

Summary

Halloween contains stories and facts about this festival that takes place on 31st October. There are both up-to-date and historical facts, cartoons and photos about Halloween which is now mainly a celebration for children, but which was once linked to the end of the season and the start of winter.

About the author

Margaret Lo is a very experienced teacher and author. She has written several books in the Penguin Young Readers series, including *Colors*, and *My Home*.



Topics and themes

Clothes: Children dress up in costume before going out into the streets. Typical costumes are ghosts (easily made with white sheets), witches, monsters and vampires. Have the pupils ever been to a fancy dress party? What did they wear?

Food: There are several foods in the Reader: fruit bread, candy, and party food on page 10. Lanterns are made from pumpkins, which are hollowed out. In the US pumpkins are made into pies and soups. Pupils can draw their own designs for faces. Small items can be made from other round root vegetables such as turnips or use balloons and draw on them.

Magic: Halloween is a time when magical things happen. Witches perform magic. Pupils can make their own 'spells': what, or who, would they like to change? Pupils can make up recipes. What would they put in them? How long would they cook them? What do they say as they stir the pot?

Many animals are associated with magic. Ask pupils if they can think of any, for example, bats, black cats, frogs, spider, toads).

Music: There are two rhymes in the Reader: on pages 7 and 12–14 which can be put to music. Let the pupils become familiar with the rhymes, identify the rhyming words and perhaps use the rhyming words to write their own verses.

Making use of the Reader

Introduction: Ask everyone to turn to page 1, the Contents page. At random call out a heading, and everyone must turn to the correct page as quickly as possible.

Warmer: Write the alphabet on the board. Write in any order some of the vocabulary from the Reader: monster, candy, witch, friend, ghost, etc. Ask the pupils to put the words in alphabetical order. They could do this in teams, and the first team to do it correctly is the winner.

Matching text and pictures: Photocopy pages 9–10 and cut out the pictures and the text. In pairs, pupils must match the pictures to the text.

Making faces: You will need lots of paper plates and round-ended scissors. Pupils draw a face on their plate. There are examples on the cover of the Reader. They can colour them too and add wool for hair. They cut out eyes and the mouth (teeth and nose). Make a hole at the top for threading wool or string and hang them all up.

Numbers: Count the number of witches, bats, cats or lanterns per page or throughout the whole Reader.

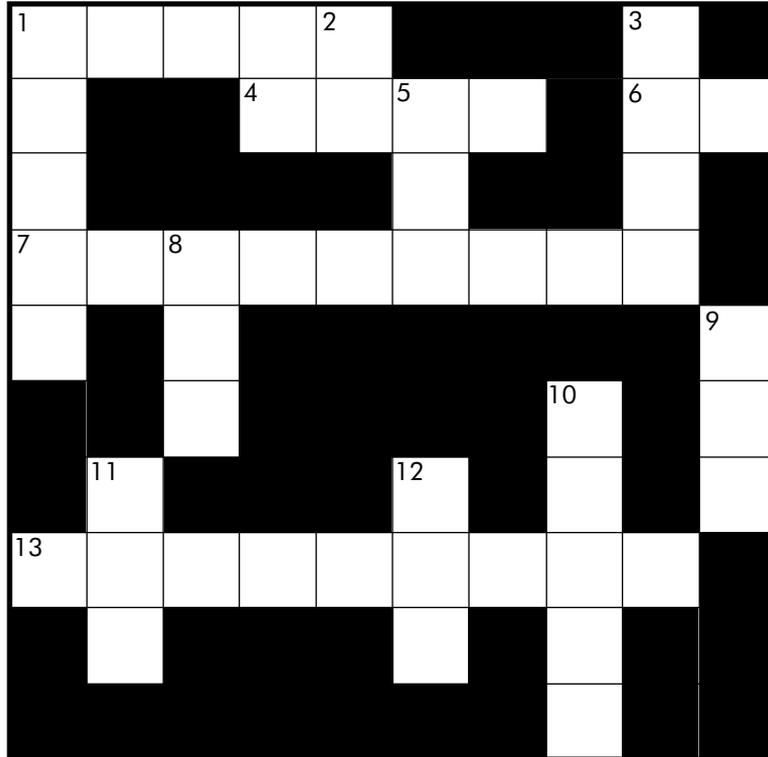


Halloween

Name:

Activity 3

Complete the crossword.



Across

- 1. Trick or _____ ? (5 letters)
- 4. On the end of feet, on page 7 they are green (4 letters)
- 6. _____ Hong Kong children have parties at Halloween (2 letters)
- 7. A long green animal (9 letters)
- 15. The name of the festival and the book

Down

- 1. _____ or Treat? (5 letters)
- 2. It is dark _____ night (2 letters)
- 3. Farmers made a big _____ at the end of October (4 letters)
- 5. It is not the beginning (4 letters)
- 8. _____, two, three (3 letters)
- 9. Pet animal (3 letters)
- 10. The colour of a crocodile (5 letters)
- 11. We like to _____ candy (3 letters)
- 12. One, _____, three (3 letters)

