
Let's Celebrate Halloween!



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Let's Celebrate Halloween! Rev. 4 (Updated Oct. 20th, 2013)
A Special Report Courtesy of LetsCelebrateHalloween.com and Laurie411.info

Welcome to my special Halloween report and thank you for your interest in LetsCelebrateHalloween.com

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Halloween is coming up fast, so I put this guide together just for you and your kids.

Kids of ALL ages love to celebrate Halloween! What other time of the year does everyone get to think up great costumes and pretend to be someone completely different -- anything from a fairy princess or a super hero, to an evil witch or ghastly monster, to a favorite movie character or a clever portrayal of a funny cliché?

And although it's become more and more of a holiday that adults relish celebrating, too, Halloween was ESPECIALLY made for kids! They are especially lucky because they get to walk around their neighborhoods or attend parties and collect sacks overflowing with special candy!

I think you and your kids will have a ton of fun together with all the recipes and games in this special report!

And for a lot more creative ideas for celebrating Halloween, including informational articles, more free recipes and party game ideas, plus funny Halloween pictures and videos (and much more), **be sure to visit LetsCelebrateHalloween.com right away!**

Enjoy! Laurie Kristensen, Editor
Laurie411.info

Halloween Recipes

What kid doesn't love Halloween? Some of us grownups seem to get a kick out of it as well... Here are some really easy, kid friendly recipes you can use for Halloween parties or special Halloween treats!

Caramel Apples

Ingredients:

- 6 apples
- 1 (14 ounce) package individually wrapped caramels
- 2 tablespoons milk

Directions:



Lightly butter a baking sheet and set aside.

Remove the stem from each apple and stick a craft (Popsicle) stick into the top of each apple.

Unwrap caramels and place caramels and milk in a microwave safe bowl.

Microwave approximately 2 minutes, stirring half way through.

Carefully remove caramel from microwave and let cool for about 1 minute.

Quickly roll each apple in caramel until well coated.

Place on prepared baking tray and allow to set.

Monster Party Mix

Ingredients:

NOTE: Be warned this mixture is very rich and contains quite a bit of sugar... serve in small amounts!

- 1 (11 ounce) package of small pretzels
- 1 (10 ounce) package miniature peanut-butter-filled crackers
- 1 cup sugar
- ½ cup butter or margarine
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 (10 ounce) package M&M's
- 1 (18 ounce) package candy corn



Directions:

In a large bowl combiner pretzels and peanut butter crackers and set aside.

In a large saucepan combine sugar, butter and corn syrup.

Bring to a boil over medium heat and simmer for approximately 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Remove from heat and stir in vanilla and baking soda.

Pour over pretzel mixture and stir until coated. Transfer mixture to a greased baking pan.

Bake at 250°F for 45 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes.

Remove from oven and break apart while warm then allow to cool completely. Transfer to large bowl and toss with candy corn and M&M's.

Store in an airtight container.

Easy Halloween Party Mix

Ingredients:

- 10 cups prepared popcorn
- 1 package peanut butter chips
- 1 cup candy corn
- 1 cup chocolate chips

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl and mix well.



Scary Frozen Bugs

Ingredients:

NOTE: These are great for serving in party punch or drinks.

- Water
- Raisins

Directions:

Fill ice cube tray with water and place a raisin in each ice cube.

Freeze and use.



Hot Witch's Cider

Ingredients:

- 1 gallon apple cider
- 1 (16 ounce) can frozen orange juice concentrate
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 2 cloves

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a large saucepan.

Simmer over low heat for approximately 15 minutes.

Transfer to punch bowl and serve.



Pumpkin & Goblin's Punch

Ingredients:

- 1 (12-ounce) can frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 (1-liter) bottles of ginger ale
- 1 package orange sherbet

Directions:

In a punch bowl combine condensed milk and orange juice concentrate.

Add ginger ale and mix well.

Right before serving top with scoops of orange sherbet and serve.



Mummy Dogs

Ingredients:

- 6 hot dogs
- 1 package ready to bake pastry
- Parmesan cheese

Directions:

Wrap hot dogs in pastry sheets and lightly brush with melted butter. Sprinkle Parmesan cheese over top.

Place "mummy dogs" on a lightly greased baking tray. Bake at 350°F for approximately 15 min. or until golden and baked through. Top with "blood" (ketchup) and serve.



Halloween Cheeseburgers

Ingredients:

- 6 hamburgers or veggie burgers
- 6 slices cheese
- Pitted olives
- Red and green bell peppers
- 6 lettuce leaves
- 6 hamburger buns (split)

Directions:

Using a pumpkin shaped cookie cutter cut cheese into pumpkin shapes. Cut olives into shapes for eyes and nose. Cut bell peppers into shapes for mouth and pumpkin top (green pepper).

Cook burgers according to recipe and during the last few minutes of cooking top with cheese. Carefully remove and place into lettuce-lined buns. Garnish pumpkin face using olives and peppers. Serve open top.



Ghoulish Bloodshot Eyeballs

Ingredients:

- 2 packages red gelatin
- Vanilla ice cream
- Raisins
- Red decorating jell

Directions:

Prepare Jell-O according to package instructions.

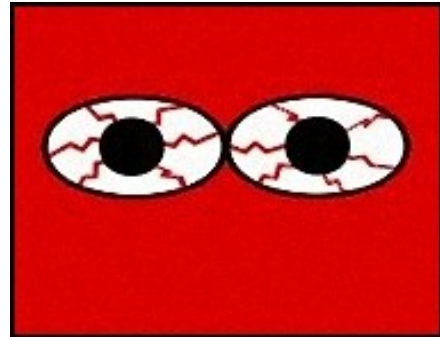
Fill individual glass serving bowls with Jell-O and place in refrigerator to set.

Once Jell-O has set, using a spoon scoop out a circle of Jell-O in center of bowl.

Fill circle with one scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Place one raisin in center of ice cream.

Then, using red decorating gel frosting, paint lines going down the side. This will create a "bloodshot eye" swimming in "blood."



Icky Eyeballs

Ingredients:

- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 6 oz lemon gelatin
- 2 cup water
- 2 cup pineapple juice
- 16 oz cream cheese
- Food coloring
- Raisins



Directions:

Microwave the water in a medium bowl on high for 3 minutes, then remove and pour in the lemon gelatin to dissolve it.

Add the marshmallows, coating them well.

Pour on the pineapple juice and stir.

Let the mixture sit while you warm the cream cheese to soften it.

Mix in the cream cheese. Then heat the entire mixture in the microwave for another minute.

Stir until well blended.

Refrigerate the mixture for two hours.

A melon ball scoop makes for a great tool to carve out some eyeballs.

As an alternative, you can cool the mixture in rounded ice cube trays. The tops will be squarish, but you can turn them over and bunch them all together to disguise this.

Now use blue food coloring to paint on the irises. A drop of black food coloring or a raisin in the center does nicely for the pupils.

Cheesy Green-Eyed Monster Eyeballs

Ingredients:

- 1/2 stick butter or margarine, softened
- 1/2 pound grated cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese
- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 24 small stuffed olives



Directions:

Preheat the oven to 400°F.

Combine softened butter with cheese in a mixing bowl until well blended.

In a different bowl, mix the flour, paprika, and salt.

Add flour mix to cheese and combine well.

Form eyeballs around olives with teaspoon-full bits of dough, so that one end of each olive pokes out just a bit from one side of each dough ball to look like the iris of an eyeball.

Place them on ungreased baking sheets. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes.

These can also be made ahead. Freeze unbaked eyeballs. When ready to use, thaw eyeballs on cookie sheet for about 1/2 hour before baking.

Pumpkin Cake

Ingredients:

- 3-1/2 cups self-rising flour
- 2-1/2 cups brown sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 (16 ounce) can pumpkin puree
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon all spice
- 1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)



Directions:

In a large bowl combine flour, sugar and spices.

In a separate bowl combine beaten eggs, vegetable oil, and pumpkin puree. Mix well.

Add pumpkin mixture to flour mixture. Mix well.

Fold in chopped walnuts (if using).

Place in a lightly greased pumpkin shaped baking tin.

Bake in a preheated oven at 350°F for approximately 25 minutes or until golden and baked through.

Decorate with orange frosting, candy corn, and liquorish to form a pumpkin face.

TIP: If you don't have a pumpkin-shaped baking tin, you can use a regular tin and decorate as a pumpkin for a similar effect.

Graveyard Cupcakes

Ingredients:

- Prepared Cupcakes
- Frosting of choice
- 1 package gummy worms
- 1 package chocolate cookies or graham crackers



Directions:

Place a few cookies in a plastic bag and using the back of your hand or a rolling pin press down until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Using a teaspoon make a small well in the center of each cupcake.

Frost cupcakes around well and sprinkle with cookie crumb mixture. Stick a gummy worm into the center of each cupcake.

Scary Spider Cupcake Treats

Ingredients:

- Prepared Cupcakes
- 1 package icing - chocolate, orange, or white
- Chocolate sprinkles
- Black chocolate licorice candy
- Candy for eyes



Directions:

Turn cupcakes upside down and frost with icing. Sprinkle with chocolate sprinkles.

Insert 8 licorice pieces into the top of each cupcake, spread out, and bend to make legs. Insert candy for eyes.

NOTE: Adapt the ingredients to make as many or as few as you need.

Skeleton Bones

Ingredients:

- 4 large egg whites
- 2 cups icing sugar

Directions:

Preheat oven to 250°F. In a large bowl beat egg whites until stiff. Gradually start adding the sugar, one tablespoon at a time. Keep beating and adding sugar until you have a meringue.



Line baking trays with paper. Using a piping bag with a plain nozzle, pipe a straight meringue bone line (approximately 4 inches long). Pipe a meringue ball at the end of each bone. If necessary, shape bones further using a small knife.

Bake for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes, or until bones have dried out. Remove from oven and let cool on paper.

Roasted Pumpkin Seeds

Ingredients:

- Pumpkin seeds, clean and dry
- 2 tablespoons of cooking oil
- Salt

Directions:



Place pumpkin seeds in a plastic zipper bag and coat with oil. Spread onto a cookie sheet and salt lightly. Bake at 250°F for 45 minutes.

These lightly salted, toasted pumpkin seeds bake up golden brown in the oven and are best served warm. They make a healthy snack anytime, perfect for camping and hiking trips (great trail food). Add your favorite popcorn seasonings for variety.

Healthy Halloween Fruit Kabobs



Ingredients:

- Fruit (cantaloupe, watermelon, strawberries, and apples work well)
- Lollipop Sticks
- Halloween Peeps (pumpkin and/or ghost)

Directions:

Cut fruit into bite-size pieces.

Thread the fruit onto a lollipop stick -- about 5 pieces. Make sure each stick gets a variety of fruit!

Place a Halloween Peep on top of the kabob.

Place on platter and serve.

Halloween Party Games

Having a spooky Halloween party?

Try one of these scary Halloween party games.

Pin the Wart on the Witch

Using black felt material available from crafts and art supply stores, cut out a witch's outline.

It doesn't have to be perfect, as most kids won't mind, but remember to include the pointy hat and nose!

(Or, purchase a large cardboard cutout picture or poster of a witch.)

Stick the cut out or poster up on the wall or on a large pegboard.

Optional: Decorate the witch with plastic spiders and fake web.

Then cut out large shaped warts (*yuck*) from a green felt material and either stick a thumbtack onto the end of each one – or some strong tape or poster clay (available in office supply and/or craft stores) for younger children.

Use a plain dark colored rag as a blind fold and let the children take turns sticking the wart on the witch's nose.



Pick Their Brains

Cook a large pot of different shaped pasta such as spirals or macaroni drain and cool completely.

Place cooled pasta in a large plastic bowl and add a few olives.

Add some wrapped candies or treats like mini fun-sized chocolate bars.

Cover the bowl with material that you've cut into a decorative shape like a pumpkin or monsters head.

You can even use a scary cloth mask that will go over the bowl or a decorated plastic bag.

You basically need to cover the bowl with something decorative and head shaped that has a slit in the back.

The kids should not be able to see the contents of the bowl.

Sit the kids in a circle and let them take turns digging into the bowl to find the candies.

They won't be able to see into the bowl and the squidgy texture of the pasta along with the olives will feel like "brains."



Bobbing for Apples with a Twist

Make this traditional game a little scarier by filling the bobbing tub with milk and adding red food coloring.

Add enough coloring until the milk resembles a bright red color.

Then add the apples and let the kids take turns bobbing for apples.

This game can get messy, so it's best played outside if possible.



Halloween Graveyard Hunt

Decorate your backyard to resemble a scary graveyard or just add lots of scary things.

You can add cut out black felt bats, plastic spiders, fake web, fake tombstone, Jack-O-Lanterns, and even scary music.

Hide prizes and treats amongst the plants and decorations and let the kids go on a graveyard hunt.



For older kids, you can even have a disguised adult or two hiding around a spooky corner -- but please don't do this with younger children, as it can really traumatize them.

Scary Story Time

Kids love a good scary story. Set the scene by lowering the lights and perhaps lighting a few candles (always supervise children around candles).

Or, you can use flashlights to safely set the scary mood!



You can also play some low spooky music in the background.

Take turns telling scary stories appropriate to the age group of children. For younger children, you can read a suitable scary story and not make the scene too intense for them.

Make this time extra special by serving a Halloween punch recipe or witch's milk (warm milk sprinkled with a little chocolate and cinnamon).

Mummy Wrap

This is a lot of fun. Buy a handful of party wrap rolls (crepe paper), preferably in Halloween colors and decoration, but you can even use plain white toilet paper.

Split the kids up into teams of two. One child will be the "mummy" and the other is in charge of wrapping up that child like a mummy.



When you start playing music, the teams can start wrapping up the mummy. Try to play some fun Halloween songs like "Monster Mash."

When you turn the music off, the kids need to stop. To be fair and impartial, you may want to use a timer to mark the end time.

The team whose mummy is more "mummified" (or wrapped) wins.

Traditional Games Played Halloween Style

1. WITCH, WITCH, GHOST

Played like "Duck, Duck, Goose"

Four or more children sit, stand, or kneel in a circle facing in. One child goes around the circle touching each person on the head as they pass and say "Witch".



They continue around the circle tapping and saying "Witch" until they decide they are ready to tap someone on the head and say "Ghost".

They then proceed to run around the circle. The "Ghost" must run around the circle in the opposite direction.

Both are racing for the open spot in the circle. The loser gets to be the caller for the next round.

Variations on this game are many including hopping, skipping, etc.

- Or, Play it using the words GHOST, SHOST, BOO!
- Or, play it using the words APPLE-APPLE-PUMPKIN!

2. PASS THE PUMPKIN

Played like Hot Potato... use a tiny pumpkin instead of a potato!



3. *Play* MUSICAL CHAIRS... to the "MONSTER MASH"

4. *Instead of 'SIMON SAYS'... use 'Pumpkin Says' or Witch, Ghost, Goblin, etc.*

5. SKELETON, SKELETON, WHERE'S YOUR BONE?

Played like "Doggy, Doggy, Where's Your Bone?"

The Chant:

Doggy, Doggy, where's your bone?
Somebody stole it from your home.
Guess who! Maybe you...
Maybe the monkeys from the zoo.
Wake up Doggy, find your bone!

How to Play:

Choose one child to be the Doggy first. They should sit in the center of the circle of children and keep their eyes closed or covered while the song is being chanted (it doesn't really have a tune).

Alternative 1: Have an adult give the bone (or whatever you choose to hide... a shoe works too) to one of the children while the song is being chanted. (Make sure you give each child a chance to have the bone.) Have all of the children hide their hands behind their backs. When the chant is over, the doggy can uncover his or her eyes and gets 3 guesses as to which person has the bone. Whether the doggy gets it right or not, the person with the bone gets to be the next doggy. Because you've made sure to give each child a turn with the bone, each child will get a turn being the doggy.

Alternative 2 (more competitive): Have the last person who was the doggy give the bone (or whatever you choose to hide) to one of the other children while everyone chants the song. Have all the children hide their hands behind their backs. When the chant is over, the doggy can uncover his or her eyes and gets 3 guesses as to which person has the bone. If they guess where the bone is, they get to sit outside the circle and the person with the bone is the doggy. If they don't guess where the bone is, they have to be the doggy again.



Halloween Crafts

Here are some simple and fun Halloween crafts for kids!

Napkin or Tissue Ghosts

Materials:

- Paper napkin (or a cloth, or an old scrap of material.)
Note: For larger ghosts, use white sheets of tissue wrapping paper
- Rubber band or string/yarn
- Small Styrofoam ball or another napkin or sheet of tissue, crumpled up into a ball
- Markers
- String or yarn

Directions:

Lay the napkin out flat.

Place the ball or crumpled paper in the middle of the napkin.

With one hand, scrunch the napkin up around the ball and hold it tight. With your other hand, slip a rubber band over the ball to make the ghost's head. Let the ends of the napkin hang loose.

Use markers to make a funny or scary face.

Take a long piece of string. Tie one end to the ghost's neck, the other end to your favorite hanging place inside (or outside if made from cloth).



Paper Plate Mask

Parental supervision is recommended for children when using scissors.

Materials:

- Paper plate
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Glue
- Crayons, markers, glitter, and other art supplies
- Popsicle stick



Directions:

1. Hold a paper plate up to your child's face with the top surface of the plate facing him or her. Lightly mark the outline of their eyes with a pencil.
2. Next, cut the eye holes in the plate. You can bend the plate slightly in two to make the initial snip for each eye.
3. Now let them decide on a "hairstyle," and help them cut the right length of yarn for the hair. They can create whatever style they desire.
4. Glue the hairstyle into place at the top of the mask.
5. Now comes the best part: decorating the mask. Here, your child can go wild!
6. Once the decorating is done, use scissors to make two small parallel horizontal snips, about half an inch apart, near the bottom of the mask. (They should be just slightly longer than the width of a popsicle stick.)
7. Thread the top of a Popsicle stick through these slots to make a handle for the mask.

Have fun at the Halloween party!

Juice Box Mummy

Don't throw out those empty juice box containers...

Make a slew of these super easy mummies to celebrate Halloween!

Materials:

- Empty cardboard juice box container
- 2 tablespoons rice
- Fold top sandwich bag
- Tape
- Black and white construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue stick (works better than white craft glue for a smooth, flat finish)
- 2 medium wiggle eyes
- White craft glue



Directions:

1. Cut open the top of the juice box container, rinse and dry thoroughly.
2. Place rice inside sandwich bag. Roll up the bag and secure with tape.
3. Place bag of rice inside juice box and tape the top closed.

(Or use sand or pebbles, enough to add some weight to the box so that it won't fall over.)

4. Cut a piece of black construction paper, large enough to cover the top half of the front of the juice box. Glue it in place with glue stick.
5. Tear white construction paper into strips and glue them around the box with the glue stick, leaving a small section of the black paper visible for the eyes.
6. Use white craft glue to attach two wiggle eyes to the black paper.

Ghostly Footprints

This fun Halloween decoration using a child's footprint can later be saved in a scrapbook. Use the footprints to line a driveway, or tape them to the floor of a hallway or party room.

Materials:

If painting a child's foot:

- White tempera paint
- Black construction paper (use acid-free paper to save for a scrapbook)
- Paint brush or small paint brayer
- Craft eyes (or black paint for eyes/mouth)
- Glue
- Scissors



If tracing a child's footprint on paper:

- Marker or pencil
- White construction paper
- Scissors
- Craft eyes (or black paint for eyes/mouth)
- Glue

Directions:

To paint the child's footprints:

1. Clean child's feet.
2. Brush the paint, or brayer it onto your child's foot.
3. Place the child's foot on the paper, pressing firmly for a clear imprint.
4. Remove your child's foot and glue the craft eyes onto the print.
5. Cut out your ghostly footprint.

To trace the child's footprint on paper:

1. Clean child's feet.
2. Trace the outline of a foot on white construction paper.
3. Remove the child's foot from the paper and cut the foot outline.
4. Glue the craft eyes onto the paper foot.

Scary Monsters Peering from the Closet

A super easy and kid-friendly decorating project is to cover a door with black garbage bags in order to make it seem as though frightening eyeballs are peering out at you.

Materials:

- Black garbage bags
- Tape
- White construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors



Directions:

1. Just tape the black trash bags to the door.
2. Have the kids draw a bunch of scary sets of eyeballs.
3. Tape them onto the black garbage bags on the door and create the illusion that wacky monsters are staring out from a darkened room.

TIP: If you use two bags to cover the door without cutting them up, you can use them for their intended purpose after Halloween.

Fun Halloween Resources

Pumpkin Painting, Anyone Can Do It. Really!



**Everything You Need to Know
to Paint Halloween Pumpkins
That Outlast Carved Jack-O-Lanterns
By Months...**

In About An Hour!

Easy Face Painting

**Get Professional-Looking Results... Even If
You've Never Picked Up A Paintbrush.**

**Over 50 simple designs that you can learn to
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***PLUS* Step-by-Step Photo Instructions of 10 Holiday Designs
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