

**McGruff**<sup>®</sup>

# Halloween

## Safety Kit for Kids

Fun Tips and Games



TAKE A BITE OUT OF  
**CRIME**<sup>®</sup>

**MCKENZIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**OFFICE: 701-444-3654**

A  
Note  
from...  
**McGruff®**

Dear Parents,

Halloween is an exciting time for kids. They talk about it for months and when the big day finally arrives, they can't seem to run out the door fast enough.

But Halloween can be a difficult time for parents. We've all heard horror stories about cruel pranks and crimes committed against children when they should be out having fun. Of course, you want them to have a good time, as long as they are safe.

That's why I put together this *McGruff Halloween Safety Kit for Kids*. It includes safety hints, puzzles, games, ideas for parties, recipes, and much more. Let's make this the best Halloween ever!

Have fun sharing this Halloween Safety Kit with your trick-or-treater. My friends at the National Crime Prevention Council and I hope that you have a spooktacular, crime-free Halloween!

Sincerely,  
McGruff the Crime Dog®



## Pet Safety

Candy is attractive to pets, but beware! Chocolate is toxic to most pets, and can be fatal. Cellophane and tin foil wrappers can upset their stomachs, so keep your pets away from candy.

Protect your pets from Halloween pranks by keeping them indoors. Black cats may be particularly at risk since they are associated with Halloween. Place your pets in a secure and quiet place in your home, away from the ringing doorbell and "scary" trick-or-treaters.

Pet costumes have become popular, and may be cute and funny to share, but be sure your dog or cat can still see and move freely and can't get tangled up in its unaccustomed finery.



## Costume Safety Tips

- Try your costume on before Halloween night; it should be light-colored and short enough that you don't trip on it. Decorate it with reflective tape or stickers to allow you to be seen in the dark.
- Wear non-toxic make-up instead of a mask so you can see around you.
- Your shoes should be comfortable and your laces double-tied to prevent tripping.
- Don't carry fake weapons (swords, knives, guns) that look real; they should bend so as not to hurt you or anyone else.
- Your costume should be made of material that won't catch on fire; stay away from candles, lit jack-o-lanterns and bonfires.



# SAFETY TIPS

## Tips for Parents

- Sit down with your children before trick-or-treating and discuss how to stay safe this Halloween.

## Tips for Older Kids

- Never trick-or-treat alone! Have at least 2 buddies go with you; it's more fun, as well as safer for all of you.
- Plan your route, map it, share it with your parents, and stick to it. Stay in your neighborhood.
- Agree on what time you will return home.
- Carry a watch, flashlight or glow stick, and cell phone if possible.
- Accept treats only in the doorway; never go inside a stranger's house, no matter what.
- Be respectful of other people and their property
  - no tricks!

## Tips for Younger Kids

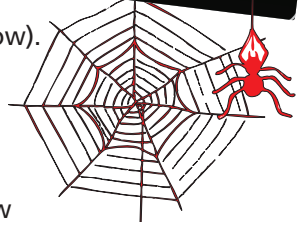
- Always go with an adult!
- Start early and end early.

## Tips for All Kids

- Use make-up instead of a mask so that you will be able to see clearly as you trick-or-treat. Your costume should be flame retardant, white or light-colored for visibility, and reflective. It should be short enough that you won't trip on it.
- Walk, don't run! Stick to sidewalks whenever possible. If you must walk in the street, face traffic and keep a safe distance between you and moving cars.
- Cross at street corners after looking both ways. Never run between parked cars or criss-cross back and forth across streets.
- Stay away from lit jack-o-lanterns. Review the "Stop-Drop-Roll" technique in the event a costume catches fire.
- Stop only at well-lighted houses.
- Be sure to say thank-you for your treats.
- Have a parent check your treats before you or anyone eats them.

**Parents**...like Halloween trick-or-treating, the Internet can be fun and exciting, but can pose hazards for children and teens if they don't know and follow some simple safety rules.

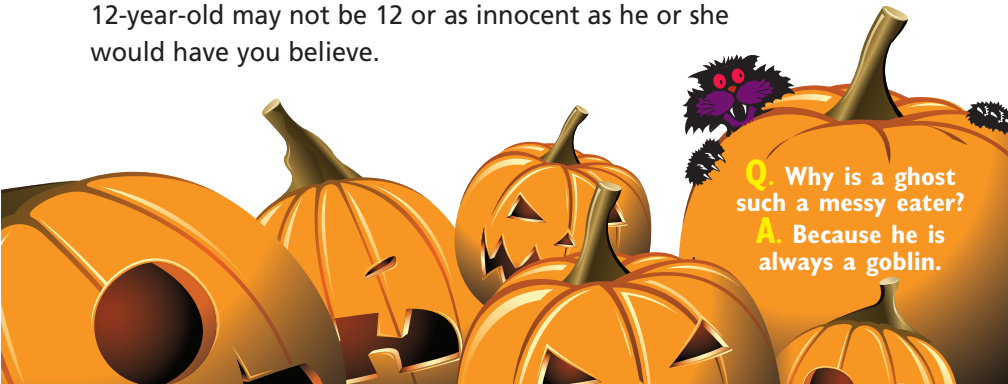
- Have the computer or tablet in a location where you can monitor what your child is viewing.
- Set limits on when your child can use the computer, both for homework and for fun.
- Use the parental controls offered by your Internet Service Provider, and install filtering software, if needed.
- Periodically look at what your teens are posting on social networking sites (see below). Have your teen give you a "tour"!



**Teens**...online social networking sites are hugely popular. These Internet sites allow you to communicate with the world in fun and interesting ways.

**Here are some things to remember about these web gathering sites:**

- They are public places, and everything you post there can be seen by the whole online world!
- What you share on a social networking site should be considered a permanent display of your personal information; whether that is a photo, a comment about somebody, your diary or blog, or videos. Remember, just as in other Internet writing, you should not give out your name, passwords, address, school name, e-mail address, Social Security number or phone number to anyone!
- The stranger who contacts you and claims to be an innocent 12-year-old may not be 12 or as innocent as he or she would have you believe.



**Q.** Why is a ghost such a messy eater?  
**A.** Because he is always a goblin.

# McGruff's Halloween Safety Word Find



**Q.** What do witches use in their hair?

**A.** Scare-spray

N E I G H B O R H O O D R E  
 L I G H T S T I C K P A F E  
 G C C O M O M C G R U F F  
 L A O S R H O M E C M O L  
 O T S T R A N G E R P G E  
 W I T C H U S P O O K Y C  
 A F U N D N T A L N I Q T  
 L D M B A T E R I E N B I  
 K X E O D O R T R E A T V  
 Q U S A F E T Y M O O N E

COSTUME

SAFETY

BAT

WITCH

LIGHTSTICK

GLOW

CAT

TREAT

DAD

FUN

MOON

NEIGHBORHOOD

GHOST

MCGRUFF

STRANGER

SPOOKY

WALK

HAUNT

PUMPKIN

REFLECTIVE

MOM

HOME

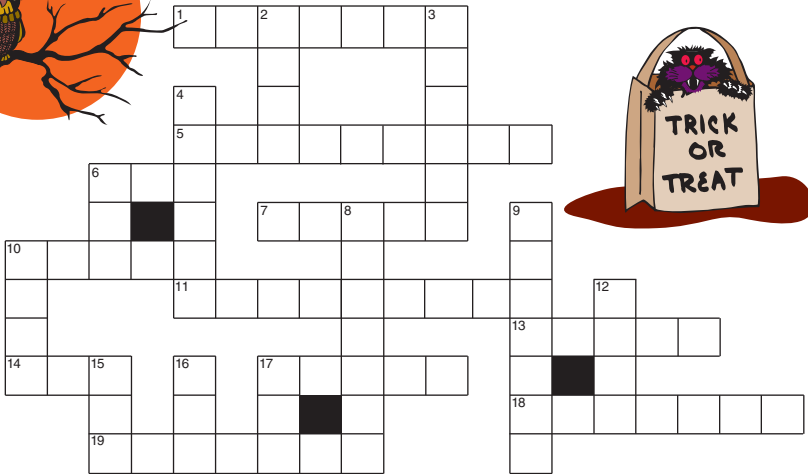
PARTY

FOG

MONSTER



## McGruff HALLOWEEN CROSSWORD



### ACROSS:

- When trick-or-treating, it's best to go with your \_\_\_\_\_.
- Happy \_\_\_\_\_!
- A ghost's favorite word
- He's all wrapped up in himself.
- Every trick-or-treater should have a flash \_\_\_\_\_.
- People you don't know
- Always say "\_\_\_\_\_ you" when given treats.
- McGruff's Halloween Safety \_\_\_\_\_  
(Hint: Look on front cover!)
- Who needs a broom on Halloween night?
- \_\_\_\_\_ the Crime Dog
- Halloween month

### DOWN:

- Ghosts, witches and goblins are not \_\_\_\_\_.
- The subject of this kit
- Spooks
- A trick-or-treating necessity
- Halloween song "The \_\_\_\_\_ Mash"
- Disguise
- When you cross the street, \_\_\_\_\_ both ways.
- Dracula's tooth
- Trick-or-treat with at least \_\_\_\_\_ friends.
- Halloween symbol, the black \_\_\_\_\_
- Spider's home

# Party Ideas

## Bobbing for Apples

One of the oldest of Halloween games, this idea may have come from a Roman harvest festival. The size of the water tub and of the apples should vary with the age of your guests; the smaller your spooky guests, the shallower the tub and smaller and softer the apples! Pick the stems off the apples before you put them in the tub. Everyone who successfully retrieves an apple should get a prize; have additional prizes for first apple fetched, specially marked apples, etc.



## Scavenger Hunt

Make a list of Halloween and related items (small pumpkin, ear of corn, "ghost" pillowcase, popcorn balls, "witch's" (whisk) broom, small glow-in-the-dark toys) and hide them in your yard. Be sure your yard is free of hazards. Depending on the number of guests, give each child (or team) a flashlight, Halloween bag and list and send them out for a specified amount of time to find as many of the items on the list as possible. The child or team who finds the most, wins!

## Ghoul-Ade Punch with Chilling Frozen Hand

- 1 Envelope Unsweetened Orange Kool-Aid
- 1 Envelope Unsweetened Grape Kool-Aid
- 2 Cups Sugar
- 1 Quart chilled lemon-lime soda or ginger ale
- 3 Quarts cold water

Mix Kool-Aid packets, sugar and water in large pitcher. Just before serving, pour into punch bowl and add the lemon-lime soda or ginger ale. Keep chilled using Frozen Hand (below).

## Frozen Hand Chiller

- 1 Rubber glove (no lining)
- 1 Quart either: Prepared Ghoul-Ade Punch (above) OR lemon-lime soda OR water mixed with food coloring
- 1 twist tie or rubber band

Pour the liquid into the glove. Tie it off tightly with the twist tie or rubber band, and place on a flat container (to catch any leaks) and freeze until solid. Remove the glove and place the frozen hand into the punch before serving.

