



WE, JOKERS

英語のジョークを楽しむ会会報

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ジョークの心得三か条：1. ジョークは心のゆとりであり、人生の潤滑油です。

2. ジョークで言語の壁に挑むのは知的快感です。
3. ジョークは簡潔が至上です。

今月のジョーク Science is too much fun *not* to laugh at.

佐川 光徳



ジョークのチークというと、政治家・民族性・宗教・恋愛・家族・ペット・会社勤め、などが思い浮かびます。The Best of Annals of Improbable Research (写真=表紙) と題するこの紀要集は、それに「科学」を加えようという果敢な試みです。

ために、「The Medical Effects of Kissing Boo boos」を読んでみましょう。

It is common practice among parents, when a child receives a mild injury, to apply mild topical remedies followed by activities and verbal statements intended to reassure the child. Frequently, the parent will apply osculatory pressure (i.e. a kiss) to “make it better.” Although this form of treatment is ancient in origin, and is no doubt thought to be efficacious by those who practice it, there has been considerable doubt among clinicians as to whether kissing a wound as an aide to the body’s natural healing processes is medically effective course of action.

幼児が転んでちよつと擦りついた箇所に、親が「ぶー」とやってあげることは、よく見かける光景です。その医学的効果は如何と、大上段に振りかぶってみせ可哀しさにご注意ください。

To test the effectiveness of various forms of osculatory wound treatment, the following experimental protocol was used.

For a period of 18 months, we monitored areas where pediatric wounds were likely to be found. In practice, this was usually on play-

grounds near swings and slides, under tree houses, and at the bottom of steep hills where children were likely to ride bicycles. If a child suffered an injury, a researcher followed him or her home, and after securing a form of consent from the parent, observed and recorded the treatment process.

さて、研究結果はと言うと、...

The data show unambiguously that kissing a wound does indeed make it better. For all types of wounds, application of osculatory pressure at the time of treatment shows an average of 5.2 day reduction in the average healing time of minor pediatric wounds.

怪我が治るまでの期間が五日以上も短縮されたとは、まことにめでたいことでした。

Improbable Research の趣旨について、主宰者はこう述べています。

Science is too human, too much fun, and too important *not* to laugh at. What we’re about is getting people to laugh with scientists as they laugh at this crazy universe and at themselves.

本会の設立趣旨とも、びつたり重なります。
(web 版 = <http://www.improb.com>)

今月のジョーク

‘What colours did the artist paint the sun and the wind?’

‘The sun rose and the wind blew.’