

## Smart Braces

- A Want to go swimming?
- B No. I have to go to the dentist.
- A Again? Didn't you just go last week?
- B Yeah. She has to work on my stupid braces some more.
- A Oh, come on. Don't say it like that.
- B My stupid braces. My stupid braces. I hate my stupid, stupid braces.
- A Someday, you'll love those braces.
- B Yeah, right.
- A I mean it. My Aunt Dana had braces when she was our age.
- B Your Aunt Dana? She's the pretty one, right?
- A They're all pretty.
- B I didn't know she had braces.
- A Yeah. So did my dad and my Uncle David.
- B But they all have such good, straight teeth. Such nice smiles.
- A Yeah, because they went to the dentist a hundred million times.
- B Okay. I'm not going to the dentist to fix my stupid braces anymore.
- A You're not?
- B No. I'm going to the dentist so she can fix my *smart braces*.

## My Overprotective Father

- A Ooooo! Look at that motorcycle!
- B Yeah? So what?
- A Don't you like motorcycles?
- B Not really. My dad says they're too dangerous.
- A Your dad says everything is too dangerous!
- B He's just trying to be a good father.
- A Yeah, but that doesn't help. He's overprotective!
- B No. He just wants to take good care of us. Keep us all safe.
- A But we're not little kids anymore. Your dad can't protect you from everything.
- B Well ... he's not trying to protect me from everything. Just dangerous stuff.
- A But how are we gonna grow up? How are we gonna learn anything if we don't try new stuff?
- B Learning stuff is fine. I love learning new stuff. I think my dad just wants to know I'm not learning stuff that's gonna keep him up all night worrying about me!
- A You know what you sound like?
- B No, but I have a funny feeling you're gonna tell me.
- A I am gonna tell you. You sound like some kinda old person.
- B Well ... how do you think old people get to be old people?