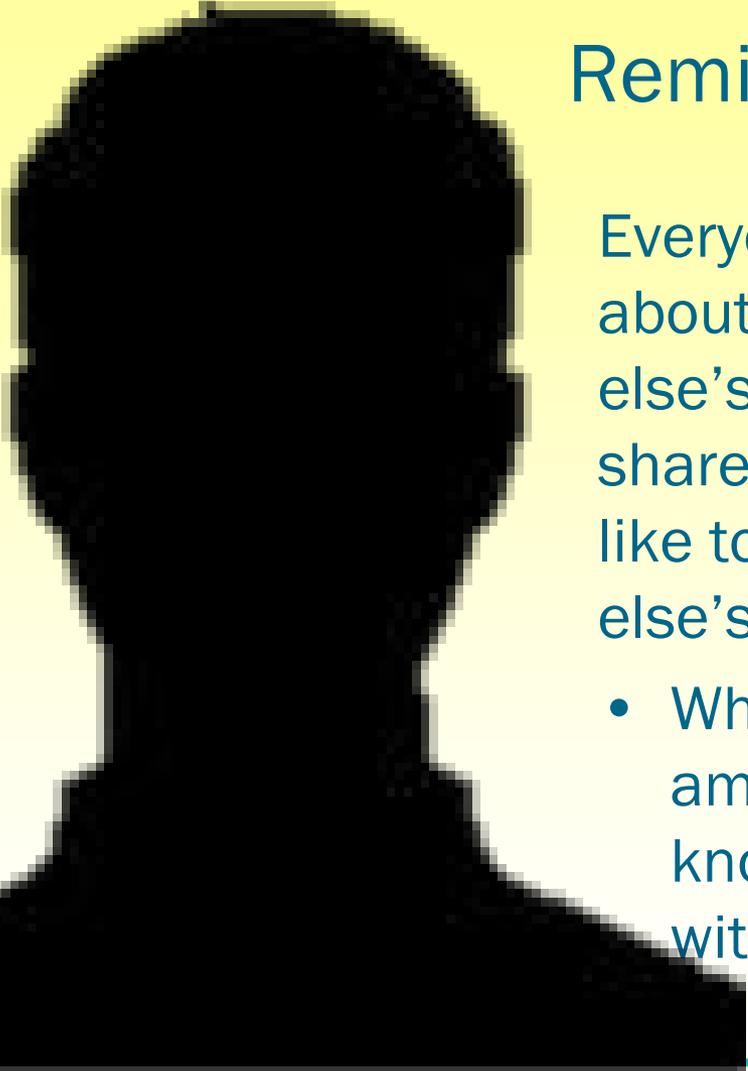




Nifty Names - Excerpt





Reminiscing about names

Everyone has a name story – about their name or someone else's. Here's your chance to share them. But lots of people like to start by telling someone else's story:

- Who is the most unusually or amusingly named person you know? Is there a story to go with the name? Tell it.

Reminiscing about your own name

Talk about your **first name**.

- Do you like it?
- Who named you?
- Are you named after someone in your family or someone famous? If so, do you feel an association with that person?



Reminiscing about your own name

Talk about your **first name**.

- What does your name mean? (A Name Your Baby book can tell you.)
- Is there any ethnic or religious significance to your name?.



Reminiscing about your own name

Many of us grew up with a **nickname**. It may have been a derivative of our real name, such as Dave for David, Steve for Steven, or Rob for Robert. Or perhaps it included an affectionate “y” ending such as Johnny, Bobby, or Jimmy. One thing was certain: If a parent called us by our real and full name, we were likely in trouble.



Reminiscing about names

- Do you have a nickname?
- Where did it come from?
- Do you like it and prefer it, or have you spent a lifetime trying to live it down?

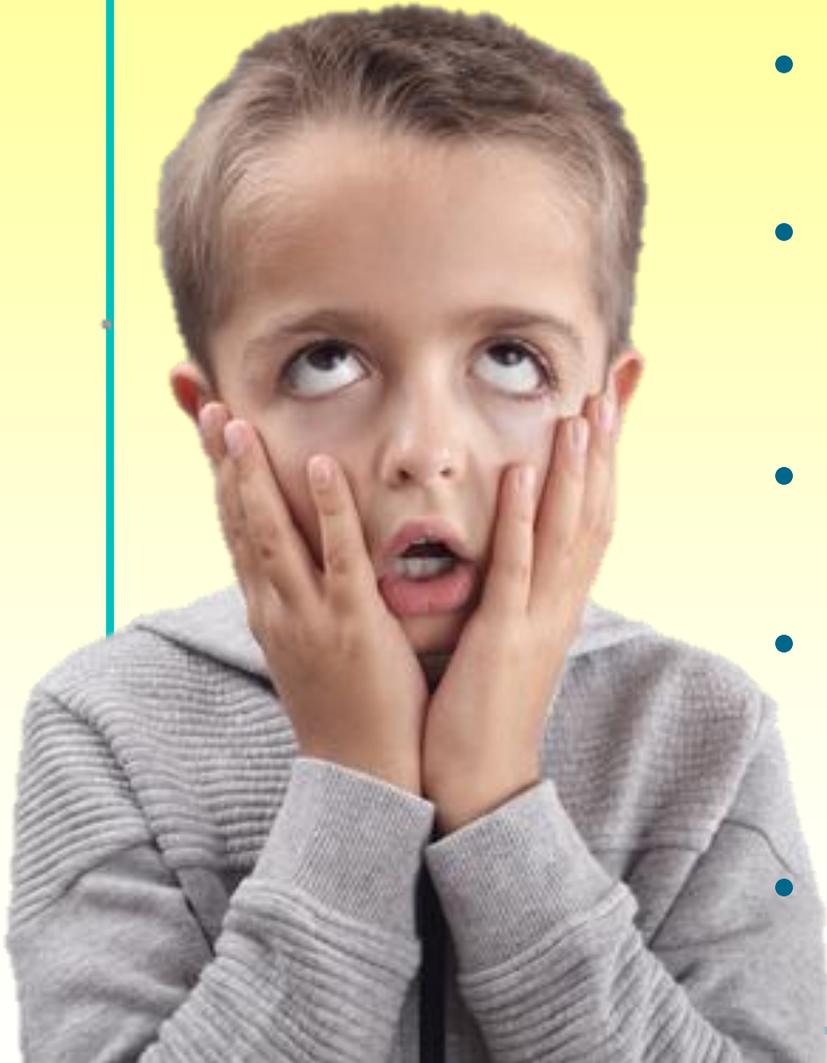


Reminiscing about names



- If you have children, how did you choose their names?
- If you have grandchildren, what are their names? Do you approve of their parents' choices? Did you have any influence?

Reminiscing about names



- Do you have a **middle name** (or more than one?)
- Do you like it – maybe even prefer it to your first name – or do you try to keep it hidden?
- What do you know about how it was chosen?
- Does it signify a special relationship such as your mother's maiden name?
- Or was it chosen simply because it flows well with your first name?

A few words about middle names

Although middle names are now common, until about 225 years ago, they were rare. Have you ever noticed that our Founding Fathers – George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Paul Revere and John Adams, to name just a few – had only two names?

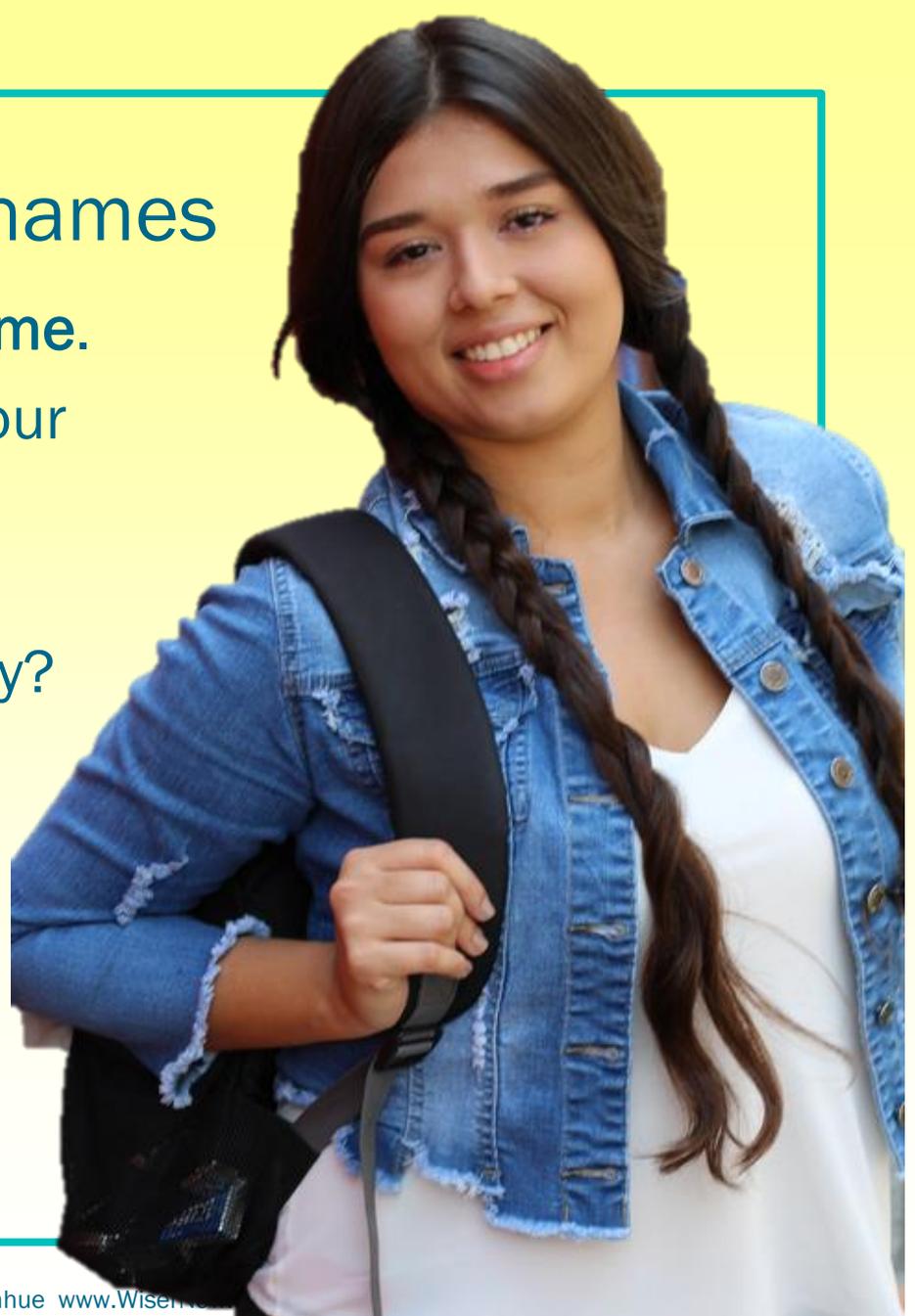
Royalty has long been an exception, often choosing multiple middle names. For example, Prince William is really William Arthur Philip Louis Windsor.



Reminiscing about names

Now talk about your **last name**.

- What is the heritage of your last name?
- Do you take pride in it?
- Has it changed in any way? (e.g., Anglicized by immigrant ancestors)
- Have your feelings about your name changed over the years? In what way?



Reminiscing about names

If you are a woman, chances are still high that you changed your name when you married, and if you married more than once, you may have had several last names. Talk about any name changes you've had and your feelings about them. Do you have any preferences?



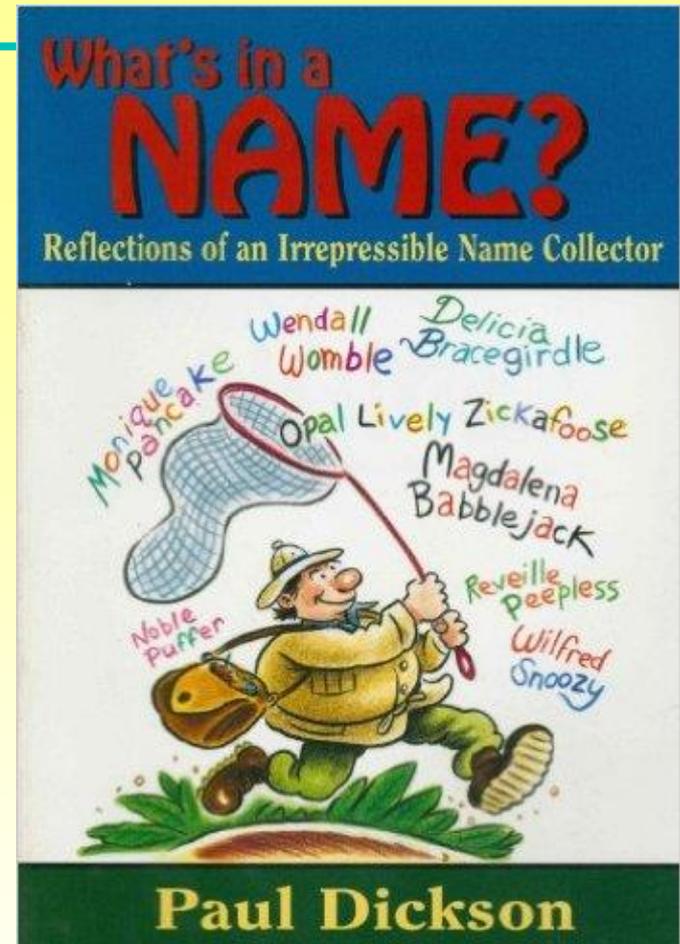


Reminiscing about names

Some people change their name when they star in a movie or write a novel. (Cary Grant was Archibald Leach.) Others change their name to something they simply like better. If you could change your name to anything, what would you choose?

Word game: Apt Names

One of my favorite books about names is Paul Dickson's *What's in a Name? Reflections of an Irrepressible Name Collector*. One funny section he calls "aptronyms" (also known as "aptonyms,") meaning names that are well-suited to the person's occupation. The following quiz uses the names of real people and their occupations from his book.



Word game: Apt Names

Can you match the name to occupation?

1. Linda Toote ____
2. J. H Argue ____
3. O.C. Keener ____
4. J. Bidwell ____
 - a. Attorney
 - b. Contractor
 - c. Flute player
 - d. Optometrist



Word game: Apt Names

Can you match the name to occupation?

1. Linda Toote c
 2. J. H Argue a
 3. O.C. Keener d
 4. J. Bidwell b
- a. Attorney
 - b. Contractor
 - c. Flute player
 - d. Optometrist



Word game: Apt Names

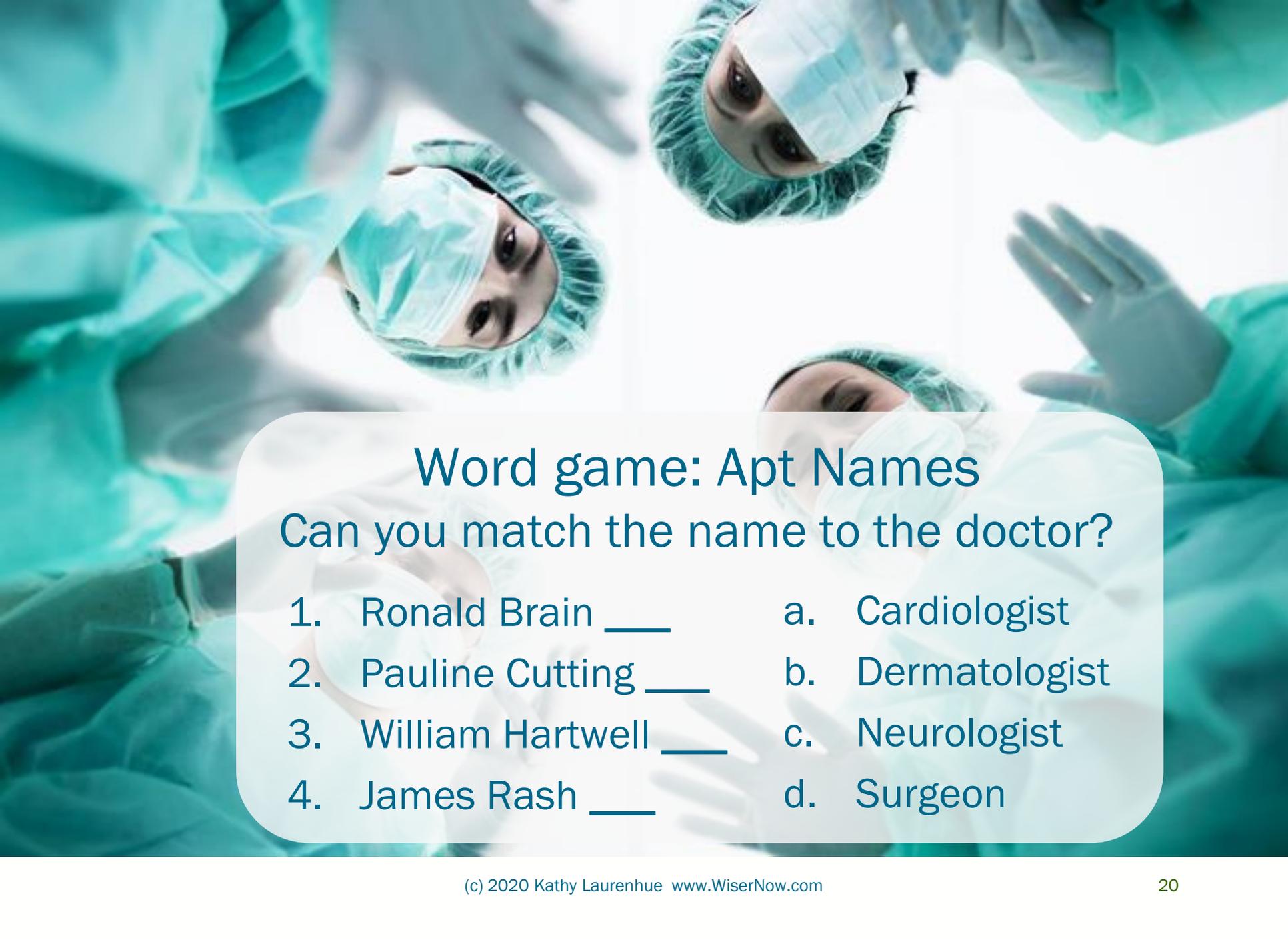
Can you match the name to occupation?

5. Charles Fish ____
 6. Bill Dollar ____
 7. Roy Holler ____
 8. William Toothaker ____
- a. Accountant
 - b. Auctioneer
 - c. Dentist
 - d. Marine biologist

Word game: Apt Names

Can you match the name to occupation?

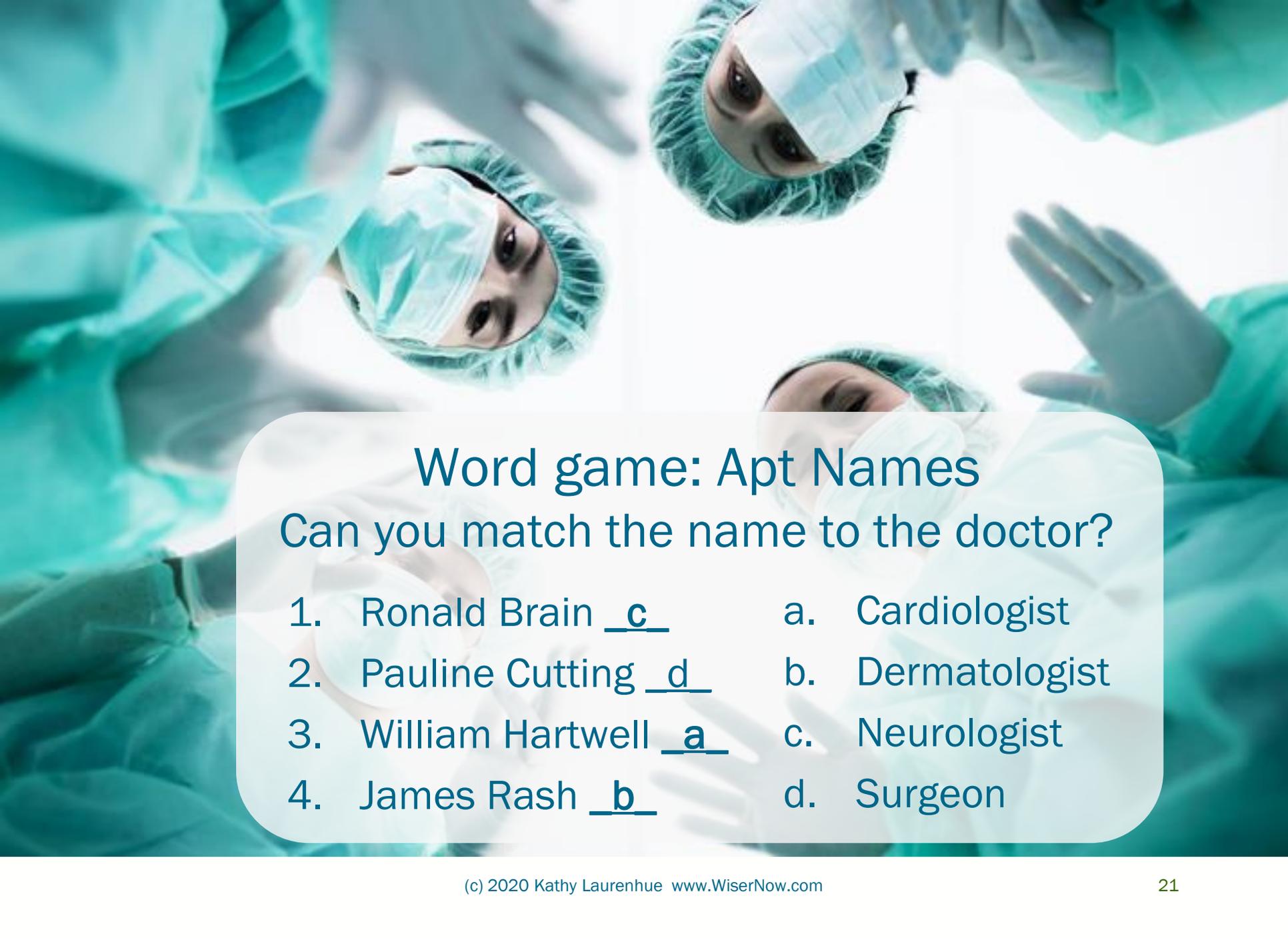
5. Charles Fish d
 6. Bill Dollar a
 7. Roy Holler b
 8. William Toothaker c
- a. Accountant
 - b. Auctioneer
 - c. Dentist
 - d. Marine biologist



Word game: Apt Names

Can you match the name to the doctor?

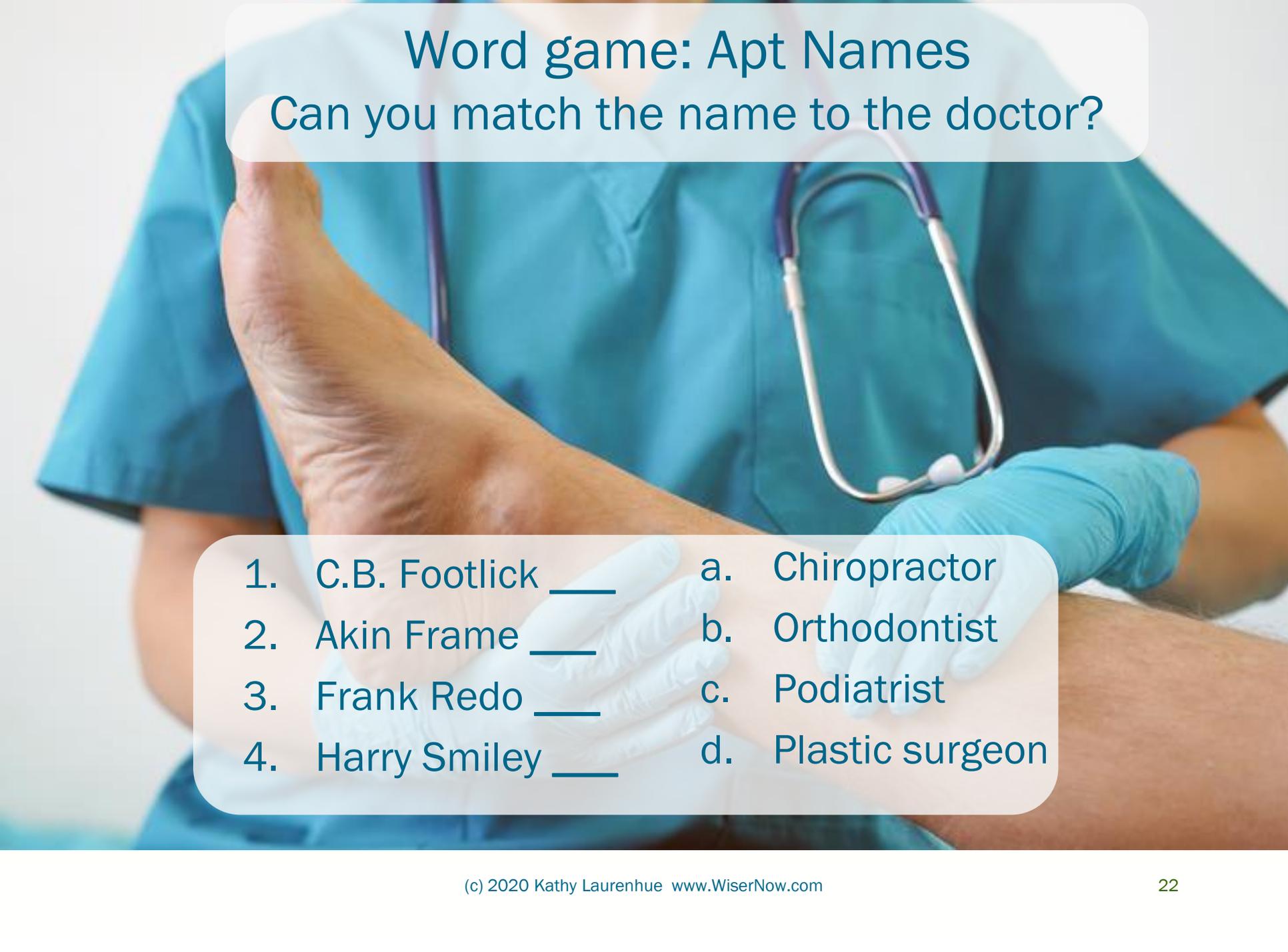
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Ronald Brain ____ | a. Cardiologist |
| 2. Pauline Cutting ____ | b. Dermatologist |
| 3. William Hartwell ____ | c. Neurologist |
| 4. James Rash ____ | d. Surgeon |



Word game: Apt Names

Can you match the name to the doctor?

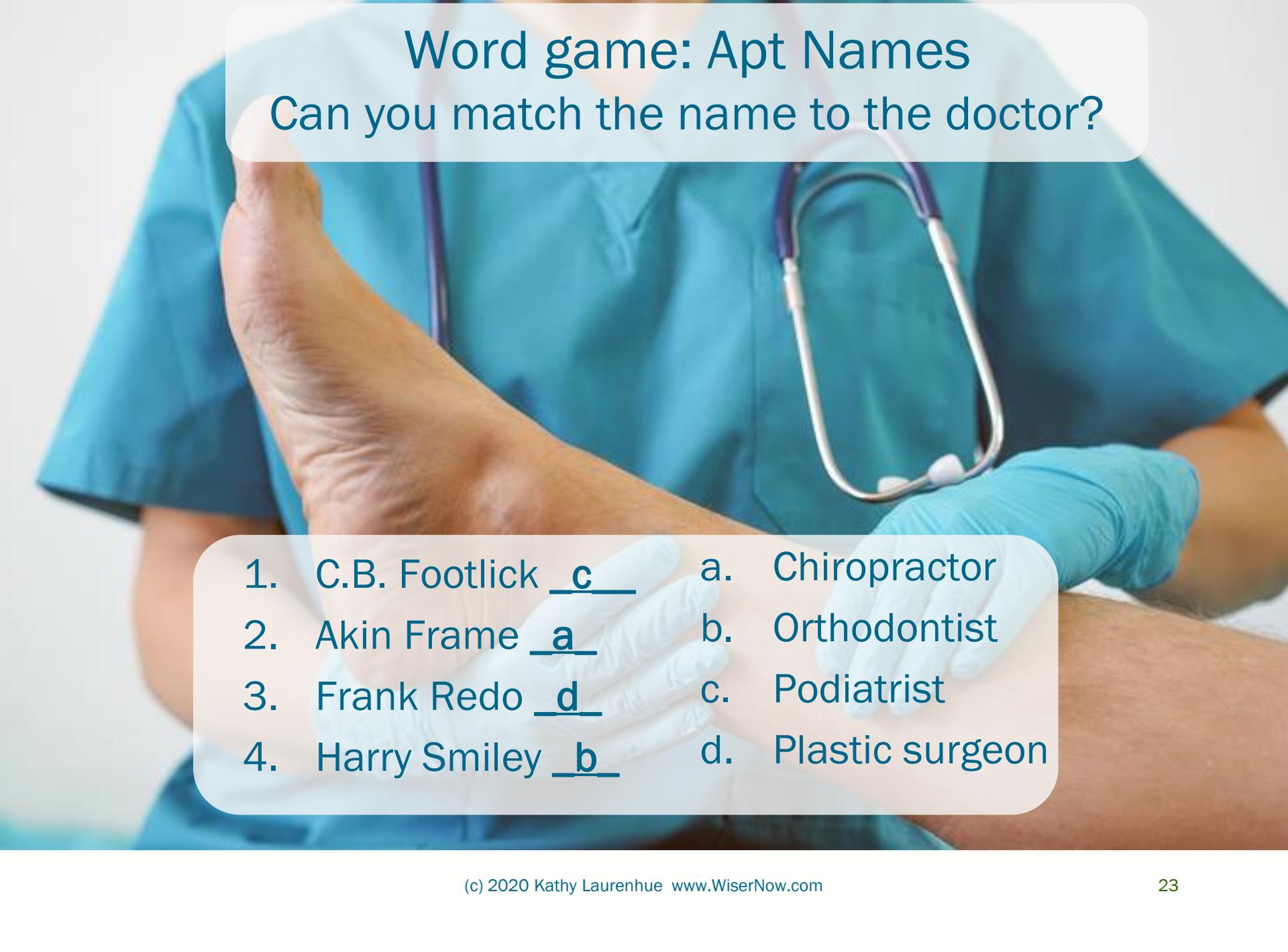
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Ronald Brain <u>c</u> | a. Cardiologist |
| 2. Pauline Cutting <u>d</u> | b. Dermatologist |
| 3. William Hartwell <u>a</u> | c. Neurologist |
| 4. James Rash <u>b</u> | d. Surgeon |

A close-up photograph of a doctor in blue scrubs and a stethoscope around their neck, wearing blue gloves and examining a patient's foot. The doctor's hands are visible, one holding the foot and the other near the ankle. The background is slightly blurred, showing the doctor's torso and the patient's leg.

Word game: Apt Names

Can you match the name to the doctor?

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. C.B. Footlick ____ | a. Chiropractor |
| 2. Akin Frame ____ | b. Orthodontist |
| 3. Frank Redo ____ | c. Podiatrist |
| 4. Harry Smiley ____ | d. Plastic surgeon |

A close-up photograph of a doctor in blue scrubs and a stethoscope around their neck, wearing white gloves and examining a patient's foot. The doctor's hands are positioned to inspect the sole of the foot.

Word game: Apt Names

Can you match the name to the doctor?

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. C.B. Footlick <u>c</u> | a. Chiropractor |
| 2. Akin Frame <u>a</u> | b. Orthodontist |
| 3. Frank Redo <u>d</u> | c. Podiatrist |
| 4. Harry Smiley <u>b</u> | d. Plastic surgeon |

Word game: Apt Names: Your Turn

Can you come up with your own apt names for:

- Real estate agent
- Short order cook
- Private detective
- Car saleswoman

(Ideas on next slide)



Word game: Apt Names: Your Turn

How about:

- Real estate agent – Nita House
- Short order cook – Stu Belcher
- Private detective – Hiram Ketchum
- Car saleswoman – Portia Driver





Word game: Apt Names: Your Turn

Can you come up with
your own apt names for:

- Astronaut
- Dog Catcher
- Librarian
- Landscaper

(Ideas on next slide)



Word game: Apt Names: Your Turn

How about:

- Astronaut – Amy Skyward
- Dog Catcher – Chas. K. Nynes
- Librarian – Rita Book
- Landscaper – Lon Moore

Even more amusing apt names

- Dewey Care – leader of Apathetics Anonymous
- Bertha de Bleus – Jazz singer (and her accompanist, Dick C. Land)
- Cliff Hanger – Serial writer
- Moe DeMarrier – Party planner
- Noah Lott – Reference librarian
- **Duncan Swallow – Doughnut maker**
- Walter Wahl – Carpet installer
- Drew P. Lidz – Night shift worker

I hope this slide show excerpt has helped you make new connections in your brain and delightful connections sharing it with others. Order it in full at [Wiser Now.com](http://WiserNow.com).

For more information or more slide shows, contact Kathy Laenhue at Kathy@WiserNow.com And please review www.WiserNow.com and www.CreatingDelight.com

