

OCTOBER 2022

# Family Newsletter

## October Book List

Theme: Halloween

### The Spooky Wheels on the Bus

by J. Elizabeth Mills

### Room on the Broom

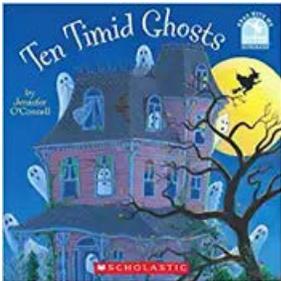
by Julia Donaldson

### Pumpkin Party

by Maudie Powell-Tuck

### Ten Timid Ghosts

by Jennifer O'Connell



### The Night Before Halloween

by Cynthia Fisher

### Pete the Cat: Five Little Pumpkins

by James Dean

**WE LOVE HALLOWEEN!** Next to their birthday, Halloween might be a kid's favorite day! We did a little research and wanted to share these fun Halloween facts.

- Halloween is believed to have begun in Ireland where they celebrated Samhain which marked the end of the harvest season.
- While Halloween is most popular in the United States and Canada, it is also celebrated in Australia, France, and Germany to name just a few.
- In Mexico, Latin America and Spain, they celebrate "Dia de los Muertos" to honor those who have passed away.

In the center this month, we want to celebrate Halloween while keeping the children and our teachers healthy, our top priority. Check with your teacher or Center Director to learn how we will be celebrating at the center and how you can participate.

On page 2, we have some ideas for fun celebrations that you can try at home too! Don't forget to take a picture to share your at-home activities with your class!

Finally, we want to thank our families for completing our semi-annual family surveys. We will be reviewing your comments over the coming month.





# BRINGING IT HOME

RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES



## 5 FUN WAYS TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN AT HOME!

1

**DECORATE PUMPKINS.** Help your child with a design to carve out of their pumpkin or let them paint their pumpkin. Once they are finished, take a picture, and send it to your classroom. Your child can then share their pumpkin with the class!

2

**BECOME A MAD SCIENTIST.** What better way to celebrate Halloween than by conducting experiments that are spooky and creepy! Here are some examples:

- Vampire slime
- Frankenstein's phlegm
- Ghost rockets
- Pumpkin playdough

3

**SPOOKY STORY TIME.** Make story time spooky by turning down the lights or making a fort to read in. Dress up in your Halloween costume to make it fun and make a Halloween themed snack. Get cozy and read a few Halloween stories or take turns making up Halloween stories.

4

**HALLOWEEN THEMED GAMES.** Turn your favorite games into Halloween themed games to celebrate the day. Use Google or Pinterest to search Halloween games and find a few that are easy to assemble. Then spend some time making and playing the games. Here are some examples:

- **Bean Bag Toss** – using recycled cans, paint them to resemble your favorite Halloween characters. Stack them to make a pyramid and toss a bean bag at them to knock them down.
- **Glow in the Dark Ring Toss** – Place 2-3 pumpkins in the yard. Make rings out of glow sticks. Once it gets dark, go outside, and try to toss the rings onto the stems of the pumpkins.
- **Pumpkin Poke** – Using a piece of cardboard, glue plastic cups onto it in the shape of a pumpkin. Place pieces of candy or a small prize in a few of the cups. Cover all the cups with a square of tissue paper and a rubber band to secure the tissue paper. Have your child search the cups for a prize by poking a hole in the cups.

## Coffee Filter Monsters

*Age Group: Preschool, Pre-Kinder*

Flatten out a coffee filter and let your child draw on the filter using washable markers. Make sure they fill in most of the space with color. Then take a spray bottle an eye dropper with water and slowly add water. Once your child is happy with the result, have them add googly eyes, arms, and legs from construction paper to finish their monster!



One Little Project

## Jack-O-Lantern Suncatcher

*Age Group: Preschool, Pre-Kinder*

Start by giving your child a piece of contact paper that is cut into a pumpkin shape. Ask them to cut out eyes, a nose, and a mouth out of black construction paper and place them on the sticky side of the pumpkin cut out. Next, have them rip orange tissue paper and cover the contact paper. Last, have them add a green stem with tissue paper or construction paper. Hang in a window where the sun shines!



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