

# Happy Halloween!

In the United States, we celebrate Halloween on the last day of October, the 31st (thirty first). Children love to get dressed up in masks and costumes and go trick-or-treating. This means that they go to their friends' or neighbors' houses in costume and knock on the door and say, "Trick or treat!" The person who opens the door has to either do a trick for the children or treat them to a snack. Usually, everyone gives the children a treat. That might be a candy bar, lollipops, chocolate, bubble gum, or a salty snack, like pretzels, chips, or popcorn. Some people make a little individual bag of various snacks or candy for the children. Many children like to eat something called candy corn at Halloween. It is a triangular-shaped candy that is white, orange, and yellow, and it looks a little like kernels of corn. It is made of sugar and corn syrup, so it is very sweet!

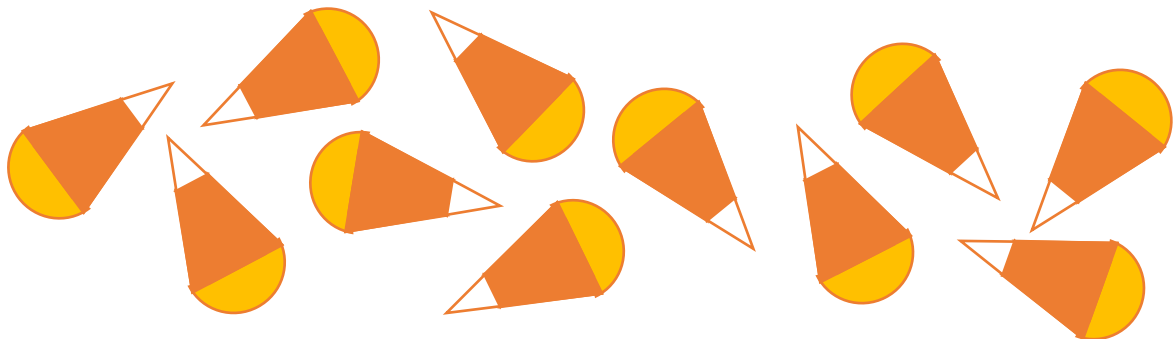
Most trick-or-treaters are children under the age of 14. They often visit each of the houses in their neighborhood, with friends or with their parents, if they are little. They carry a bag or sometimes a plastic pumpkin. This is where they put the candy they receive at all of the houses. Each town or city has a set time for trick or treat, and it is usually between the hours of 6:00 and 8:00 PM. We schedule Halloween on the Friday or Saturday evening closest to October 31st, so the children are free to sleep in the next day and enjoy their candy! 😊

It is always fun to meet the children at my front door, and I enjoy looking at their costumes. Some are scary, some are very mysterious, and some are really cute. Some are hand-made costumes, and those are always fun to see. Each year, I see princesses, ballerinas, superheroes, Karate masters, athletes, animals, vampires, dragons, witches, ghosts, and even scarecrows and bats. For children, Halloween is a time to use their imagination and be anything they want to be. Sometimes, even the parents who come with the children dress up—that's always very interesting to see! Halloween is a popular holiday in the United States, although it is not a federal holiday. Better get some candy ready in case you have some trick-or-treaters at your house---just don't eat it all before they come! Happy Halloween!

I made a puzzle for you with some Halloween words.....see if you can complete it. Look on the next page for the vocabulary and the clues for the puzzle.

You can listen to this reading and also check your answers to the puzzle on the website under "Halloween Activity." Here's the link: <https://filelliott.wixsite.com/alponline>

-- Filomena



READ THE CLUES BELOW AND CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD TO PUT IN THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE ON THE NEXT PAGE.

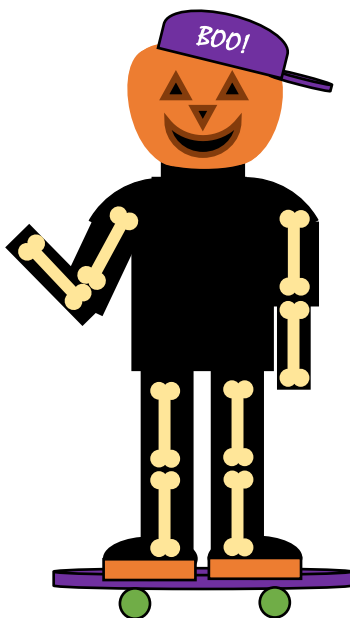
October	holiday	last	orange	black	ghosts	Fall	mask	costume
pumpkins	carve	purr	full	cat	candy	skeleton	seeds	candle
broomstick	scared	spider	cemetery	scarecrow	nightmare			

### DOWN

1. A figure that scares away birds
4. A pumpkin's color
6. The treats that children receive for trick or treat
8. We carve them to make jack-o'-lanterns
10. A day we celebrate – we don't work
11. A very bad dream
12. All the bones in a human body
15. We wear this on the face as a disguise
17. An insect with eight legs that spins a web
18. The season of Halloween
21. A witch's costume is usually this color

### ACROSS

2. Spirits
3. An animal, a common pet, who says, "meow"
5. The sound a cat makes when it is happy
7. To cut a face into a pumpkin
9. When the moon is big and round, it is \_\_\_\_.
12. Synonym for afraid
13. A witch rides on it when she flies
14. A place where there are graves
16. Clothes we wear as a disguise on Halloween
17. They are inside the pumpkin; we roast them to eat as a snack
19. It is put inside the pumpkin to light the jack-o'-lantern
20. The month when Halloween is celebrated
22. The 31<sup>st</sup> of October is the \_\_\_\_ day of the month



H A P P Y H A L L O W E E N !

Check your answers on the website ("Halloween Activity") at <https://filelliott.wixsite.com/alponline>