

# HALLOWEEN LITERATURE

Curriculum Materials Center

This is a selected list of books about Halloween for Preschool through Grade 8.

## PICTURE BOOKS

- Behn, H. (2003). *Halloween*. New York: North-South Books. (Grades K-3).  
An illustrated poem that describes some of the spooky events that occur on Halloween night.  
**Call Number: Pj Beh**
- Bond, F. (1983). *The Halloween performance*. New York: Crowell. (Grades K-2).  
Roger plays a small but important part in the school Halloween play.  
**Call Number: [Small Book] Pj Bon**
- Brown, M. T. (1982). *Arthur's Halloween*. Boston: Little, Brown. (Grades K-3).  
Arthur finds everything about Halloween scary, including his little sister's costume, his morning snack, and the big house on the corner.  
**Call Number: Pj Bro**
- Brown, M. W. (2003). *The fierce yellow pumpkin*. New York: HarperCollins. (Grades PreK-1).  
A little pumpkin dreams of the day when he will be a big, fierce, yellow pumpkin who frightens away the field mice as the scarecrow does.  
**Call Number: Pj Bro**
- Bunting, E. (1986). *Scary, scary Halloween*. New York: Clarion Books. (Grades K-2).  
A band of trick-or-treaters and a mother cat and her kittens spend a very scary Halloween.  
**Call Number: Pj Bun**
- Carlson, N. S. (1982). *Spooky night*. New York: Lothrop, Lee and Shepard. (Grades K-3).  
A witch's black cat who wishes to become a family pet performs magic to be set free.  
**Call Number: Pj Car**
- Casely, J. (1996). *Witch mama*. New York: Greenwillow Books. (Grades PreK-3).  
Jenna celebrates her Halloween birthday by trick-or-treating with her younger brother and going to a party at school where her mother gives her a special surprise.  
**Call Number: Pj Cas**
- Degen, B. (1984). *Aunt Possum and the pumpkin man*. New York: Harper and Row. (Grades K-3).  
Aunt Possum receives an expected Halloween visit from the pumpkin man.  
**Call Number: Pj Deg**

- Delage, I. (1977). *ABC Halloween witch*. Champaign, IL: Garrard Publishing. (Grades K-3).  
An alphabet book that features a witch who is making preparations for Halloween night.  
**Call Number: Pj Del**
- Hoban, L. (1977). *Arthur's Halloween costume*. New York: Harper and Row. (Grades K-2).  
Arthur the chimpanzee, after worrying that his Halloween costume won't be scary enough, wins a prize for the most original costume in the school.  
**Call Number: Pj Hob**
- Johnston, T. (1983). *The vanishing pumpkin*. New York: Putnam. (Grades K-3).  
A 700 year-old woman and an 800 year-old man, both witches, go searching on Halloween night for the pumpkin that was stolen from them.  
**Call Number: Pj Joh**
- Keats, E. J. (1978). *The trip*. New York: Greenwillow Books. (Grades K-2).  
Lonely and living in a new neighborhood, Louie creates a magic box from a shoebox and sees his old friends trick-or-treating.  
**Call Number: Pj Kea**
- Kroll, S. (1979). *The candy witch*. New York: Holiday House. (Grades K-3).  
Because her good deeds are not noticed, a small witch steals every trick-or-treat bag in town on Halloween.  
**Call Number: Pj Kro**
- Leuck, L. (2003). *One witch*. New York: Walker & Co. (Grades K-3).  
A witch goes around to her fiendish friends, from two cats to ten werewolves, to gather the ingredients to make gruesome stew for her party.  
**Call Number: Pj Leu**
- Merriam, E. (1987). *Halloween A B C*. New York: Collier Macmillan. (Grades K-3).  
A poem for each letter of the alphabet introduces a different, spooky aspect of Halloween.  
**Call Number: Pj Mer**
- Montes, M. (2006). *Los gatos black on Halloween*. New York: Henry Holt and Company. (Grades K-2).  
Easy to read, rhyming text about Halloween night that incorporates Spanish words.  
**Call Number: Pj Mon**
- Roberts, B. (1995). *Halloween mice!* New York: Clarion. (Grades PreK-2).  
Mice whirling and skipping on Halloween night are threatened by an approaching cat and come up with a scary trick to defend themselves.  
**Call Number: Pj Rob**

Rylant, C. (1988). *Henry and Mudge under the yellow moon*. New York: Bradbury Press. (Grades K-3).

In the autumn Henry and his big dog Mudge watch the leaves turn, meet with some Halloween spooks and share Thanksgiving dinner.

**Call Number: Pj Ryl**

## FICTION

Carlson, N. S. (1979). *The night the scarecrow walked*. New York: Scribner. (Grades 2-4).

Two children who sympathize with a scarecrow that stands all day in its field have an opportunity to regret their interest.

**Call Number: j Car**

Coville, B. (1982). *The monster's ring*. New York: Pantheon Books. (Grades 4-8).

A timid boy, eager to frighten the school bully on Halloween night, acquires a magic ring and the power to change himself into a hideous monster.

**Call Number: j Cov**

Hamilton, V. (1983). *Willie Bea and the time the Martians landed*. New York: Greenwillow Books. (Grades 4-8).

In October of 1938, on their farm homestead in Ohio, a black family is caught up in the fear generated by the Orson Welles "Martians have landed" broadcast.

**Call Number: j Ham**

Hildick, E. W. (1985). *The ghost squad and the Halloween conspiracy*. New York: E. P. Dutton. (Grades 4-8).

Four young ghosts uncover a plot by a senator's stepson to have his stepfather unwittingly pass out candy embedded with needles at a Halloween party.

**Call Number: j Hil**

Monjo, F. N. (1972). *The secret of the Sachem's tree*. New York: Clarion Books. (Grades 2-4).

The Wadsworth children must abandon their plans for Halloween mischief to help prevent the King's representative from taking away Connecticut Colony's charter.

**Call Number: j Mon**

Peck, R. (1983). *The dreadful future of Blossom Culp*. New York: Delacorte Press. (Grades 5-8).

Blossom, not well liked, travels ahead seventy years, and returns in time to make Halloween memorable for her classmates.

**Call Number: j Pec**

Robinson, B. (2004). *The best Halloween ever*. New York: Joanna Cotler Books. (Grades 3-6).  
The six horrible Herdman children create mayhem during Halloween.

**Call Number: j Rob**

Schulman, J. (1977). *Jack the bum and the Halloween handout*. New York: Greenwillow Books. (Grades 1-3).

Jack the bum spends Halloween trying to get money for something to eat. But when he wins a prize for the best costume, he donates it to UNICEF.

**Call Number: j Sch**

Vande Velde, V. (2006). *All Hallows' Eve: 13 stories*. Orlando, FL: Harcourt. (Grades 6-8).

Presents thirteen tales of Halloween horrors, including ghosts, vampires, and pranks gone awry.

**Call Number: j Van**

Wahl, J. (1974). *Pleasant Fieldmouse's Halloween party*. Chicago: Follett Publishing Company. (Grades 1-3).

Despite the costumed guests' scaring each other on the way to a party, Halloween is celebrated in a festive and appropriate way.

**Call Number: j Wah**

## ACTIVITIES, POETRY, AND STORIES

Albala, L. (1987). *Easy Halloween costumes for children*. Quebec, CA: Alpel. (Grades 3-6).

Sixty costumes to make for children ages 1 to 12 years-old. Also includes fourteen last minute costumes.

**Call Number: j 646.4 Alb**

Baker, J. W. (1988). *Halloween magic*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications Company. (Grades 3-6).

Directions for ten magic tricks with a Halloween theme.

**Call Number: j 793.88 Bak**

Barkin, C. (1983). *The scary Halloween costume book*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books. (Grades 3-5).

Instructions for making a variety of easy and scary costumes and creating ghoulish faces.

**Call Number: j 646.47 Bar**

Birchall, L. L. (1993). *A cauldron of Halloween ideas: Literature-based and cross-curriculum*. New York: Scholastic Professional Books. (Grades 1-4).

Cross-curricular ideas are brewing in this one-stop Halloween resource filled with activities and unique reproducibles.

**Call Number: Curr. Mats. LB1537 .B57 1993**

Corwin, J. H. (1983). *Halloween fun*. New York: Messner. (Grades 2-5).

Describes Halloween customs and gives directions for making Halloween costumes, greeting cards, decorations, and snacks, using readily available materials.

**Call Number: j 745.594 Cor**

Cuyler, M. (1980). *All around pumpkin book*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston. (Grades 3-5).

Presents little-known facts as well as recipes and crafts projects using pumpkins. Also includes planting and cultivation hints and suggested carving techniques.

**Call Number: j 641.6 Cuy**

Luckhardt, M. M. (Ed.). (1972). *Spooky tales about witches, ghosts, goblins, demons, and such*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press. (Grades 4-8).

A collection of folktales, original stories, and poems about goblins, devils, demons, witches, ghosts, and Halloween.

**Call Number: j 398.4 Luc**

Maestro, G. (1983). *Halloween howls: Riddles that are a scream*. New York: Dutton. (Grades 2-4).

A collection of humorous riddles on a Halloween theme including, "Why did the ghost's car stop dead? It ran out of gasps."

**Call Number: j 818 Mae**

Marks, B., & Marks, R. (1981). *The spook book*. New York: Lothrop, Lee, and Shepard Books. (Grades 3-5).

Presents directions for making a variety of decorations, refreshments, stunts, and games for Halloween parties.

**Call Number: j 394.2 Mar**

Patterson, L. (1979). *Haunted houses on Halloween*. Champaign, IL: Garrard Publishing Company. (Grades 4-8).

Retells two folktales in which a young man becomes involved with a ghost and a clever hunter meets a mysterious cat.

**Call Number: j 398.2 Pat**

Prelutsky, J. (1977). *It's Halloween*. New York: Greenwillow Books. (Grades K-3).  
 Directions for making a variety of decorations, refreshments, stunts, and games for Halloween parties.  
**Call Number: j 811.54 Pre**

Rockwell, A. F. (1989). *Apples and pumpkins*. New York: Scholastic. (Grades K-3).  
 In preparation for Halloween night, a family visits Mr. Comstock's farm to pick apples and pumpkins.  
**Call Number: [Big Book] j 394.2 Roc**

## FACTS AND HISTORY

Gibbons, G. (1984). *Halloween*. New York: Holiday House. (Grades K-4).  
 Presents the many traditions associated with the Halloween holiday.  
**Call Number: j 394.2 Gib**

Herda, D. J. (1983). *Halloween*. New York: F. Watts. (Grades 4-8).  
 Describes the origin and development of Halloween, its traditions and celebrations  
**Call Number: j 394.268 Her**

Marx, D. F. (2000). *Halloween*. New York: Children's Press. (Grades K-2).  
 This read-about book introduces young readers to a parade of Halloween costumes, decorations, and traditions.  
**Call Number: j 394.268 Mar**

## WEBSITES

*Education Planet's Halloween Resources*. (Grades K-6).  
 Lesson plans, activities, stories and games to celebrate Halloween can be found at this site for the K-6 educators.  
**<http://www.educationplanet.com/search/search?keywords=halloween&media=site>**

*Education World: Halloween*. (Grades K-6).  
 Resources for the K-6 educator to celebrate Halloween across the curriculum.  
**<http://www.education-world.com/holidays/archives/halloween.shtml>**

*Teach-nology: Halloween lesson plans*. (Grades K-8).  
 This site includes lesson plans, themes, and worksheets to integrate Halloween into several subject areas.  
**[http://www.teach-nology.com/teachers/lesson\\_plans/holidays/halloween/](http://www.teach-nology.com/teachers/lesson_plans/holidays/halloween/)**