

# Halloween Week Activities

This Halloween, why not extend the magical excitement of this holiday by creating a week-long Halloween countdown?!

## Involve Everyone in Setting the Stage

Decorating your home and yard for Halloween is fun for the whole family. To set the mood, add some of these fun things to your existing decorations:

- Cover furniture near the front door with sheets so the inside of your house looks spooky.
- Turn off bright lights inside and light a lot of candles to give an eerie look. Be sure to never leave candles unattended.
- Use water-soluble fluorescent or glow-in-the-dark paint on your sidewalk or front windows to write messages to trick-or-treaters or create scenes. Ideas include “Beware,” “Keep Out,” “Enter at Your Own Risk,” and pictures such as creepy eyeballs, bats and black cats. Install a black light on the front porch to illuminate the hidden messages. Fluorescent sidewalk chalk can also be used.

## Have a Spooky Movie Night

There’s nothing better to get you ready for haunting than watching scary movies. You can choose from classics such as *The Blob*, *The Creature from the Black Lagoon*, *Frankenstein*, or *Dracula*, or modern films such as *The Addams Family*, *Beetlejuice*, *Hocus Pocus*, *Ghostbusters*, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, *Poltergeist* or *It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown*.

## Share Halloween Jokes!

Did you ever wonder why there are so many Halloween jokes? Other holidays have catchy songs, sweet sayings on candy hearts, fireworks, baskets and bunnies. But Halloween has a lot of jokes created in its honor. So share some with your family and it’s sure to make a fun night for all. Here are just a few suggestions:

- How do witches keep their hair in place while flying? With scare spray.
- Why don’t skeletons ever go out on the town? Because they don’t have any body to go out with.
- What do ghosts and goblins drink on Halloween? Ghoul-Aid.
- What do ghosts serve for dessert? I Scream.
- What do you call a ghost in a torn sheet? A holy terror.
- What do you call a witch who lives at the beach? A sand witch.
- What goes “Ha-ha-ha...THUD”? A monster laughing his head off.
- What is Beethoven doing in his coffin right now? Decomposing.
- What kind of mistakes do ghosts make? Boo boos.
- What would you call the ghost of a door-to-door salesman? A dead ringer.
- What do you call a haunted chicken? A poultry-geist.
- What’s it like to be kissed by a vampire? It’s a pain in the neck.
- Where does Dracula usually eat his lunch? At the casketeria.
- Who did Frankenstein take to the prom? His ghoulish friend.
- Why are so few ghosts arrested? It’s hard to pin anything on them.
- Why didn’t the skeleton cross the road? He had no guts.
- Why do mummies make excellent spies? They’re good at keeping things under wraps.
- Why don’t mummies take vacations? They’re afraid they’ll relax and unwind.
- Why don’t witches like to ride their brooms when they’re angry? They’re afraid of flying off the handle.
- What do you call a skeleton who won’t work? Lazy bones.
- What was the favorite game at the ghost’s birthday party? Hide and Shriek.
- What is Transylvania’s national sport? Drac Racing.
- Why do mummies make good employees? They get all wrapped up in their work.
- Why are there fences around cemeteries? Because people are dying to get in!

## Review Trick-or-Treating Safety Tips with Your Kids

Trick-or-treating should be fun and safe. Take the time to review these tips with your kids before the big day so that they know what is expected of them. After you've shared the tips, give your kids a pop quiz, with halloween candy given for each right answer!

- Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing.
- Plan and discuss the route the kids intend to follow. Know the names of older children's companions.
- Instruct your child to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.
- Teach your kids to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and **NEVER** enter a stranger's home.
- Establish a return time.
- Review all pedestrian/traffic safety rules (like how/where to cross a street).
- Put the child's name, address and phone number on a slip of paper and pin inside a child's pocket in case the child gets separated from the group.
- Add strips of reflective tape to your child's costume to make him/her more visible.
- Remind your child to walk, not run, from house to house and not to cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Tell your kids not to eat any treat until they return home.

When in doubt about a piece of candy, throw it out!