

21 Things to do to keep up morale in a camp or emergency situation:

(or a home!)

1. Sing songs: Mary Had a Little Lamb, Jingle Bells, ABC's, Twinkle Little Star, camp songs, Hymns, make up songs, make up new words to old songs.
2. Make instruments: Homemade shaker from paper cup or used tin can
Whistling, clapping, stomping in rhythm
Sticks and a bowl or pot can make a drum
3. Dance to some of your made up songs. Some suggestions for dancing: Stand in a circle, holding hands, walk to the right for 4 counts, walk to the left for 4 counts, turn around individually for 4 counts and clap for 4 counts. Make up new moves that fit the music. Clapping, swinging a partner, or making two circles, one of boys, one of girls, each moving in a different direction.
4. Play childhood games like Telephone, Duck, Duck, Goose, etc.
5. Tell funny stories. Make up stories. Have Mom or Dad tell about childhood memories. Tell stories about ancestors.
6. Put on a talent show. Recite poetry, sing songs (made up or otherwise, the sillier the better), Make a puppet show with socks or paper cups or anything you have on hand, with a blanket propped up on a chair for a stage.
7. Use any raw materials around to make some kind of 'play' equipment. Logs might make a simple see-saw, you might use rope to make a swing of some kind.
8. Have races: three-legged race, log rolling race, backward walking race.
9. Have contests: hair braiding contest, stick-pull, poetry contest, etc.
10. Play the Glad Game, from Pollyanna: What can we be glad about in this situation.
11. Recite your favorite movie. See if, as a group you can act out an entire movie, or scenes from them.
12. Read aloud from scriptures or any book you have on hand. Keep a good book in your 72hr. Kit.
13. Draw pictures in the dirt or on anything you have, use the raw materials, make mosaics on the ground or on whatever is available.
14. Play hop scotch.
15. Jump rope, either individually, or as a group. Sing fun rope-jumping songs.
16. Organize your time so that you do one activity for a certain amount of time, then change to another.
17. Organize the camp, have captains, and duties, and a fairly regular schedule. Keep the camp organized and clean.
18. Give people jobs to do. Delegate. Have partners, buddies.
19. Play a Smile game: Say: "Smile, you are beautiful." "Smile, we are together." "Smile, (something else)" get creative, do it at random during the day.
20. Have each person tell something they like about one person in the 'spotlight'.
21. Have each person tell something they like about the present situation.