Having a MRI

(Magnetic Resonance Imaging)

- What is an MRI? It is a special camera made of a large magnet and a computer. It uses radio waves to make clear pictures of the inside of your body.
- What does it look like? The camera looks like a large tunnel. It is open on both sides. You will lie on a bed that will slide slowly into the tunnel. It does not touch you or hurt you, it just takes pictures.
- What does it sound like? It makes a loud knocking noise when it takes your picture. You may hear it knocking slow and fast like someone knocking on a door. You will wear headphones or earplugs while the pictures are taken.
- What does it feel like? You might feel the table shake while the camera is taking your pictures.
- What will I wear? You will wear a hospital gown for your pictures. You may be able to keep your underwear and socks on. The camera is a magnet, so you will have you take off any metal objects, such as eyeglasses, jewelry, or belts. Cell phones, cameras and pagers are not allowed in the MRI room.
- Who takes the pictures? A technologist (tech) will take your pictures. The tech will be on the other side of the window watching you as the pictures are taken. They can talk to you while you are taking your pictures.
- What is your job? Your job is to hold still while the pictures are being taken. If you move, the pictures will come out blurry.

