

Theme:

Fall (Halloween)

This document contains all of the activities for the theme Fall (Halloween) “for the age group “Big Littles.”

Have fun!

Questions or comments? Please email us at

[playconnecttoday@gmail.com!](mailto:playconnecttoday@gmail.com)

All activities require adult supervision!

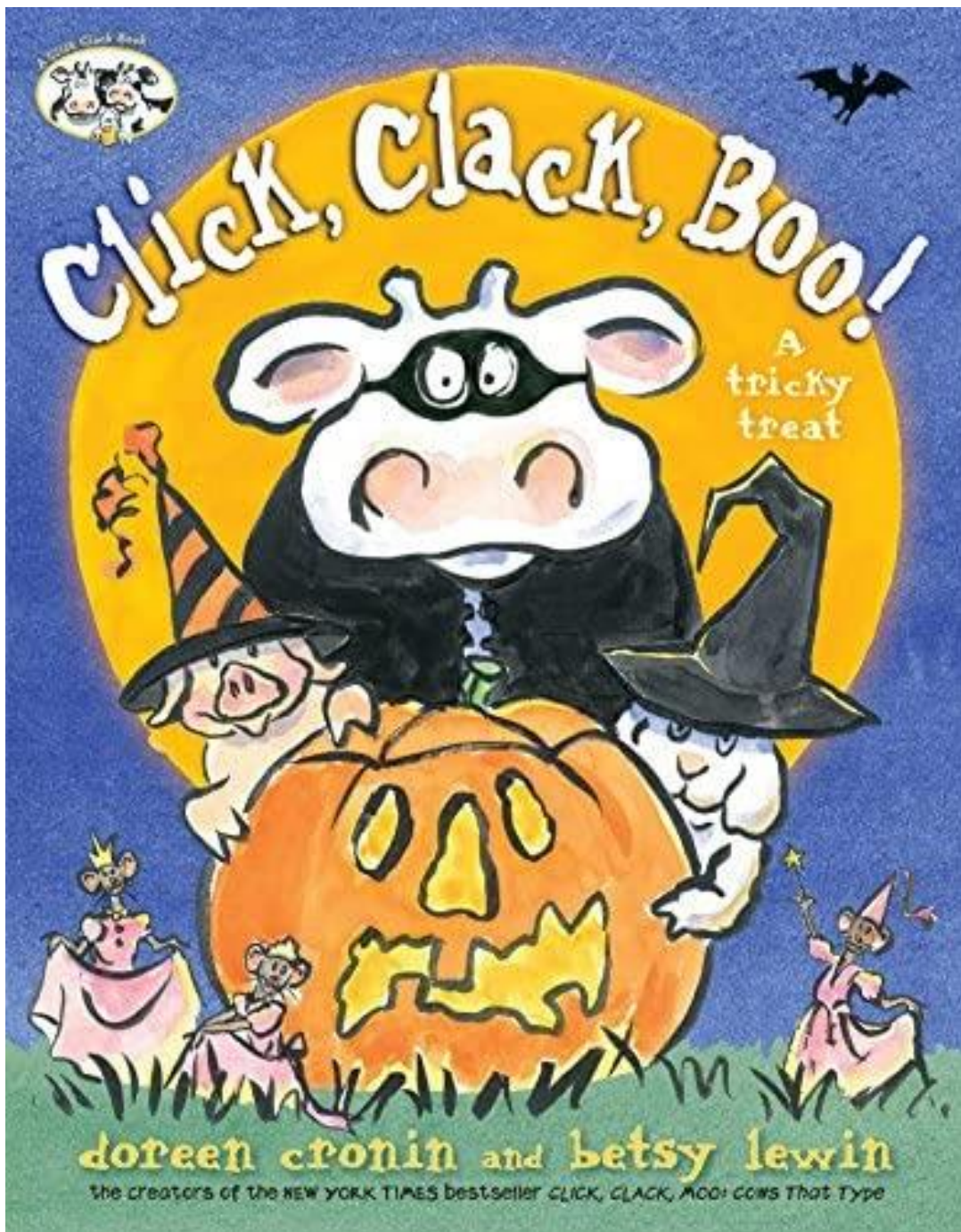
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*Clip art images taken from: <https://publicdomainvectors.org> and <https://clipartsearch.freebusinessapps.net/>

*Images used from: unspash.com

Book Suggestion

(We highly recommend checking your local library for this book, however if you cannot find it-please see link on our “Theme extras” web page to purchase if desired or find another book that showcase Halloween! **You do not need to read the entire story all at once. Some children have a difficult time concentrating for an entire story, it is totally okay to portion on the story over a few reading sessions!



by



Song Suggestion:

FIVE LITTLE PUMPKINS



Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate

(One hand up)

The first one said "My, it's getting late."

(Point to thumb)

The second one said, "There's witches in the air"

(Pointer finger)

The third one said, "But we don't care"

(Middle finger)

The fourth one said, "We'll run and run and run"

(Ring finger)

The fifth one said, "It's just Halloween fun"

(Little finger)

"So whooooo" went the wind
And out went the lights

(Clap hands)

And the five little pumpkins rolled out of site.

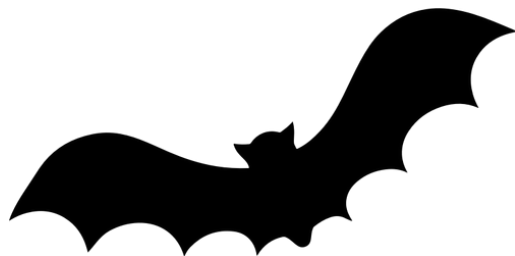
(Roll arms)

Simple Vocabulary Words

These are optional vocabulary cards to show your child before reading the story to help with understanding. It is also a great idea to point out the words while reading the book!



COSTUME



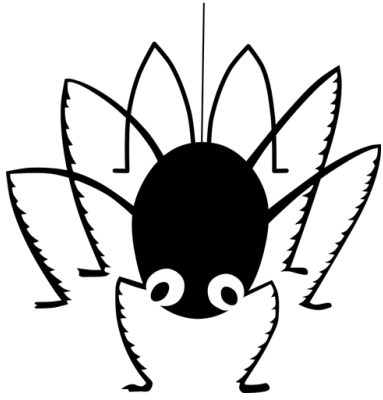
BAT



FALL



LEAVES



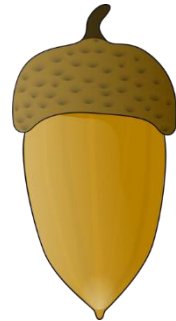
SPIDER



PUMPKIN



RAKE



ACORN

Art Project 1:

Pumpkin Papier Mache

What you need for this activity:

- *Balloon
- *Old newspapers or paper scraps
- *1/2 Cup of Flour
- *2 Cups boiling water
- *1/2 Cup lukewarm water
- *(Non-toxic) Orange and Black Paint
and paintbrush

Directions:

- *For this activity your child will make a Pumpkin!
- *To start-make your Papier Mache glue:
 - **ADULT PORTION
 - Boil 2 cups of water
 - While waiting on the water to boil, mix your flour with the lukewarm cup of water until there are no more clumps.
 - Once the water is boiling, slowly mix in the flour/water mixture
- *While waiting for your glue to cool, blow up and tie your balloon!
- *Cut your newspaper or scraps into strips.

*Once the glue is cooled: Cover your balloon, with newspapers and your “glue.” (As long as your child is no longer putting things in their mouth, they may do this portion)!

*Give it time to dry: turn your balloon once one side is dry to allow the entire balloon to get dry and hard.

*Then, paint the balloon orange. If desired once the orange paint is dry, paint eyes and mouth with the black paint.

*Once the paint is completely dry, carefully pop the balloon with a needle (naturally an adult should do this). Throw balloon away.

Art Project 2: Hand Spiders

What you need for this activity:

- *Orange Construction Paper
- *Black/purple non-toxic paint
- *Paintbrush
- *White chalk or yarn
- *Googly Eyes
- *Non-toxic squeeze glue

Directions:

- *For this activity your child will make a spider!
- *To begin: Draw the web on the paper. For a simple web: make a small circle in the middle of the page, followed by large circles. Connect the circles with lines. (If using yarn, glue down)
- *Next: form a circle in the middle of the page with the paint (this is the body)
- *Paint ONLY the fingers (not thumb) black on both hands and press firmly down on either side of the “body.”
- *Add on the googly eyes!



Fine Motor Activity:

Pumpkin Seed Picking

What you need for this activity:

- *Pumpkin
- *Cookie Sheet, olive oil, kosher salt (optional)
- *Two bowls (optional)

Directions:

- *This activity will encourage your child to work on their pincer grasp which is very important for being able to properly grip a pencil!
- *To start – cut open the top of your pumpkin (this should of course be done by the adult. If you would like to carve your pumpkin later on, leave it whole, if not, cut it into four large slices. (This will make the activity a bit easier for your child.
- *Then: ask them to pull out the pumpkin seeds. This may be difficult for them as the pumpkin seeds can be very slippery, but that is part of the fun and the pincer grasp challenge!
- *If desired: Place the seeds on a cookie sheet, cover them in olive oil and kosher salt and toast in the oven for a tasty treat. (Watch them closely as they burn easily)!
- *OR sort the seeds into one bowl and the guts into another.
- *Make sure your child(ren) washes their hands well following this activity as the pumpkin can make hands itchy.

Math Activity:

Shadow Play

What you need for this activity:

- *Flashlight
- *Halloween Shadow Strips
- *Clothespins

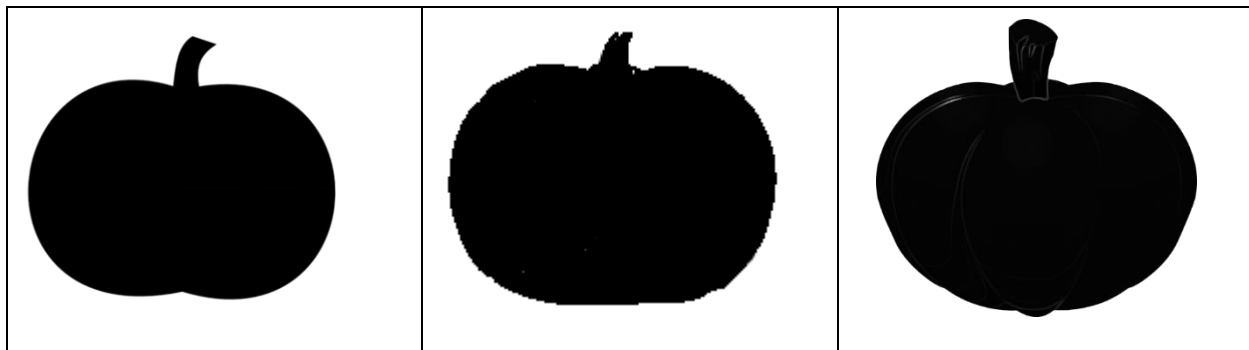
Directions:

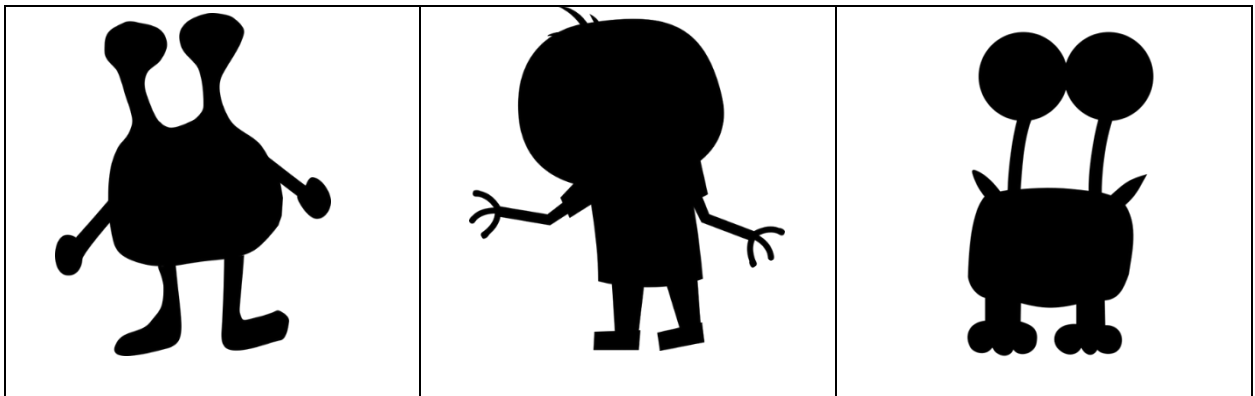
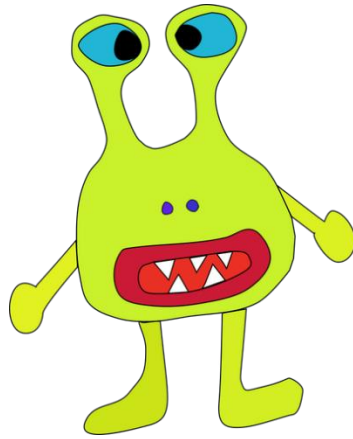
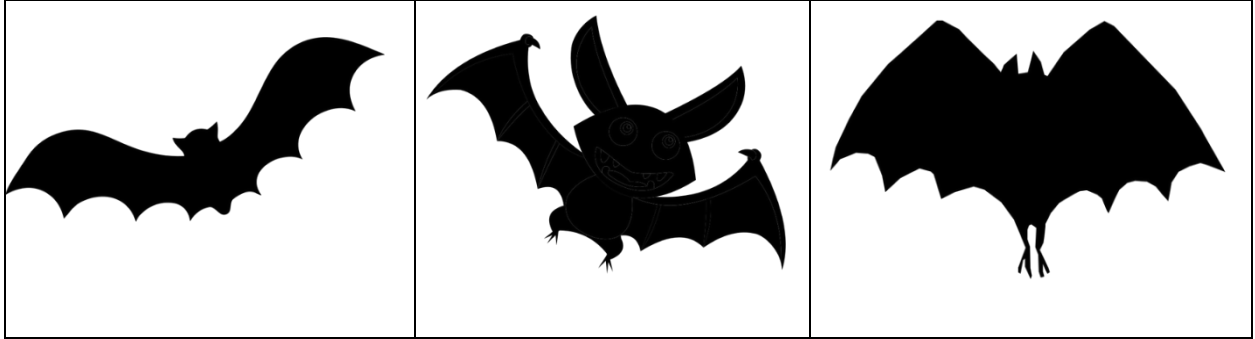
This Halloween Shadow activity will help your child develop their ability to sort/match objects by shape while playing with shadows!

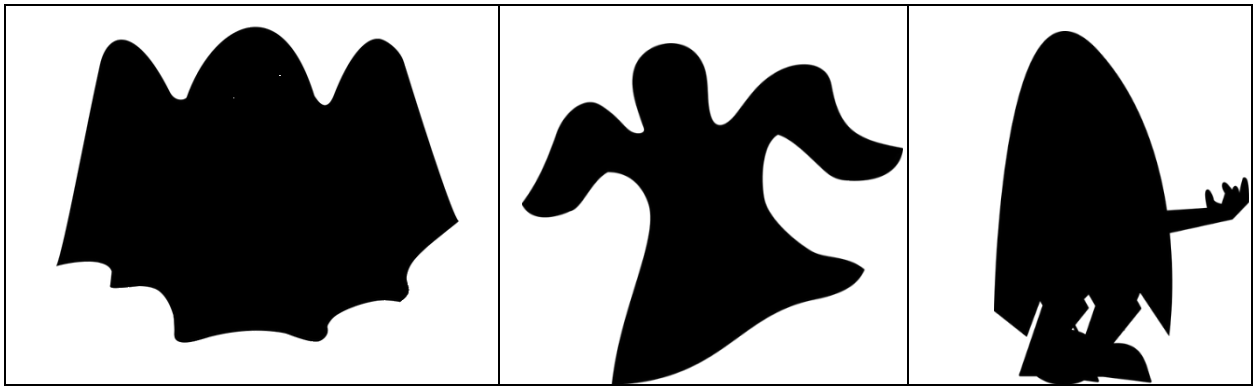
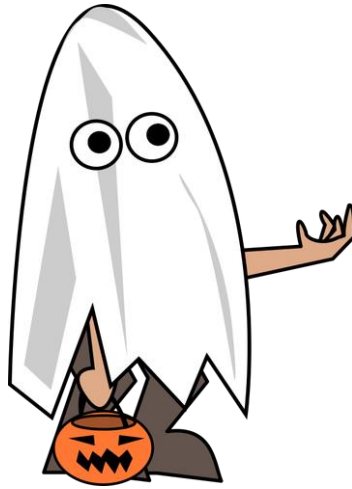
To start, turn off the lights and show your child(ren) how they can make shadows using the flashlight. If the time of day is right, you could just do this outside as well!

While playing with their shadows, they might: wiggle their fingers, “fly” their hands around, create shadow puppets (there are many resources online that show some easy ones for kids). They could also see how Halloween items make shadows: a pumpkin, a broom, any decorations you may have.

Finally, have them complete the Halloween shadow strips. First cut the strips out, then ask them to place the clothespin (if you don't have one, they could also use a paper clip or place a marker) on the shadow that matches the Halloween figure.







Language Activity:

Halloween Miming

What you need for this activity:

- *Halloween Miming cards
- *Child-safe scissors
- *Construction Paper and non-toxic glue stick (optional)

Directions:

*For this activity your child will look practice their miming abilities which is great for language development as it allows children to, in a sense, play with words!

*Print off the cards below, we recommend then gluing them to construction paper prior to cutting them out. This allows them to have a stronger background thus lasting longer.

*To play:

Option 1: Miming

Show your children all of the Halloween cards (so they have an idea of what to guess). Then the first child pulls a card and mimes the Halloween word. (Basically charades). They should not speak!

The other children must guess the word. Whoever guesses first goes next. (Or whoever has not gone yet).

Option 2: Description

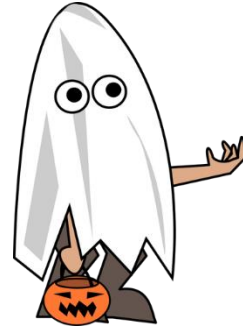
For this option your child(ren) will work on their oral language descriptive skills. In this case, one child will pull a card and describe what they see on it without saying the actual word. Again, the other children will guess. Whoever guesses first goes next. (Or whoever has not gone yet).



Halloween Miming Game



**CARVE A
PUMPKIN**



**TRICK OR
TREAT**



GHOST



**PUT ON A
COSTUME**



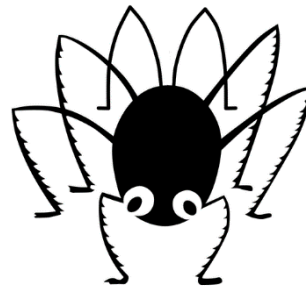
WITCH



BAT



MUMMY



SPIDER

Science Activity:

Ghost Writing

What you need for this activity:

- *White Construction Paper
- *Lemon juice
- *Paint brush
- *Some source of heat (like a lightbulb)

Directions:

- *For this science activity your child(ren) will write a “ghost message!”
- *To start, pour some lemon juice into a bowl (fresh-squeezed or from a bottle).
- *Then tell your child to write a secret ghost message on their paper using the paint brush. Their message can be whatever they would like – a drawing, some scribbles, letters, whatever they choose! Note that it works best if they do a thin layer of the juice so that the paper does not tear.
- *Once they have written their “message,” set the paper flat to dry.
- *Once dried, they will see that their message has disappeared!
- *Hold it up to the light and the message should turn brown!

**Why does this work?

Lemon juice contains acid (as any of us know who have found little cuts on our fingers after touching lemon juice). That acid starts to break down when it is exposed to the heat (of the lightbulb). As it breaks down it shows up brown!