**dissolve into laughter**

To start to laugh and not be able to stop when you have been trying not to laugh.

*Several of the students at the back of the room dissolved into laughter.*

to laugh in an unkind or offensive way

**titter**

To laugh quietly, but a little unkindly at something embarrassing someone has said or done.

*As the teacher read the poem, someone tittered.*

**snigger**

To laugh unkindly and quietly, especially if you are laughing at something that is not supposed to be funny.

*Rose tripped on the stage and the boys behind her sniggered.*

to laugh loudly

**roar/howl/shriek with laughter**

To laugh very loudly because you think something is very funny.

*The delighted audience howled with laughter.*

**laugh out loud**

To suddenly laugh loudly because you think a situation, someone's words, something you are reading, is very funny.

*John threw back his head and laughed out loud.*

when you cannot stop yourself laughing

**giggle**

To laugh quietly and repeatedly like a child, because of something funny or because you're nervous or embarrassed.

*She blushed and giggled throughout the TV interview.*

**can't stop laughing**

*James kept making funny faces at me and I just couldn't stop laughing.*

**laugh your head off**

An informal expression meaning to laugh a lot and very loudly because of what someone says or does.

*When I told him what had happened, he laughed his head off.*

to make someone laugh

**amuse**

If something amuses someone, it makes them laugh or smile because it is fairly funny.

*Her grandchildren would amuse her for hours with their jokes and stories.*

**have somebody in fits/stitches/hysterics**

To make someone laugh uncontrollably.

*Robert always has me in fits when he talks about his camping trips.*

to try to stop yourself laughing

**keep a straight face**

Try to hide the fact that you want to laugh, especially if it would be rude to laugh or you do not want someone to know you are joking.

*With a completely straight face Thomas announced he was joining the Girl Guides.*