

Halloween

Halloween is a special celebration that takes place every year on October 31st.

Halloween is celebrated in many different ways including trick-or-treating, costume parties, bonfires, carving pumpkin lanterns, reading scary stories and watching scary movies.

1. When is Halloween?

31st September.

31st November

31st October.

31st December.

2. How is Halloween celebrated?

Halloween began about 2000 years ago with the ancient Celtic religion of Paganism.

The Celtic people celebrated their New Year on November 1st. This day marked the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that made the Celtic people think about death.

3. When did Halloween begin?

About 100 years ago.

About 2000 years ago.

About 200 years ago.

About 4000 years ago.

4. When did the Celtic people celebrate their new year?

On the night of 31st October, **Samhain** (summer's end) was celebrated. People believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth on this night.

5. What is Samhain?

Summer's end.

Winter's end.

Spring's end.

Autumn's end.

6. What did the people believe would happen on the night of 31st October?

People believed that if they left their homes on this night, they would meet ghosts. They decided to wear special costumes so that the ghosts would not recognise them.

7. Why did people wear special costumes?

After many hundreds of years, the ancient religion of Paganism was replaced by **Christianity** and it was decided that November 1st should become **All Saint's Day**—a day to honour saints and martyrs.

8. What was the ancient religion of Paganism replaced by?

Judaism

Sikhism

Hinduism

Christianity

9. When is All Saint's Day?

The night before All Saint's Day became known as All Hallows' Eve because the word 'hallow' means 'saint'.

10. What does the word 'hallow' mean?

November 2nd, the day after All Saints Day, became known as **All Soul's Day**. A day set apart in the Roman Catholic Church for remembering the dead.

Trick-or-treating began in the 15th century, when poor people would beg for “**soul cakes**” on All Souls Day. The soul cakes would be made from square pieces of bread with currants. People would give soul cakes to the poor in return for a promise to pray for their relatives.

11. When did trick-or-treating begin?

In the 15th century.

In the 20th century.

In the 16th century.

In the 17th century.

12. What did poor people beg for on All Souls Day?

Begging for soul cakes became known as “Going a-souling”.

Eventually, poor children began to visit houses in their neighbourhood where they would be given ale, food and money.

13. What did begging for soul cakes become known as?

Children still go from house to house, but nowadays, they go on Halloween Night (All Hallows' Eve) and instead of getting ale, food and money, they are usually given sweets.

Many children enjoy making pumpkin lanterns to carry with them when they go trick or treating. People may have special Halloween parties, watch scary movies and read spooky stories!

14. What do children do nowadays on Halloween night? Tick 3 things.

Make pumpkin lanterns _____

Go trick or treating _____

Have Halloween parties _____

Go to sleep _____

Pull Christmas crackers _____

Read spooky stories _____

Can you draw a spooky Halloween picture?