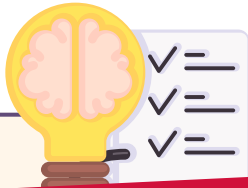


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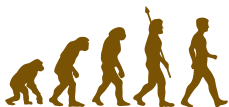
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Halloween Activities Curriculum Map

Celebrate the mysteries and enchantment of this festive occasion with your students with the 60 activities designed to stimulate critical thinking and promote new and learned skills. These activities are written for students in grades 4 to 8, but students reading below grade level up in grades 7 and 8 would benefit.

Your students will be fascinated by the history of this festival, and the icons associated with it. They'll also be challenged to think about superstitions and the difference between fact and fiction.

Learning Expectations: Your students will:

- become familiar with the traditions celebrated during Halloween and how they originated.
- learn about monsters found in legends and myths.
- develop their own creativity using the vocabulary derived from this theme.
- learn about the different symbols that are associated with Halloween.

Introduction & Planning Notes:

Teacher Notes

- Expectations
- Teacher Input Suggestions
- Halloween Vocabulary
- List of Resources

List of Skills

Student Activity Checklist

Activities in these areas:

- Reading Information Cards and Activities
- Word Study Activities
- Phonics Activities
- Halloween Puzzles
- Brainstorming Activities
- Creativity Activities
- Language Activities
- Research Activities

Breakdown of Subjects and Activities:

Reading Information and Activities

Each includes information for students to read and a follow-up activity.

1. Early Halloween - Recalling Facts
 2. The Little People (fairies/goblins)- Recalling Details
 3. Witches From the Past - Word Meanings
 4. A Witch's Tools - Recalling Details, Word Study
 5. Witch Hunting - Classifying Statements
 6. Modern Day Witches - Locating Details, Context Clues
 7. Halloween Animals - Recalling Information
 8. Halloween Ghosts - Seeing Relationships
 9. The Jack-o'-lantern - Recalling Facts, Listing
- Answer Key

Word Study Activities

A mix of full page and half-page activities.

1. Ordering Letters to Spell Words Correctly
 2. Recognizing Syllables
 3. Forming Compound Words
 4. Recognizing Prefixes/Suffixes
 5. Recognizing Root Words
 6. Using Homonyms Correctly
 7. Reviewing Synonyms
 8. Alphabetical Order
 9. Matching Synonyms
 10. Spelling Rhyming Words
- Answer Key

Phonics Activities

A mix of full page and half-page activities.

1. Long/Short Vowels
2. Vowel Combinations

3. Classifying Hard and Soft "C" Words
 4. Completing Rhyming Couplets
 5. Blend/Digraph Review
 6. Adding Suffixes
 7. Recognizing Double Consonants
 8. Brainstorming "le" Words
- Answer Key

Halloween Puzzle Activities

1. Spooky Sounds Word Search
 2. Halloween Monsters Word Search
 3. Haunted House Word Search
 4. Witchy Words Word Search
 5. Spooky and Scary Words Word Search
 6. Pumpkin Crossword
 7. Witch Crossword
 8. Ghost Crossword
 9. Halloween Crossword
 10. Halloween Spelling
 11. Halloween Anagrams
- Answer Key

Brainstorming Activities

1. Classifying Halloween Sights and Sounds
 2. Classifying Things to the Colors They Are
 3. Classifying Superstitions
 4. Classifying Safety Rules
 5. Writing a Recipe
- Answer Key

Halloween Creativity

1. Writing Halloween Alliterations
2. Writing a Halloween Limerick
3. Writing a Halloween Cinquain
4. Writing a Halloween Story
5. Writing a Halloween Information Story
6. Completing a Story Starter
7. Writing a Conversation Story

8. Completing Rhyming Couplets
9. Completing a Story Outline;
Writing a Halloween Story from a Suggested Beginning

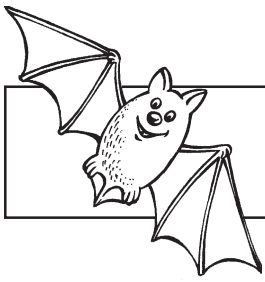
Halloween Language

1. Classifying Parts of Speech
2. Classifying Types of Sentences
3. Recognizing Subject and Predicate
4. Recognizing Bare Subject and Bare Predicate
5. Recognizing Common and Proper Nouns
6. Writing Paragraphs

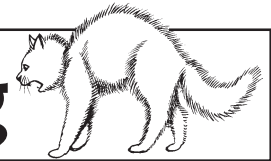
Answer Key

Halloween Research

1. Book Search
2. Researching a Halloween Animal



Halloween Reading



Information Card Seven

Halloween Animals

"Cats, bats, owls and toads" are animals that have been associated with Halloween for many years. At one time people believed that "cats" had magical powers. The Egyptians worshipped a goddess named "Pasht" who had a head like a cat. Cats were taken aboard ships and were often traded for a metal called tin. The Druids were afraid of cats. They felt that they were human beings changed into animals by evil spirits. Cats were often thrown in the Samhain fires that burned on November 1.

Most people thought a black cat was a witch's familiar. In the dark, all cats look black. A witch's familiar could be any color. People did not know if a cat was an innocent pet or a witch in disguise and they were especially feared during Halloween.

A cat's stealthy movements, its sinister glare and the fact that they could see in the dark made people distrust them. On Halloween night, strange noises did not disturb a cat and for this reason people felt a cat was probably a spirit itself.

A black cat, with an arched back, its hair standing on end and its glaring eyes stood for the spirit of evil and is often shown as a symbol of Halloween.

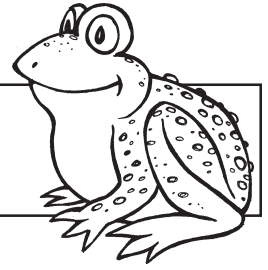
Owls were considered evil by the ancient Romans and sacred by the Greeks. People in Europe were afraid of the owl's glassy stare and its eerie call and it made them think of witches. The screech owl makes its nest in hollow trees and travelers passing under the trees were often frightened by its weird, trembling whistle. They thought the owl was a witch hiding in the trees as witches often took on the shape of other creatures.

Superstitious people today believe the screech owl's call means death or disaster. The owl with its glassy stare is often seen on greeting cards and party decorations.

Bats are frightening looking creatures as well. Their weirdly shaped heads, long menacing teeth and enormous wings give them a very ugly appearance. They are the only mammal that flies and they are creatures of the night.



Halloween Reading



The bat has been a symbol of Halloween for many years. Bat blood was used in an ointment that witches rubbed on themselves before a Sabbath. Witches used bat wings and their intestines in their brews.

People feared the bat because they could fly around safely at night and they felt bats had mysterious, evil powers. Bats hid in dark caves, deep in the forest or in empty buildings. They hung upside down and their wings draped around their bodies, looked like witches' cloaks.

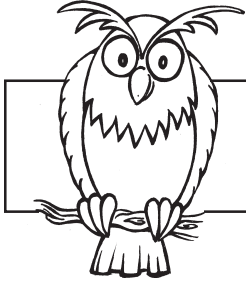
Some bats are dangerous such as the vampire bat which lives on the blood of animals. Although many people do not consider bats a pretty animal they are very useful as they eat an enormous amount of harmful insects every night.

The toad with its warty skin often appears with witches in storybooks, on greeting cards and other decorations. Years ago, people felt that toads were poisonous and evil and often threw rocks at them. Witches used toad's spittle or bits of its body in their brew.

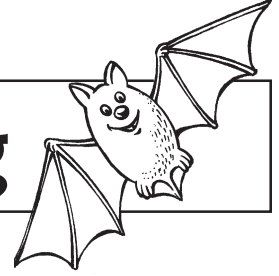
Toads are harmless little creatures that like to hide in gardens, in fields, along roadsides and under porches. They come out in wet weather or at dawn to feed on cutworms, moths and snails.

Toads produce a substance to protect themselves from their enemies. Years ago, people thought this substance was poisonous. The substance irritates the eyes, nose and mouth of a dog or a human being.

Toads are able to change their size from small to large or large to small because they absorb water through their skin. The toad is man's friend because it eats cutworms and other creatures that damage plants. Sometimes people kept toads for pets and they may live for as long as thirty-five years.



Halloween Reading



Activity Seven

Cats, owls, bats and toads are animals associated with Halloween. These animals were greatly feared by people who lived many years ago.

Read Information Card Eight called "**Halloween Animals.**"

Complete the following sentence beginnings with good endings.

1. Years ago people distrusted cats because _____

2. Most people think a black cat is a witch's familiar because _____

3. The Druids were afraid of cats because _____

4. Travelers were often frightened by owls because _____

5. Bats are frightening creatures because _____

6. People feared bats because _____

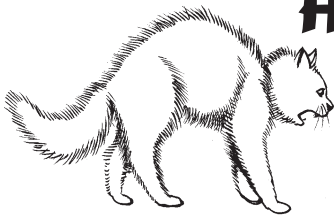
7. Bats have proven they are very useful animals because _____

8. Years ago people threw rocks at toads because _____

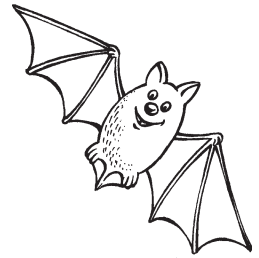
9. Dogs do not like toads because _____

10. The toad is a useful animal because _____

11. Toads are able to change their size because _____



HALLOWEEN LANGUAGE



Activity One

Phantom Parts of Speech

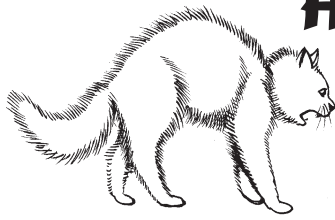
Nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs are parts of speech found in many sentences we say and write.

On the chart classify each word under the correct heading that indicates its part of speech. Some words may be used more than once.

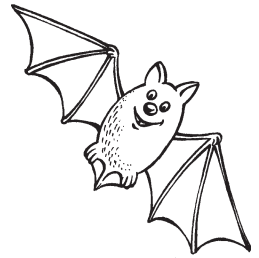
<i>orange</i>	<i>rumble</i>	<i>cauldron</i>	<i>casts</i>	<i>dreadful</i>	<i>dusty</i>
<i>ghastly</i>	<i>tricked</i>	<i>vampire</i>	<i>uneasy</i>	<i>strange</i>	<i>shivery</i>
<i>horrible</i>	<i>sinister</i>	<i>unearthly</i>	<i>grisly</i>	<i>haunting</i>	<i>devil</i>
<i>shrieked</i>	<i>weird</i>	<i>terrifying</i>	<i>chilly</i>	<i>screamed</i>	<i>bones</i>
<i>shadowy</i>	<i>ghostly</i>	<i>skeleton</i>	<i>rusty</i>	<i>shutters</i>	<i>owl</i>
<i>haunt</i>	<i>werewolf</i>	<i>vanish</i>	<i>potion</i>	<i>broomstick</i>	<i>mixes</i>

NOUNS	VERBS
ADJECTIVES	ADVERBS





HALLOWEEN LANGUAGE



Activity Two

Spooky Sentences

In our language we use four different types of sentences.

They are:

Assertive - makes a sentence

Interrogative - asks a question

Imperative - gives a command

Exclamatory - expresses strong feelings

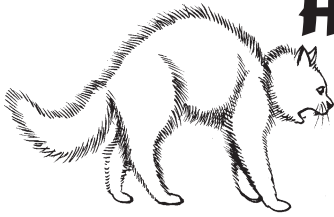
Carefully read each sentence below and on the line at the end of each one, write the kind it is.

1. Can you think of a new kind of Halloween custom you could create?

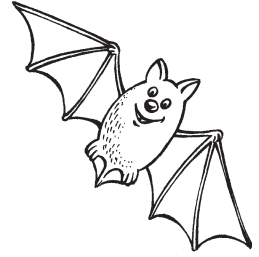
2. "I am so tired of this same old broomstick!" cried Tilly the Witch. "I want one that can go faster and is more comfortable." _____
3. The day after Halloween many pumpkins just sit around getting soft and moldy in the fields. _____
4. "Do not eat any candy before you come home," reminded Eddie's mother. _____
5. Into the steaming cauldron the witch put three cat's paws, five big black spiders and one huge monster's tooth. _____
6. Why are cats, bats and owls Halloween symbols? _____
7. "Trick or treat !" shouted the three little ghosts at the front door of Billy's house. _____
8. The first jack-o'-lanterns carried by Irish, Scottish and British children were hollowed out turnips, beets and potatoes lit by red-hot coals.

9. "Practice your Halloween safety rules tonight!" Ms. Taylor reminded the children as they walked out the door of the classroom.

10. "Don't ever go in that old haunted house warned Matthew's mother as they quickly walked past it." _____



HALLOWEEN LANGUAGE



Activity Three

Subject and Predicate

The part of the sentence that tells what you are talking about is called the **SUBJECT**.

The part of the sentence that says something about its subject is called the **PREDICATE**.

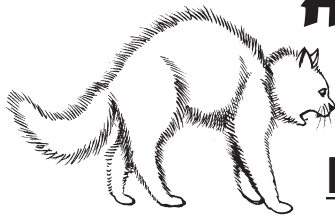
Carefully read each sentence.

Draw a vertical line between the subject and the predicate.

Example: The cackling witch flew / across the sky on her broom.

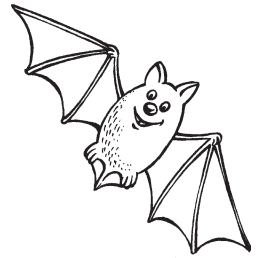
1. Witches are probably the most recognized symbol of Halloween.
2. Cats, bats and owls were said to be the witches' helpers in dark, evil deeds.
3. The early Celts believed ghosts and spirits lurked outside in the cold and darkness during Samhain.
4. To the early Celts, October 31 marked the end of summer and the beginning of winter.
5. Many years ago people wore costumes and masks to prevent the spirits from recognizing them.
6. The first jack-o'-lanterns were hollowed out turnips, beets and potatoes lit with red-hot coals.
7. Flameproof costumes and face paint provide a safe outfit for Halloween.
8. The moonlight gave our house a haunted and spooky appearance.
9. The large jack-o'-lantern sat in the window glowing and grinning.
10. A modern day witch is called a wicca.
11. On Halloween night, figures wearing white sheets are often seen scurrying up and down the streets.
12. Goblins, banshees, leprechauns, brownies and pixies were called the "Little People" or "fairy folk."





HALLOWEEN LANGUAGE

Activity Four



Bare Subject and Bare Predicate

The main word in the subject is called the **BARE SUBJECT**.

The main part of the predicate is called the **BARE PREDICATE**. Sometimes the **BARE PREDICATE** can be more than one word.

Example:

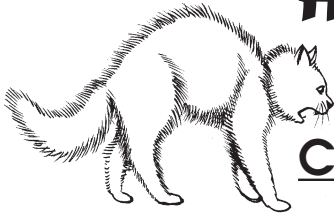
(BARE SUBJECT)

(BARE PREDICATE)

The pumpkins in the field were large, round and orange.

In the sentences below put one line under the BARE SUBJECT and two lines under the BARE PREDICATE.

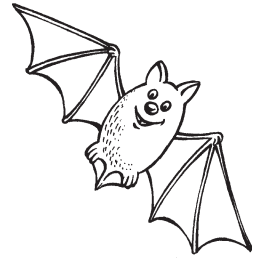
1. The ugly, old witch stirred the brew in her cauldron with a long stick.
2. In the morning of October 31, Martha carved a face on her pumpkin.
3. A little ghost named Caspar was planning to have a Halloween haunting party.
4. Cats were considered holy or sacred by the Celtic people.
5. Many legends explain our Halloween customs.
6. At one time the night of October 31 was called All Hallow's Evening.
7. The parade of trick or treaters marched bravely through the moonlit night.
8. The ghoulish creature stood at the door shouting trick or treat.
9. Sometimes children collect coins for UNICEF on Halloween night.
10. On Halloween fairies come out of their homes hidden inside the hills.
11. At Halloween parties apple bobbing is a favorite game.
12. A superstition is a belief that something bad may happen.



HALLOWEEN LANGUAGE

Activity Five

Common Nouns and Proper Nouns



A common noun is a word that is the name of a person, place or thing. It begins with a lower case letter.

A proper noun is a word that is the name of a person, place or thing. It does begin with a capital or upper case letter.

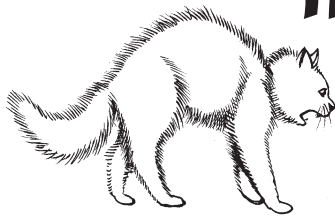
In the paragraphs below circle all the common nouns and underline all the proper nouns.

Witches

Witches are the most popular symbol of Halloween. Ever since the Celtics established October 31 as the night on which spirits of death and evil came out, people have tried to imagine how these evil spirits looked. In the Middle Ages, witches were thought of as evil creatures who flew through the night to secret meetings. One of their most important meetings was held on October 31. This was Samhain, the witches' New Year. Since people believed angels and devils could fly, it was easy to believe witches could fly as well. They carried brooms or poles to help them jump over bumps, thorns or streams.

The witch came to stand for evil spirits thought to come out at this time of year. People's imaginations made her an ugly, evil-looking hag, cloaked in black, with scraggly hair crowned with a pointed hat, long bony fingers and a black cat. Today she's a scary but loveable symbol of Halloween.

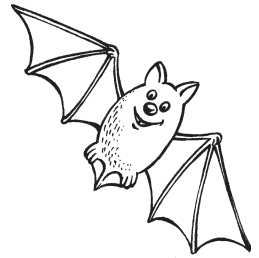




HALLOWEEN LANGUAGE

Activity Six

Composing Paragraphs **from Sentences**



A paragraph is a group of sentences that tells about one idea or concept. Each paragraph is indented.

Use the following sentences to write two paragraphs that will describe how Halloween began. The sentence with one * begins the first paragraph. The sentence with ** begins the second paragraph.

The Celts did not understand the changing seasons.

The Celts believed winter was ruled by a god named Samhain.

At the festival the Druid teachers lit fires on the hilltops to help the sun god to win his fight to come back to earth.

The Samhain festival was also a thanksgiving for the harvest.

Their favorite nature god was the sun because he made the crops grow.

**They thought he called together all the dead people on October 31.

There was a feast and many people paraded in costume made from the skins and heads of animals.

They called winter the season of death.

He told the bad spirits to take the form of animals.

Part of the Halloween story comes from the Celts who lived in Great Britain and France.

The very wicked took the form of cats.

*Halloween began thousands of years ago.

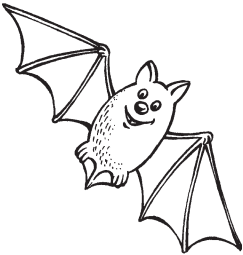
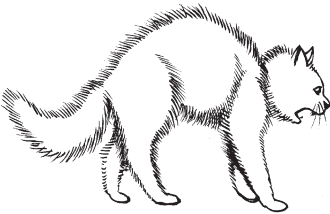
They asked the spirits to tell them about the future.

The disappearance of the sun made them afraid and superstitious.

They thought this kept away evil spirits.

They held a big festival on November 1.

HALLOWEEN LANGUAGE



Activity Six
Composing Paragraphs
from Sentences

Use the sentences to form two paragraphs that will tell how Halloween began. Neatly record them on the lines below. Carefully read and organize the sentences of each paragraph so they describe an idea or theme. Remember to indent each paragraph.

How Halloween Began

Handwriting practice lines for the paragraph "How Halloween Began". The lines are organized into two sets of four lines each, with a larger gap between them for paragraph separation.