

## RULES FOR BRAINSTORMING SESSION

- 1. There are no dumb ideas.** Period. It is a brainstorming session, not a serious matter that requires only serious solutions. Remember, this is one of the more fun tools of discussion, so keep the whole family involved!
- 2. Don't criticize other people's ideas.** This is not a debate, discussion or forum for one person to display superiority over another.
- 3. Build on other people's ideas.** Often an idea suggested by one person can trigger a bigger and/or better idea by another person. Or a variation of an idea suggested could be the next "velcro" idea. It is this building of ideas that leads to out of the box thinking and fantastic ideas.
- 4. Reverse the thought of "quality over quantity."** Here we want quantity; the more creative ideas the better. As a facilitator, you can even make it a challenge to come up with as many ideas as possible.

### Other brainstorming preparation questions:

- Who will lead or facilitate the brainstorming session?
- Who will participate in the brainstorming session?
- Who can write very quickly to record the brainstormed ideas without slowing down the group?
- Where will the brainstorming session be held?
- What materials are needed for brainstorming (paper, white board, pens, etc.)?
- What is my brainstorming session desired outcome?