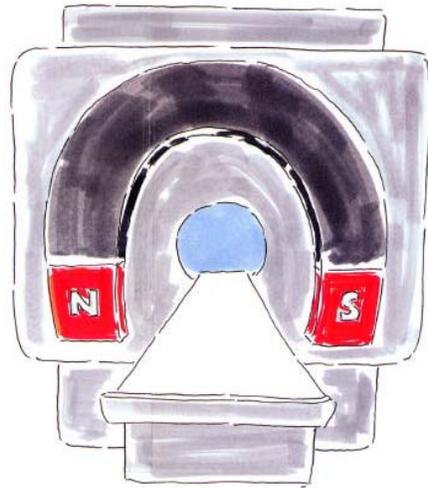


Your Visit to the Magnet Machine!



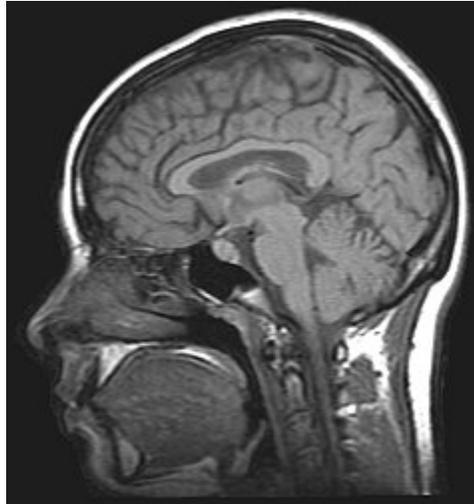
Hi and welcome!

Are you ready for an exciting activity? You're going to be visiting the Magnet Machine!



The official name for this Magnet Machine is the MRI machine. "M" is for "magnetic" because there is a giant magnet inside that makes the machine work. "R" is for "re-sound" which is another word for *echo* (*echo, echo, echo*). And "I" is for "imaging" because the machine makes a picture or "image" that we can see with our eyes.

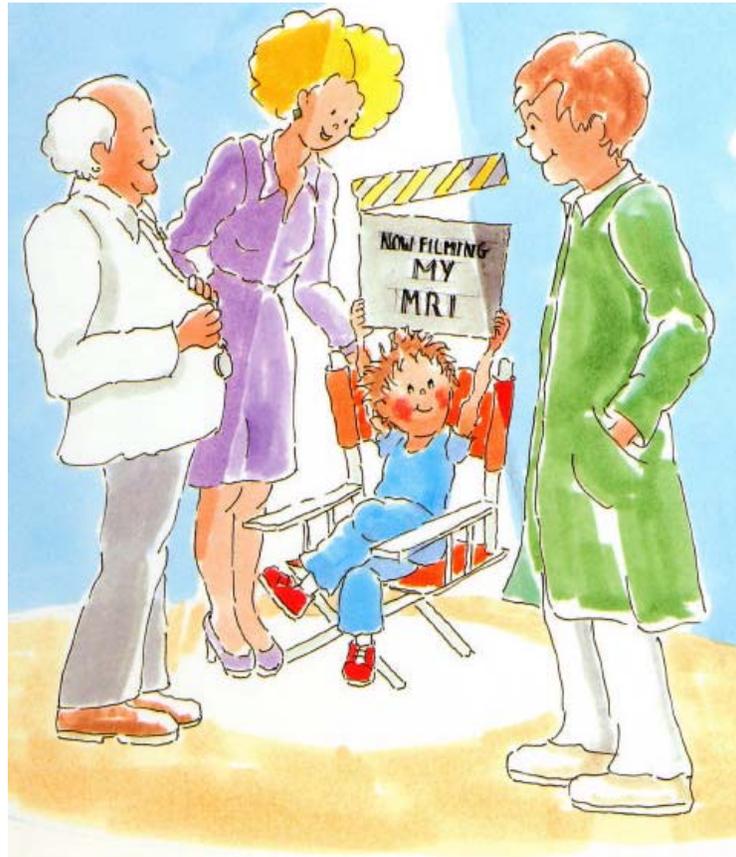
A brain MRI is a brain scan where we will take a picture of your brain. It will look a lot like this one.



The MRI machine at our hospital looks just like this:



So, you've been chosen (yay!) to receive an MRI. This means there will be lots of people around just to take pictures of YOU—like you're some kind of movie star!



We have a small pretend MRI that you will see on the day of your visit. You may come back another day for your "real MRI".. Your parent/guardian will be with you the whole time for both visits!

For the pretend scan, we will visit the pediatric play room in the main hospital. On your first visit, we will practice with a teddy bear or toy and you can see how it works. We will do different activities on the days that you come!

This looks a little like a real MRI machine, but is a lot smaller and made of wood. We will try and show you what it will sound like too!



The real MRI scan will be at the building next door called the Imaging center. This is where the real brain scanner (MRI) is. It looks like this:



When it's time for the real MRI, you will be able to bring along your favorite movie (DVD) or you can choose a movie from our collection to watch through some goggles, or you can listen to some music while you are trying to lie very still.



SO...what we will we do on the day of your real MRI?

First, we will help you put earplugs in your ears. The scanner sometimes makes loud noises, like a drum beat, so the earplugs make the noise harder to hear (and makes it easier for you to listen to your movie!).

The earplugs may feel a little funny at first, but they won't hurt a bit!

Next, you will lie back on the special table the scanner. This table slides back and forth so we can put you inside the scanner.

We might put pads under your back or under your neck to make sure you are completely comfortable. We can also cover your body with a blanket if you feel cold.

After you are comfortable lying down on the bed, we will help you put headphones over your ears and the goggles to wear if you want to watch a movie. The headphones make sure you can hear the movie you are going to watch, and so that you can hear us talking to you through a special microphone.



We will also put some pads around your head. These pads keep your head snug and keep you from moving your head by accident.



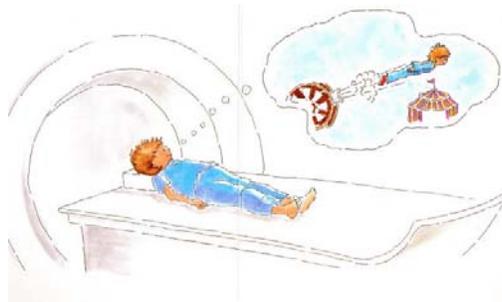
Once you feel comfortable on the bed, you will be ready to go inside the scanner.

First, you will feel the bed move a little.

Then, we will ask you to close your eyes for a few seconds.

Then we will move you inside the scanner.

While you are inside the scanner, you should relax and watch the movie!



This is when it is very important to stay very still! Try not to move your head, your mouth, your hands, or the rest of your body.

We will give you little breaks and tell you when it is okay to move.

While you are inside the scanner, we will talk to you through a special microphone.



There is also a microphone built inside the scanner, so we will be able to hear you when you talk, too.

When you are able to stay completely still for a few minutes, we will start the scan, and the noise will begin. It may get kind of loud. If the noise bothers you, or if you are uncomfortable with anything else, you should wave your hands and we will stop what we are doing and try to make it better.



If you would like to watch a web video about MRIs at our hospital have your mom or dad help you get to the link is to the surgical squad, which features an video with Beau the Bear and friends as they go over what to expect. Chapter 5 is "tests" and includes the MRI. You can find it here: <http://www.beaumontchildrenshospital.com/squad>

Here are some important things to remember about the MRI machine:

- ❖ Sometimes the brain scanner can be very loud so we will put in earplugs to protect your ears.
- ❖ It is really important to stay very still inside the MRI machine.
- ❖ If you feel uncomfortable at any time it is **ALWAYS** ok to stop.



References:

http://www.gehealthcare.com/caen/md/docs/pediatric_MRI.pdf