

Halloween Unit- October

I. Concepts:

- Halloween is a holiday celebrated on October 31
- To distinguish between pretend/fantasy and real (ghosts are pretend and apples are real)
- To be safe when trick or treating

II. Stories to Read and Related Activities:

1. *Magnetic Story Pieces : The Humbug Witch* by Lorna Balian
2. *Bears in the Night:* by Stan and Jan Berestain
Teacher made poster of story for visual - Sequence of events
Teach Prepositions: over, under, etc
3. *The Spooky Old Tree* by Stan and Jan Berestain
Teacher made poster prop of story for visual- Sequence of events
Teach Prepositions or position words
Make an obstacle course in room
4. *The Dark, Dark Tale* by Ruth Brown
Teacher Made poster prop for large visual
Prop: Little wooden box with tiny bedroom furniture and a tiny toy mouse
Predictions: Take predictions of what children think might be in the little box before reading the story.
Children can draw what they think may be in box.
What's in the Box? Draw a box on construction paper, make a flap to open it , put paper behind for children to draw what they think is in it. For children that makes marks on paper- take their dictations. If the child is non-verbal have magazine or newspaper pictures for child to choose. All children are able to participate that way.
Spooky Old Woods: Use black paper, have the children glue on brown trees, paint with green paint the leaves. Add watered down white paint for fog between trees. You can add an owl, or black cat or white bunny to picture to look like book if child wants to. I often use stickers of these animals since my children have various ability levels of fine motor skills
5. *The Little Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything* by Linda Williams and Megan Lloyd
Prop: Scarecrow to go along with the story

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Scarecrow: Preschool Oct/Nov 2004 has a scarecrow activity to go with story.

6. *Go Away Big Green Monster* by Edward Emberley

Monster Face: Make a picture of monsters' face - touch the facial features as the children tells the Big Green Monster to Go Away: - Use the book to make patterns of face and facial features.

7. *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak

Real and Pretend : Have a paper with Real written on one side or a picture of a real item on one side and pretend on the other side with a picture of a cat in clothes on the pretend side. : glue together as the group decides where an item should go if able have the child state why.

8 *Lift the Flap Story: What Is Halloween* by Harriet Ziefert and Claire Shumacher

III Additional Activities:

- Sort Halloween Candy: count it and graph it on a class chart
- Review Trick or Treat safety
- Stuff a scarecrow
- Carve a pumpkin; review facial features
- Decorate Halloween shaped sugar cookies
- Listen to sound records or cds - listen to spooky sounds

IV. Games to play:

- Pin the mouth on the pumpkin ; use bulletin board paper to make pumpkin, and black paper to make eyes, nose and mouth, pin the mouth on pumpkin
- Bob for apples
- Balloon up: Use hands to keep balloon up in the air
- Blow bubbles with wand - count bubbles, get bubbles before it bursts.