

Happy Halloween

Halloween is a holiday that we celebrate in America on the last day of October every year. Usually children will dress up in costumes and go “trick-or-treating” in their neighborhood. “Trick-or-treating” is an activity when the kids ask their neighbors for candy. Older kids and adults will celebrate the holiday by going to haunted houses, Halloween themed parties, or watching scary movies. However, when people first started celebrating this holiday, it was for a very different reason.

Halloween is short for All Hallows’ Eve, which is the day for All Hallow’s Day, or All Saints Day. Christians used to use October 31st as a way to celebrate the dead and pay their respects to past family and friends. In medieval times, people began dressing up in costumes for this day and asking for food from their neighbors, much like children of today, in exchange for prayers for the dead. But when European immigrants brought this tradition to America, it lost its religious connotations. Today, Halloween is known for witches, skeletons, monsters, and ghosts.

Halloween is one of my favorite holidays of the year. I love dressing up in different costumes, decorating my house with hollowed pumpkins called jack-o-lanterns, and going to haunted houses. Last year I dressed up as a vampire, and the year before that I dressed up as a zombie hunter.



Quiz:

1. When is Halloween celebrated?
2. Is there a holiday in Martinique that reminds you of Halloween?
3. If you could dress up in a costume, what would you be?
4. What was Halloween originally known called?
5. What do kids say when they ask their neighbors for candy?