

Halloween

Halloween is a celebration that happens on the 31st of October. It was adapted from a Christian religious day. The 1st of November is All Saints Day, so Halloween is the eve or night before this. Nowadays it is just an excuse for people to have fun.

The holiday was mainly celebrated in America and from there was spread to the rest of the world. It is the day, and mainly the night, when monsters come out of secret places. This means that people associate scary and frightening things with Halloween.

There are three main traditions linked to Halloween. The first is carving pumpkins, the second is decorating your house and the third is trick-or-treat.

Pumpkins are big vegetables that get an orange color when they are ready to eat. When someone carves a pumpkin they cut the top of it and remove all the seeds and flesh from the inside. Then they carve a face on the pumpkin. It is traditional to carve your pumpkin into a scary face. Then when it is dark you put a candle or light inside the pumpkin so the light shines out of the frightening face.

Then, pumpkins are used to decorate your house. You would put them in a window or on the front porch so people in the street can see them. The decorations have become much better over the years. Now people decorate their houses as if they are a haunted house. They make skeletons to place in the garden or tombstones outside the house. They also make lots of spider webs as decorations. People from the house try to make it look as scary as possible.

Finally, children dress up in costumes and go out trick-or-treating. This is where they go to people's houses and ask for sweets or candies. If the people from the house refuse to give them anything, then they play a trick (a mischief) on the house. Adults do not go trick-or-treating, but they often have their own parties at night. At these parties people are dressed up as monsters, skeletons or different scary characters.

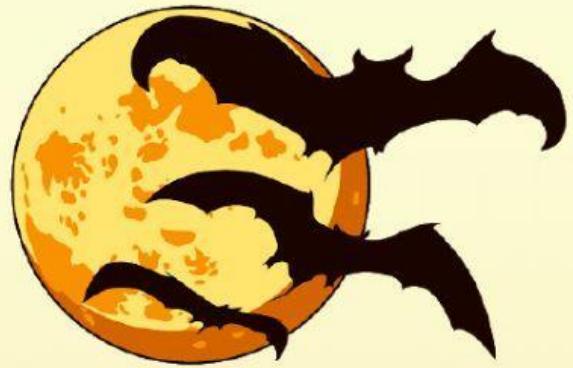
1.- LOOK UP THESE WORDS OR EXPRESSIONS ON A DICTIONARY.

to happen:	eve:	mainly:
to spread:	to mean:	frightening:
scary:	to link:	to carve:
pumpkin:	to cut:	the top:
to remove:	flesh:	scary face:
dark:	candle:	to shine out:
front:	porch:	to become:
over the years:	tombstone:	haunted house:
to make:	costume:	spider web:
to dress up:	to give:	to ask for:
to refuse:		mischief:

2.- CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER:

1.- Why is Halloween scary and frightening?

- A) It is in the dark winter.
- B) It is when monsters come out.
- C) It is because it is Christian.
- D) Halloween is not a scary holiday.



2.- Which of the following is not part of Halloween?

- A) Carving pumpkins
- B) Trick-or-treat
- C) Decorating your house
- D) Singing special songs

3.- Where are pumpkins normally placed?

- A) In cars
- B) On the front porch
- C) In the kitchen
- D) At the church



4.- Why do people decorate their houses?

- A) To make them look scary.
- B) To make them look cute.
- C) To make them look old.
- D) To make them look bright.

5.- Why do children play trick-or-treat?

- A) To get candy and sweets.
- B) To have a party.
- C) To go for a walk.
- D) To give other children sweets.

6.- When is Halloween?

- A) At Christmas
- B) During summer.
- C) On October 31st.
- D) On December 25th.

