



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



October National Calendar

7-8, Yom Kippur. Begins at sundown on the 7th. Jewish Day of Atonement.

10, Columbus Day Observance marking landfall of Columbus in the New World..

9-15, Fire Prevention Week. Since 1925, to educate about how to prevent fires.

31, Halloween. Adults in costumes at businesses and stores; kids "trick-or-treating."

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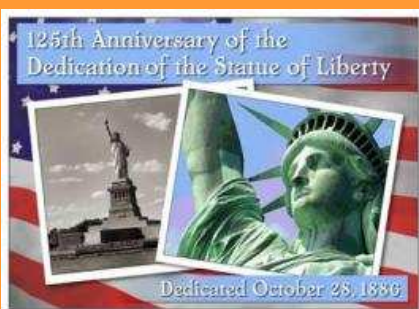
What's New with BKW...

We've been updating many of our pages including those for the coming holidays, starting with Halloween. Take a look-see when you get a chance:

- Fun Ways To Learn (and all sub-categories)
- Holiday Traditions
- How-To (and all sub-categories)
- Is Your Home Green
- Junior Sports (and all sub-categories)
- Scary Freaky Stuff
 - Do Ghosts Exist?
 - Ghost-hunting Gadgets
 - Grandma's Attic
 - Vampire Lore
 - Twilight books
 - Vampyres

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History Matters



Halloween costumes for parents in 2011

If you're greeting customers at the checkout, roaming the aisles of a department store or just want to have a colorful day at the office, you'll probably dress up for Halloween. Needless to say, a Halloween party is the most important dress-up event of the year.

Costume vendors are ready to provide an outfit that suits your mood, whether you want to be scary, funny, or look like you're from outer space.

Licensed costumes are versions of a character, brand, TV show or movie. With most, you will see similarities to what the actors used in the movie. Although the costumes may not be an exact match, they are inspired by the movie and draw attention.

Costume designers are offering characters from movies such as:

- Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
- Hellraiser
- Clash of the Titans
- Iron Man 2
- Avatar



You could also dress up as your favorite candy bar and other things you enjoy in your life.

At www.frightcatalog.com dads have the choice of looking like Zorro or a favorite beverage. Moms might be partial to a pirate outfit with a short skirt... or an Angry Birds outfits from www.halloweenexpress.com.

Some vendors offer coordinated costumes for a group of people. If you are going to a party with your kids, every member of the family could wear a crayon suit. For you and a couple of pals, including a girl, you could all have costumes and be characters from Batman or the latest pirate movie.

This is the perfect time to have a colorful casual Friday at the office! ^.^

CHALK TALK

Conjure up clever Halloween decorating on a shoestring budget

You can make memories as well as decorations this Halloween season, without breaking your budget. Halloween is right behind Christmas as the most popular holiday for yard decorations.

To create your spooktacular display, first choose a theme. Ghost party, graveyard, haunted house are some easy, eerie themes such as the one shown upper left..

Ghost parties are particularly fun and inexpensive. You can create ghosts with simple sheets for the bodies and stuffing for the heads. Mount them on garden tools at different heights: Tallest on the shovel; shortest on the a garden fork. Then think of a story line to expand on: Ghosts at tea, ghosts at a grave, ghosts carving pumpkins.



Graveyard headstones can be more difficult to make, but search your house for items that might make a headstone. How about a Christmas wreath box turned upside down? Or lay out sheets or plastic in the shape of rectangles on the ground, then use old wood to make spooky crosses. Add carved pumpkins for light and extra spookiness. Check out the The Pumpkin Wizard's fantastic pumpkin carving patterns (many are free): <http://carvingpumpkins.com/>

For a hauntingly fantastic front porch, use your garden fall foliage intermixed with pumpkins, gourds, fall flowers and a few spooky props, such as a scarecrow, spider webs, and bats.

Bats are easy if you look up patterns on the Web. Scissors and some heavy paper is all you need. Use cotton batting, stuffing from an old pet bed or pillow to stretch for cobwebs.

Construct a few weathered signs from old wood in your garage with Warning! or Wanted, Dead or Alive! or Open at Midnight! with the words written in "dripping" black or red paint.

Use those rusted chains from your garage to drape over porch railings, and create a faceless monster to sit on the porch swing.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

How do you throw a HALLOWEEN party that includes adults & children?

Dressed as jewel thieves with pillowcases "dripping" with costume jewelry slung over their shoulders, mom, dad, and daughter are ready to host a Halloween party.

Who are the guests? The families of the children they invited. Two parties going on side by side make Halloween a family-friendly safe time. This new alternative bypasses going door-to-door trick or treating, but doesn't exclude celebrating Halloween.

Start with the invitations. Duplicate the picture of a Halloween character, indicate the time and place, and specify costumes. Send the kids a separate invitation.



Decorate simply. Place drinks in a witch's

 **Buzz Tip:** Get your favorite poster at www.123posters.com

cauldron and add ice cubes in which you have placed gummy bears. Color a few of the cubes red, orange, and black. Place skeletons, black balloons, and plastic spiders and bats in the house.

Ask families to bring a treat for each child. When a siren wails, the children can bring their booty bags and each family will distribute a treat.

Have scary movies playing in two places - one suitable for children, another with more adult fare.

Darken one room for an eerie effect. Disguise the walls with black trash bags and play CDs with scary Halloween sounds. Glow-in-the-dark stars can decorate the ceiling. Hire a couple of neighborhood teenagers to help supervise the children so the adults can mingle and have fun too.

Have two buffet tables so children and adults can enjoy their own fare.

Don't forget to include deviled eggs, chicken strips called witch's fingers, and chip dip dyed red.

It can be a chill-filled time, a family affair to remember.

October Projects More Face Painting Ideas



Supplies needed:

1 - Face Painting Kit (this one is available online through www.barnesandnoble.com)

Manufacturer's Product Features:

- Simple sponge and brush techniques
- Tear-out cheat sheets to make painting parties easier than ever
- Bold, bright paint colors go on smoothly, dry quickly, last beautifully, wash off easily.
- Comes with a six-color palette of face paints, a brush, a sponge, and 12 tear-out take-along design cards.

Parent Comments:

...kids spent entire afternoon making up and acting out stories about their characters
...our family loves this kit! ...used it for a block party, halloween and birthday party.
...bought it for facepainting booth at school carnival...easy to follow
...great as a gift or babysitting tool... washable...great fun...kids love it

POETRY FUN . . . and more fun!

Getting Dressed for School

I must have been too sleepy
getting dressed for school today.
I tried to tuck my shirt in,
but I couldn't make it stay.

I also couldn't tie my shoes.
I fumbled with the laces.
I snagged my scarf, and now some yarn
is dangling from my braces.

My socks are different colors
and my pants are inside out.
My sweater from the hamper
left me smelling like a trout.

I thought I put a hat on
to control my crazy hair.
The hat turned out to be a pair
of purple underwear.

I spilled my breakfast on my clothes
and headed into school.
My friends, of course, were all impressed.
I'd never looked so cool.

~ Kenn Nesbitt, www.poetry4kids.com



Voices in the cemetery?



There was a big pecan tree just inside the cemetery fence. One day, two boys filled a bucket with nuts and sat under the tree to divide them. Several dropped and rolled toward the fence.

Another boy, riding by on his bike, heard voices and stopped. He heard, "One for you, one for me."

He jumped back on his bike and rode around the bend, where he met an old man and told him, "Satan and the Lord are dividing up the souls!"

The old man hobbled to the cemetery. By the fence they heard it going on. Shaking with fear, he whispered, "Boy, you've been tellin' me the truth."

Then the voice said, "Let's get those nuts by the fence and we'll be done."

They say the old man made it back to town ahead of the kid on the bike.

Getting Technical

Bad Day - A woman came home one day to find her husband in the kitchen shaking frantically, almost in a dancing frenzy. He had some kind of wire running from his waist towards the electric kettle. Intending to jolt him away from the deadly current, she whacked him with a handy plank of wood.

Up to that moment, he had been happily listening to his iPod.



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