

# About Halloween...



## History of Halloween

Halloween is an annual holiday celebrated on October 31.

It is believed that Halloween was originated from the roots of the Celtic festival of Samhain ("summers end" festival) and the Christian holy day of All Saints.

The ancient Celts believed that they needed to ward off harmful spirits from the dead which led to the wearing of costumes and masks.

## Halloween Today

Halloween is associated with orange and black, and symbols like the jack-o'-lantern (carved pumpkin with a candle inside).

Halloween activities include trick-or-treating, wearing costumes, costume parties, haunted attractions, and telling scary stories.

## Trick-or-treating

Trick-or-treating is a customary celebration for children on Halloween. Children wear costumes and go from house to house, asking for treats such as candy or chocolate with the question, "Trick or treat?" A trick (not really) is placed on the homeowners or their property if no treat is given.

## Costumes

Halloween costumes are traditionally those of monsters such as ghosts, skeletons, witches, and devils which were used to scare off demons and spirits. Costumes are also based on characters from television shows, and other pop culture.

## Food

During the annual apple harvest, candy apples, also known as toffee or caramel apples, are a common Halloween treat made by rolling whole apples in a sticky sugar syrup or caramel sauce and placing a stick (popsicle) inside to hold it.

