

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



Halloween Games, Costumes and Activities For The Whole Family!

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The History of Halloween

It's almost that time again. Things are about to go bump in the night. Spook masters would have you believe that the dead actually walk the earth on that day, but Halloween is as much a matter of shadows and mirrors as the horror movies we watch. For anyone interested, here is a history of the modern day holiday known as Halloween.

First of all, it was called All Hallows Eve. We are not speaking of Sleepy Hollow. Hallow means holy, like in The Lord's Prayer for all the Sunday schoolers out there.

Early pagan religions specifically the Celts would celebrate different phases of the earth. One such festival was Samhain. It is pronounced "saw-in." it was a festival that commemorated the lives of the dead. There was nothing wrong with this, except that they didn't discriminate between the "good" dead and the "bad" dead. People remembered all of the dead. The date that this festival fell on was October 31st.



Isn't sounding too scary so far is it? Well, you must remember that early pagan religions were prone to superstition as in the Middle Ages. They were afraid of spirits and the thought of them returning to the human world frightened them.

As history goes, during this time, priests of the religion would contact these spirits to divine the future of the harvest as this was also harvest season. People's livelihood depended on those crops and they were afraid that the spirits would curse them and destroy the crops.

The church decided to combat such superstition by adding a bit of Christianity to the occasion. They moved the celebration of All Saints Day from March 13th to November 1st. People would hopefully be less scared and more into the Christian celebration than the pagan one.

Everyone didn't change their long held beliefs however. People would cover their faces with masks when they went out at night in hopes that any roaming spirits would recognize them as fellow travelers and suspend their mischief. They also used large carved turnips with candles inside as lanterns.

All Hallows Eve became Halloween in modern times. Instead of walking through the veil between this world and the next, kids dress in a variety of costumes to scare each other silly and get a bit of candy in the process.

The only spirits around on Halloween are the ones we create on the movie set. Watch out!

Trick or Treat?

Many of us have uttered those words or ones like them since we were old enough to wear a costume. Some say cute little rhymes at each house they visit. But, what is the origin of our current candy grabbing tradition on Halloween?

Trick or treating goes back to the celebration of Samhain by the Celts on the British Isles. This pagan festival was one that celebrated nature and its gifts. The practitioners also believed that on that night the boundaries between the living and the dead were compromised and spirits could once again walk the earth.

In an effort to appease the spirits, people would leave offerings of food and drink on their doorsteps. These rituals were thought to protect their harvests for another year. This was also the time for a practice called "souling."



Souling involved food in exchange for prayers. During the celebration, poor people would take to begging for food from neighbors. This food was granted in exchange for prayers by the receivers for the souls of dead family members.

As the tradition was passed down, the begging became food left for these poor individuals who would continue to pray for the dead. Eventually, children were sent from house to house to receive food or bits of money for the family.

In some countries, the wearing of masks and receiving of gifts is still called "souling." Small food items or money are still received by children. Trick or treating is a thoroughly modern and American tradition.



[Pumpkin Container](#)

When it first started, trick or treating was just that. If a homeowner didn't provide treats, the costumed person would perform some trick. This could be playing a prank on them or egging the house. In some countries, this is a part of the mischief of the spirits. Any spirit that didn't receive food was also likely to do something to the person of the house.

Now, kids go from house to house, saying this phrase and receiving a ton of sweet treats. People travel from neighborhood to neighborhood for sweet fare. Tricks are more a part of the fun of the night than a slight against any one person. If a neighbor is not participating, they turn out their porch light so children will know not to approach.

Of course there are those mischief makers that egg houses and cars, but most neighborhoods celebrate Halloween without incident. Even the adults get involved in the celebration with fog machines and costume parties.

Decorating The Home For Halloween

If there is ever a time of year when the ghosts and goblins roam the streets of the modern world, that time would be Halloween.

Today's ghost and goblins are probably a little more frightening than at any other time in history but they are often tempered by a princess seeking frogs and a few witches and wizards along the way.



Halloween is a great day to be a kid but can also be a great day for grown ups as well.

Decorating for Halloween can be almost as fun as going out and begging for candy any day of the week.

Besides, having a well decorated home for this holiday gives you the perfect excuse to scare the evil out of some young ghoul or vampire that thinks he or she has the market cornered on frightening.

The really cool thing about decorating for Halloween is that it is not one size fits all. You are perfectly free to find some very scary home decorations for this delightful holiday or take on a kinder, gentler, more kid friendly style of decorating.

Either decision is yours and yours alone and should carefully monitor the scare-ability of your own children when deciding. You certainly don't want them afraid to come home.

For a more frightening Halloween scene you will probably want to use some strobe lights, frightening music and sound effects, dry ice in order to incorporate spooky fog, and plenty of spider web type netting in order to give those who dare approach your door bells a complete and thorough case of the willies.



Doesn't this sound like so much fun? Coffins with headless straw men are also a great addition as well as skittering spiders and the occasional chainsaw or two. A glow in the dark hockey mask may also be a good choice. Bodiless heads suspended by fishing wire are also quite the highlight for a true and robust fright.

If your goal is to create a kid friendly Halloween atmosphere there are cheerful pumpkin decorations that can be found in many shapes and sizes as well as Casper the friendly ghost, Frankenstein piñatas, and countless other fun party favors that are designed to bring entertainment and delight rather than terror and far.

String pumpkin lights around the porch for added lighting and another friendly face in addition to keeping plenty of candles and lanterns lit nearby. Not all trick or treaters are older kids who appreciate a good scare so keep this in mind as the little ghosts, goblins, princesses, and super heroes arrive.

For adult gatherings all bets are off when it comes to home decorating for Halloween. There are all kinds of themes that can be followed from the incredibly zany and outrageous to the frightening or flamboyant.

The biggest suggestion in these matters is to have fun at all times and bring the life of the party rather than having the decorations upstage your efforts. Far too many people spend more time concerned with how they will decorate their homes rather than wondering how they will decorate themselves for the festivities.

If you find the perfect costumes, all eyes will be on you and not your decorations.

Favorite suggestions for adult parties would include strobe lights, much like the frightening scene described above, low additional lights, perhaps black lights near the food and drink area of the party.

More dry ice (if tolerable some people have difficulties with the smell particularly those with allergies or asthma so you may want to avoid this inside your home and leave it for the exterior).

Bales of hay in the corner make excellent additional seating and can contribute to the harvest/autumn/Halloween atmosphere you are attempting to create. Just remember that the underlying goal is for you and your guests to have a great time.

Have good food, good music, and good friends, and the decorations really and truly should be a secondary concern.

How to Make a Halloween Jack-o-Lantern

If there is one image that Halloween conjures up for most of us it is the carved out orange jack-o-lantern pumpkin, with its ghoulish face lit up by a flickering candle inside.

The original jack-o-lanterns in Ireland and Scotland were usually made out of turnips, and smaller than the pumpkin version that has become the standard Halloween design in America.

The great thing about using a pumpkin is that it is easier to carve, and you have so much more scope to design an impressive face on the side of a pumpkin. Pumpkins come mostly in either grey or orange. It is the orange colour that has become most associated with Halloween.



Your pumpkin should not be too ripe. There are two main ways you can tell: when you tap the side of the pumpkin it should sound firm and not hollow, and it should not have a strong ripe pumpkin smell. Check the appearance as well. You want a smooth high and round shape without too many bruises or blemishes, and good colour.

Be careful not to carry your pumpkin by the stem: it may break off in your hand and you could find your pumpkin smashed on the floor.

To prepare your pumpkin, first clean and dry it. Cut a small circle around the stem and remove the top. Dig in and remove the seeds and soft flesh from inside the pumpkin, leaving a thick wall of flesh inside the skin. Scrape the inside until you have a firm and fairly smooth surface all round, and a flat base where you will stand a candle - one of those short fat candles is ideal.

A large spoon is a good utensil to use inside a pumpkin. You are now ready to carve the face onto the pumpkin.

Some people grab a kitchen knife at this point, and start hacking away. There is a better approach. First, work on your design. You can buy stencils with intricate jack-o-lantern faces, or you can design your own on a sheet of paper with a pen or pencil. You might even find one you could print from the internet.

A great design makes all the difference to how your jack-o-lantern will look, and will likely be a lot more detailed than something you work on as you go.

Place your paper over the pumpkin and hold it where you want the face to be with some sticky tape. Now work your way around the design outline with a skewer, or something else that is sharply pointed, and mark a line of close dots through the paper and into your pumpkin.

When you remove the paper stencil you will have a clearly marked outline of where you have to carve the face. This method is much more precise than just starting to carve without a plan.

If you have a detailed design, you will find most kitchen knives are less than ideal for getting into all the corners. They are not designed for carving, and can be downright dangerous. Firm pumpkins are not easy to cut into, and your hand could easily slip.

It may seem like over-kill, but head off out to your tool shed and find your electric drill and a keyhole saw. You will find it so much easier, quicker and precise to work with good tools. Drill holes to give your keyhole saw a start, and saw around the outlines you have made. After all, keyhole saws were designed precisely for this kind of exacting work, even though pumpkins may not have been on the tool maker's mind at the time.

Knock out the pieces when you have cut them out, and trim up the edges, angles, corners and inside of the pumpkin with a knife.

Place your candle inside, and you will be ready to enter a jack-o-lantern carving competition with the best of them.

Easy Halloween Crafts For Kids

Kids love making crafts, so take the time to look around and find some easy Halloween crafts for kids.

Crafting does not have to be difficult, and you can make easy Halloween crafts for kids with a little imagination, creativity, and some common household items. There is nothing more fun for kids than to decorate your home with Halloween decorations that they have made themselves.

They will feel pride in what they have created and have fun doing it.

Here are a couple easy Halloween crafts for kids that you may want to try.

We LOVE fun foam that can be purchased at craft stores or department stores.

- Buy several sheets in colours of orange, black, green, and white.
- Cut out some ovals and circles from various colours.
- Look on the Internet for Halloween images that you can print to your personal printer.
- Try to find witches, bats, skeletons, and black cats.
- You may have to reduce these images to fit onto your base.
- If you are especially good at drawing, you can even try to draw your own!
- Cut these images out of contrasting fun foam colours and glue onto the shapes you have cut out.
- Punch a hole in the top, draw a string through the hole and then hang these fun ornaments anywhere you can think of!

Easy Halloween crafts for kids can even be crafts that are adapted from more difficult crafts. Want to have scary ghosts hanging from your trees?

- Take an ordinary plastic bag you get from the grocery store and cut off the handles.
- Place a Styrofoam ball in the top for the head and secure with a rubber band.
- Then shred the bottom into strips and poke a hole above the head to insert a string for hanging.
- Don't forget to draw on a scary face!
- For extra fun, attach a bell or two to the bottom of the strips so you can hear your ghost "singing" in the wind.



Finally, one of the easiest Halloween crafts for kids might be the most fun.

- Buy a few dark coloured candles – black preferably – and provide your child with various trinkets like sequins, candy corn, fun foam shapes, or whatever you can think of.
- Have them glue these trinkets on the outside of the candle and you have a great Halloween decoration for your home!

Easy Halloween crafts for kids are great ways to get kids interested in crafts and instil a sense of pride as visitors marvel over your great decorations.

Halloween Food Crafts for Kids

We LOVE edible Halloween crafts, and guess what - Halloween food crafts for kids are a big hit with the younger set too!

If you are having a Halloween party, nothing is more fun than letting them make their own Halloween food crafts for kids. They are easy to make and tons of fun to eat. There are all sorts of Halloween food crafts for kids you can let them make.

Here is a couple to get you started.

When kids are small, they often eat dirt – yes, it’s true – dirt. How about constructing Halloween food crafts for kids that look like they are eating dirt?

Start with a small plastic cup.

- Place a scoop of chocolate ice cream in the bottom.
- Then put some Oreos in a Zip-Loc baggie, seal it, and let your child smash the cookies into small bits.
- Pour the cookie bits over the top of the ice cream and add some gummy worms.
- Get a spoon and dig into your dirt!

Here is one of the scariest Halloween food crafts for kids: Edible Fingers.

- Start with some cocktail wieners and a can of refrigerated biscuit dough.
- Wrap the dough around the bottom end of the wiener so that just the tip is showing.
- Cut out an oval piece from the tip of the wiener which will be the fingernail.
- Cook in a 350 degree oven until the biscuits are slightly browned.
- Let cool and then add ketchup where the fingernail is.
- These bloody fingers are sure to be a hit!

When looking for Halloween food crafts for kids, make it simple, but make it scary for the ultimate fun! You can make edible eyeballs just by taking a simple devilled egg and adding a black olive in the middle. If you don't know how to make devilled eggs – they're easy.

- Just boil eggs for about 5 minutes and then remove from heat.
- Let them continue to stay in the hot water for about 10 more minutes.
- Run the eggs under cold water and refrigerate.
- They are easier to peel if they are cold.
- Peel the eggs and cut each in half lengthwise.
- Remove the yolk to a bowl and use a fork to "smoosh" the yolks to a crumbly consistency. Add some mayonnaise a little at a time until you get a thick, creamy mixture.
- Too much will make them running.
- Add mustard as well for extra flavour.
- Spoon the yolk mixture into the egg whites, press in a black olive and you have edible eyeballs!



Halloween food crafts for kids are not only fun to make, but they are fun to eat!

Use your creativity and make it a ghoulish Halloween party with edible crafts!

Hosting a Haunted Halloween Party

No one says that you have to go out to have a good time on Halloween. Parties are one way to spend the evening at home and still have fun. Guests have fun and also find safety. Maybe this year you will host a Halloween party of your very own.

Send out invitations well in advance of the event. We know the date of the party so that is not a problem. Most people will either be attending another party, going trick or treating with the kids or attending your party. Let's hope they attend your party.



Come up with a menu for the event. Ghoulish treats such as witch's fingers or Jell-O eyeballs floating in the punch may be great for kids but a bit too macabre for some adults. In that case, stick with spooky decorations and normal looking food.

The best thing about Halloween parties is that they can be planned for both adults and children. Careful planning will give the adults time to unwind while the children are otherwise occupied. Tend to the children first.

In the early evening take the kids for a little door to door fun. While they are going through their snacks and eating finger foods that you prepared in advance, the rest of the work for the adult part of the party can begin.

If you want to serve drinks, keep it simple. Beer and wine involves less work than an open bar. Anyone drinking can't drive home. Designate a driver or walk from home to the party. Neighborhood Halloween parties have the convenience of close proximity.



Have a few age appropriate Halloween videos for the kids to watch in the family room or living room when the guests retire to the patio or backyard for fun. Host a costume contest or a pumpkin carving contest. A little Halloween karaoke might break a few noise ordinances, but it will thrill the guests. Who knows all the words to "Monster Mash"?

Since the kids are a consideration, hosts can ask each invited guest to bring a dish to the party. This way, cleanup is faster and the host doesn't have to do so much hard labor. They will appreciate the help.

Any types of games that are planned should be played before drinks are served. Too many accidents occur when someone's judgment is impaired by alcohol.

Want to host a Halloween party? Grab the most frightening decorations, some eats, and creepy music, mix with a few friends and you're sure to have a great time!

Party Halloween Games

If you ask children what their favourite holiday is, the most likely response from most children will be Christmas, with Halloween coming in a close second. Some children will choose Halloween as their first favourite. But this holiday, with all its goblins and ghouls, likely makes the top two favourite holidays on most children's' lists.

To that end, then, it's always fun to have a raucous Halloween party. With lots of fun games and activities, and plenty of candy for prizes, it's sure to be a hit with kids of all ages.

For younger children how about a game of pumpkin bowling?

Find some of those inexpensive plastic pumpkin treat buckets and stack them up on a hard floor. You can stack them as high as you like, but you have to start with at least three buckets. If you get many buckets, you can make a pyramid out of them.

Find some lightweight plastic balls - plastic bowling balls are excellent for this. And let the kids go bowling! The kids love knocking over the pumpkin heads and all the kids who play should get a prize for this game.

Kids of all ages enjoy making mummies out of themselves and their friends. Here's how this works. You bring in toilet paper, lots and lots of toilet paper. Divide the kids into teams of 2.

When you begin timing the kids, they must wrap their friend up in the toilet paper, mummy style. The first team who is all wrapped wins. The child who's wrapped up like a mummy can then break out of the toilet paper wrap with a scary "roar" and the game begins again so the other child can also be wrapped.

Be sure to play some spooky Halloween music while this game is being played to add to the atmosphere.

Circle time! Have all the kids get in a circle and begin a spooky story. The story can begin with the classic, "It was a dark and spooky night..." and then the person next in the circle continues the story.

Each child adds something to the story as it moves around the circle. If the children are young, you can keep the story on the straight and narrow by indicating no gruesome elements will be allowed. If the kids are older, you can decide how scary the story can be. Be aware that older children will not only like their stories fairly scary and gruesome, but some might even add "booger" and "snot" and "throw up" elements to their story.

You can set the rules ahead of time to prepare for this type of storytelling.

No game has held onto children's interests for more years than the classic "musical chairs". This version includes playing Halloween music (think "Monster Mash" or "Thriller" by Michael Jackson) and asking the kids to act as spooky and scary as they can while they race around the chairs.

You can up the rules depending on the ages of the children.

For example, for young children you can tell them to just walk around the chairs until the music stops. As they get older, you can add challenging elements, such as make scary faces

as you walk around the chairs, do the monster mash (whatever that means to the individual kid) and other things like that.

You're sure to get some creative responses.

Kids love cakewalks, but they aren't practical in the classroom. You could, however, have a treat walk. Save enough space in the living room for this one.

Again, play some Halloween-themed music and have the kids walk around in a circle as they do for cakewalks during other school events. Instead of having them walk onto number squares or circles, however, you can have them walking onto cardboard discs that include pictures of ghosts, monsters and the like.

The person running the cakewalk will stop the music and pull a matching picture out of a pumpkin head. Instead of calling "#14", for example, as the winner of the cakewalk, it will be "ghost head" or "monster mouth".

Halloween Costume Themes

Halloween is traditionally about the fabled creatures of the underworld and the spirits that are said to inhabit that mysterious world between the living and the dead.

Ghosts, Ghouls, Zombies, The Grim Reaper and Spirits take many forms in the imagination, and have inspired endless costume variations on what you can do with an old white sheet and a pair of scissors.

That imagination has started to run out after all these years, and Halloween enthusiasts have looked for fresh inspiration for their choice of costume.



Witches, wizards, goblins and other mostly evil characters of the fairy story world have long inspired another range of Halloween costumes.

Disney fairy story film costume designs have been a popular inspiration for Halloween costumes, such as, to pick just one, the high collared dress of the Wicked Queen in Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Endless sources of inspiration have been found in numerous other movies and a long and rich history of fairy story book illustration.

Count Dracula and the Vampires have provided a very popular fresh impetus of ideas with tuxedos and capes for the men and flowing medieval gowns for the ladies, accessorized with bloody fangs and other scary additions.

The characters of Adams Family television series have built on this theme. One of the Adams characters included the ideas of the famous Frankenstein's Monster character, with the famous bolts on the side of his neck.

Werewolves and other characters from horror movies, building on the Vampire and blood-thirsty Gothic and Transylvanian themes, are popular sources of Halloween costume ideas.

The Lord of the Rings trilogy, and the Harry Potter, Pirates of The Caribbean and Spider Man series of movies, have added a strong selection of imaginative characters from that magical world just beyond the physical world that we know.

Their detailed movie set costuming designs provide readily identified models to be adapted as Halloween costumes, and have been immensely popular to the generation that has grown up with these movies.

Increasingly, it has become acceptable for Halloween costume design to move away from the traditional spirit, under world, fairy story and magical themes, and to move on to just plain having fun.

When you choose your costume based on fun, almost anything goes. Superman costumes have been popular for several generations.

Clowns, scarecrows, soda cans, movie characters, TV characters, book characters, stereotypes (such as geeky nerds), and an infinite variety of other sources of inspiration are

acceptable. The idea is to be distinctive and witty, to stand out from the crowd, with your choice of Halloween costume.



Perhaps this new trend has emerged because Halloween theme costume parties have become very popular.

The older Halloween party generation of today is more open to fresh costume ideas than the traditional trick or treater dress up age group.

Halloween parties offer one of the few major events in the social calendar where dressing up in a costume is expected as part of the festivities, and they are all about having fun without getting too hung up on following Halloween traditions that few people really take seriously nowadays anyway.

Next time you go looking for a Halloween costume, if you see something clever that is outside the usual Halloween themes, don't reject it out of hand.

These days it's all about having fun, and almost anything goes.

Most Popular Halloween Costumes

Each year, some costumes pop up more than others. Everyone seeks to be original, but the only way to be truly individual is to make your own costume. Barring that, you will look like someone else on that night. The trick is to look better than they do.

Here are some of the most popular costume ideas for 2008. Diehard Halloween fans are preparing as we speak for that one night of scary fun. The good thing about some of the popular costumes this year is that they work for kids, teens, and adults.

Trends in Halloween costumes often follow trends in movies.

Popular movies always spawn a costume idea or two for October 31st. The most popular film so far this year is The Dark Knight.

Batman has achieved a new level of cool that everyone wants to emulate. Tall, dark, and mysterious is in this year as many scout the stores for Batman paraphernalia.



Who doesn't love a villain? They allow us to imagine we are bad without actually being bad. All votes this year are for The Joker. The super villain of The Dark Knight is not the whimsical psycho we've seen in the past. He is the real deal and scary. Adults will take pleasure in dressing up as this character.

There have been several super hero movies of late. Super heroes are always in season because they champion the cause of justice, and their costumes are really cool. For this year, kids and adults will emulate Wonder Woman, Superman, Iron Man, The Fantastic Four, the X-Men, The Incredible Hulk, and Spiderman. Adults will add a little sex appeal to those costumes so as to differentiate themselves from their kids.

Religious costumes are always a family favorite. For those who celebrate Hallelujah Night at church, dressing up as Noah, Moses, John the Baptist and Jonah still highlight these events.



Cartoon characters are popular for kids. Some of the most popular are Japanimation creations like Naruto, Yugioh, Digimon, and Pokemon characters. These characters are joined by Disney favorites like Hannah Montana, Cinderella, The Little Mermaid, and Alvin and the Chipmunks.

But, the life of the party is still the costumes with timeless appeal. We are speaking of the 20's flapper girl, Betty Boop, doctor and nurse, witches, devils, and of course, Elvira. It wouldn't be a party without at least one of these people showing up.

What will you wear this year? Go with the popular crowd or set your sights on a more unique invention. Either way, have fun not only the night of Halloween, but putting your costume together too!

Kids Halloween Activities!

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Printable Halloween Activities for Kids
and
Printable Halloween Games for Kids.

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Halloween Fun For Kids Aged 3 to 5

Bobbing for apples

What you need:

- Large bin
- Apples
- Water
- Optional – milk and red food coloring



Directions:

Float apples in a bowl of water, each player must try to get an apple with their teeth while their hands are held behind their backs. *(This can get messy).*

Optional- you can also fill the bin with milk and add red food coloring to have it resemble fake blood.

Gooey Green Slime

What you need:

- 1 1/2 cup Warm Water
- 2 cup Elmer's Glue
- Green Food Coloring
- 4 tsp. Borax
- 1 1/3 cup Warm water

Directions:

4 tsp. Borax and 1 1/3 cups of warm water.

Mix **solution A** in one bowl, mix **solution B** in another bowl.

Dissolve both well.

Then just pour solution A into solution B, DO NOT MIX OR STIR!

Just lift out flubber.

You can use glass bowls so the kids can see the chemical reaction.

Store in Ziploc baggies.

Holiday Bowling

What you need:

- 10 toilet tissue rolls (or 10 2 liter soda bottles)
- Tag board cut outs
- Small ball (or small pumpkin)

Directions:

Take ten toilet tissue tubes and attach tag board ghosts and pumpkins.
Draw a triangle shape on the floor and place the tubes in a 4-3-2-1 triangle.
Have the child roll a soft ball and bowl.
Get the children counting by setting up tubes, and by counting the ones that are knocked over.

Variation:

You can use cleaned out 2 liter soda bottles with a small amount of water in them (decorated).
And you can bowl with a small pumpkin, or even a grapefruit!

Mr. Skeleton Where's Your Bone

Directions:

One child (Mr. Skeleton) stands in the middle of the circle of children with eyes closed.

This can be done with only a few children but if you have a large number of kids, I'd suggest having 3 or 4 Mr. Skeletons at a time in the middle of the circle with 3 or 4 bones passed out.

Let the skeletons take turns guessing.

The children chant:

Mr. Skeleton where's your bone?
Somebody stole it from your home.
Guess who? Maybe you!
Maybe a ghost from Kalamazoo
Now Mr. Skeleton find your bone!

While they are chanting the leader hands a "bone" (a pencil would work or you could cut a bone shape from cardboard) to one of the children.

All the kids put their hands behind their backs and then Mr. Skeleton opens his eyes.

He guesses who has the bone (you can either give three guesses and then he has to be Mr. Skeleton again if he guesses wrong or you can let them guess until they succeed).

The person who had the bone becomes the new Mr. Skeleton.

Eyeball Race

What you need:

- Ping-pong balls
- Sharpie Marker
- Spoons

Directions:

Start with a plain ping-pong ball for each child.
Use a Sharpie marker and draw on it to turn it into an eyeball.
You can simple draw the pupil, or for a scarier version, add some red wiggly lines to make the eyeball look bloodshot.

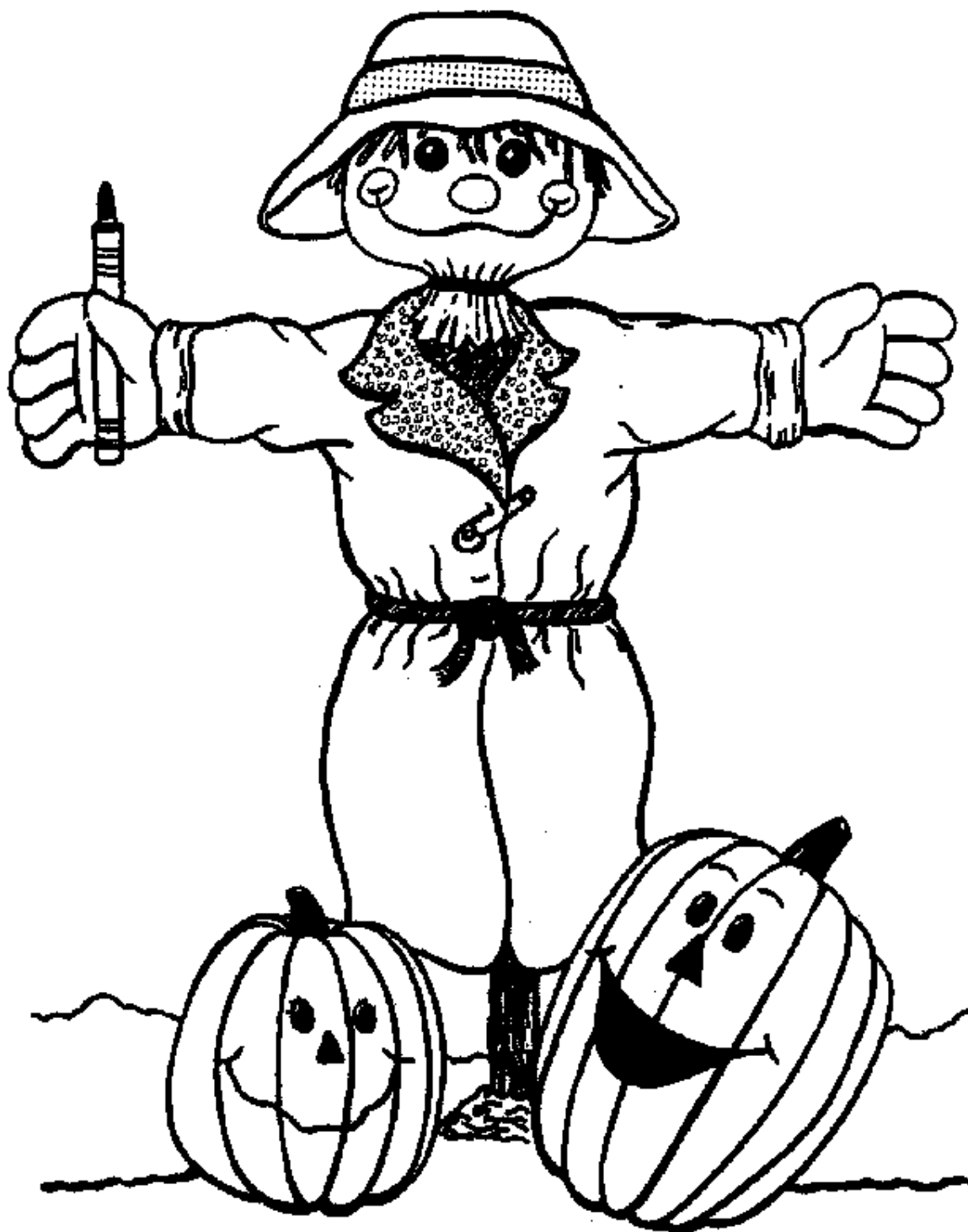
Give each child a spoon and drop one of the eyeballs in each spoon.

Now it's time to race.

The child that reaches the finish line with the eyeball in the spoon first wins.

Halloween Coloring Pages For Kids Aged 3 To 5











Halloween Crafts For Kids Aged 3 to 5

Handprint Spider

What you need:

- White Construction Paper
- Black Paint
- (2) Wiggle Eyes
- Glue

Directions:

Paint the child's palm and four fingers with black paint (don't paint the thumb). Press the hand on the sheet of construction paper so the palms overlap, extending the fingers in opposite directions. The palm print in the middle is the spider's body and the fingers are the legs. Glue on wiggle eyes and you're done!



Footprint Bat

What you need:

- Black paint
- White paper
- Wiggle eyes

Directions:

Dip a child's foot into the black paint and press onto paper. Then dip the other foot into the paint and press it onto the paper with the heel on top of the other heel of that foot on the paper to represent wings. Then paint triangles on top of the heels for ears, and draw on a mouth. Then you can add on two wiggle eyes.

Spider Hats

What you need:

- Black construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Wiggly eyes
- Stapler

Directions:

Cut the construction paper into strips. Staple strips together to fit around child's head. This is the body. Fold eight strips, accordion fashion, and have child glue onto the body as the legs.

Glue the wiggly eyes to the front and you have a spider hat!

These are very cute and the kids love to wear them for Halloween.

Footprint Ghosts

What you need:

- Black construction paper
- Glue
- Wiggly eyes
- White paint
- Black marker

Directions:

Dip a child's foot into the white paint and press onto paper.
Let dry.

Then you can add on two wiggly eyes or use a black marker to draw one eyes and a mouth



Witch Hat

What you need:

- Black paper
- Stiff black paper
- Glue
- Scissors

Directions:

Basic cone: fold a 12"x24" sheet of paper in half.

Cut out a quarter circle and open the paper into a half circle.

Roll the half circle into a cone to fit the head.

Tape or staple the cone together.

Make the basic cone out of black paper.

Now make the brim.

Place the cone on a sheet of stiff black paper and draw around it.

Draw a larger circle around the first, and cut it out.

Draw five tabs on the inside of the inner circle.

Cut out the inner circle, leaving the tabs in place.

Slip the brim over the cone and glue or tape the tabs to the cone.

Finally, cut a long, thin rectangle out of black paper and wrap around the base of the hat to conceal the tabs and glue.



Halloween Songs

The Silly Willy Spider

(Tune: The itty bitty Spider)

The silly willy spider
Crawled up on (child's name) head!
It crawled all around
Then made a nice soft bed.
It wiggled down his/her shoulder
And jumped down to the floor
Then the silly willy spider
Crawled to someone else for more!

The Haunted House

(Tune: Wheels on the Bus)

The ghost in the house goes "Boo! Boo! Boo!"
"Boo! Boo! Boo!, Boo! Boo! Boo!"
The ghost in the house goes "Boo! Boo! Boo!"
On Halloween.
The steps in the house goes "Creek, creek, creek..."
The cats in the house go "Meow, meow, meow..."
The mice in the house go "Squeak, squeak, squeak.."
The people in the house go "Eek, eek, eek..."

Jack-O-Lantern

(Tune: I'm a Little Teapot)

I am a pumpkin, big and round (use arms to show size of pumpkin)
Once upon the time I grew on the ground (point to the ground)
Now I have a mouth, two eyes, a nose (point to features on your face)
What are they there for, do you suppose? (Right forefinger to forehead, thinking gesture)
When I have a candle inside Shining bright (hold up right forefinger)
I'll be a Jack-O-Lantern on Halloween night! (Thumbs in armpits-bragging gesture)

5 Little Pumpkins

(Hold up fingers for pumpkins)

Five little pumpkins, Sitting on a gate.
The first one said 'Oh my! It's getting late'.
The second one said 'There are witches in the air'.
The third one said 'But we don't care'.
The fourth one said 'Let's run and run and run'.
The fifth one said 'It's Halloween fun'.
Oooooooo went the wind,
And out went the lights.(clap hands to the word 'out')
And the five little pumpkins rolled out of sight. (roll arms)

5 Little Witches

Five little witches standing by the door.
One flew out and then there were four
Four little witches standing by a tree.
One went to pick a pumpkin and then there were three.
Three little witches stirring their brew.
One fell in and then there were two.
Two little witches went for a run.
One got lost and then there was one.
One little witch, yes, only one.
She cast a spell and now there are none!

Halloween Recipes

Witches Cauldron

What you need:

- Cauldron
- Red jello
- Candy corn
- Mini marshmallows
- Raisins or choco. chips
- Red licorice bits
- Gummy worms

Directions:

Make a witches brew:

Make jello (in cauldron) according to box, when half set, add the vampire teeth (candy corn), bones (marshmallows) roaches, ants or bugs (raisins or chips), red eyes, (licorice pieces) and snakes (gummy worms)

Mix up and eat,

OR

Mix up and let finish setting completely.

Witch Hat Cookies

What you need:

- Fudge Stripe Cookie
- Hershey Kiss
- Orange or black frosting

Directions:

Turn the cookie over on the solid chocolate side.

Squeeze a blob of orange frosting onto the middle of the cookie.

Squash the kiss into the orange frosting.

The frosting will hold the kiss, and then you have a Witch's Hat Cookie!

These are great for a party or for school.

Optional: You can use either orange or black frosting!

Popcorn Hands

What you need:

- Clear disposable gloves
- Popped popcorn

- Candy corn
- Twist ties

Directions:

Put 1 - 2 pieces of candy corn in each finger of the glove.
Fill the rest of the glove with popped popcorn, twist the top and seal with a twist tie.
Hand out as snacks or goodies!

Monster Mash

What you need:

- 1 scoop Boo Goo (vanilla ice cream)
- 1 tbsp. Swamp Mud (chocolate syrup)
- 1 tbsp. beetle bugs (miniature chocolate chips)
- 10 Monster toes (miniature marshmallows)

Directions:

Above ingredients serves 1

Place ingredients in paper cup.
Mash them with spoon.
Top with slug slime (green food-colored cool whip).

Eyeball Potion

What you need:

- 1 tub (8 oz.) COOL WHIP Whipped Frozen Topping
- Blueberries or raisins
- 1-1/2 cups boiling water
- 1 pkg. (8-serving size) JELL-O Brand Gelatin Dessert any red flavor
- 1 cup cold water
- Ice Cubes

Directions:

Using a small ice cream scoop, place 2 scoops whipped topping into each of 10 dessert dishes for "eyeballs".
Place a blueberry or raisin in each scoop for the "pupil".
Freeze 30 minutes or until firm.

MEANWHILE:

Stir boiling water into gelatin in large bowl at least 2 minutes until completely dissolved.
Mix cold water and ice cubes to make 2-1/2 cups.
Add to gelatin, stirring until slightly thickened.
Remove any remaining ice.
Pour about 1/2 cup gelatin around each "eyeball", leaving the top of the "eyeball" exposed.
REFRIGERATE 1-1/2 hours or until firm.