

HALLOWEEN



Halloween, the time of pumpkins, candies, ghosts, witches and much more, is annually celebrated on 31 October. That's the night before All Saints Day. Its origins date back thousands of years to the Celtic festival of Samhain or 'The Feast of the Sun, a most significant holiday of the Celtic year. This day marked the end of summer but also the season of darkness as well as the beginning of the New Year on 1 November.

Druids in Britain and Ireland would light bonfires, dance around them and offer sacrifices of animal and crops. The fires were also intended to give warmth to the households and to keep free from evil spirits. Through the ages these practices changed.

The Irish hollowed out turnips, placed a light inside to keep away the bad and stingy Jack. As the legend says, Jack was a man who tricked the devil and after Jack had died he was allowed neither in heaven nor in hell. With a lantern in his hand he began to search for a resting place on Earth. This was the original Jack-o-Lantern. Since Halloween came to America from Ireland (Scotland and Wales) people used pumpkins because they were bigger and easier to hollow out than turnips.



During the centuries the cultures have added their own elements to the way Halloween is celebrated. Children love the custom of dressing-up in fancy costumes and going from door-to-door yelling "Trick-or-Treat" . Adults instead join spooky parties which are nearly held all over the cities and villages on that special evening. A spooky decoration, games and "frightening food" are nuts and bolts for a Halloween party your friends won't soon forget.

H a l l o w e e n E x e r c i s e

1) What is potion?

- a liquid with magic powers
- a mixture of dried flowers
- something to eat

2) The festival of Halloween marks

- the end of summer
- the end of autumn
- the end of winter

3) A witch flies on a

- board
- broom
- cat

4) When is Halloween celebrated?

- 13 October
- 31 October
- 1 November

5) Who brought Halloween to America?

- English immigrants
- German immigrants
- Irish immigrants

6) What are the special colours of Halloween?

- purple and orange
- white and orange
- black and orange

7) Which creatures abound during Halloween?

black rats

white mice

black cats

8) What do children say when they knock at the door on Halloween?

Trick or Treat

Trick or Money

Trick or Beat

9) What aren't supernatural creatures?

princesses

fairies

witches

10) What is a Jack-o-Lantern made of?

melon

pumpkin

cucumber

useful words	meaning
bat	
bones	
broom	
candy	
cauldron	
cemetery	
coffin	
costume	
creepy	
frightening	
ghost	
goblin	
haunted	
Jack-O-Lantern	
magic	
mummy	
owl	
party	
pie	
potion	

pumpkin	
scary	
scream	
shadow	
skeleton	
skull	
spell	
spider	
spirits	
spooky	
superstition	
to carve	
to hollow out	
tombstone	
treat	
trick	
vampire	
warlock	
werewolf	
witch	

