

Staying Safe at Halloween

Halloween is a fun time to dress up in scary costumes and go trick-or-treating. Hopefully, you will be given some sweet treats and off you go to the next house.

It is important to remember though that you have to stay safe at Halloween. Did you know that children are twice as likely to be hit by a car at this time of year than any other?



Here is some useful advice to keep us all safe at Halloween:

Reflective clothing

Wear something reflective. Reflective means that when a car's lights shine on the reflective item, it shines brightly so that the driver can see where you are. This could be the difference between getting home safely or ending up injured.

Wear costumes that fit properly

Make sure your costume is the right length for you. You don't want to be tripping over and falling into the road. Wear masks with large eye holes so that you can see clearly through them. Ideally, face paints would be safer than masks.

Cross the street sensibly

Remember to look where you are going. Don't use a mobile phone while walking along the road. Always cross at traffic lights or zebra crossings.

Tell your parents or carers your plans

Make sure your parents or carers know who you are going out with and where you are planning on going. Agree a time when you will be home, so they know when to expect you back. Your parents or carers need to know you are safe when you are out, especially at night.

Staying Safe at Halloween

Never go into a stranger's house

If a stranger invites you into their house, always say no. There is no reason for them to ask you in – after all you are a stranger to them too. Even if they promise you more sweets, say no and walk away. They might not be as friendly as they seem.

Think carefully about your 'tricks'

Trick-or-treating used to mean that a trick would involve a small amount of mischief. However, tricks can often get out of hand. Vandalism is against the law and if you damage a person's property or steal something as a joke, you would be in serious trouble with the police. Think very carefully about your actions.

Have fun at Halloween, but stay safe!

Vandalism:

The act of deliberately damaging property or belongings of another person or group.



Staying Safe at Halloween Questions

Answer the following questions in as much detail as you can and in full sentences.

1. What is more likely to happen at Halloween than any other time?

2. Why is it sensible to wear reflective clothing at Halloween?

3. What problem could there be with wearing masks?

4. What should you not do when you are near to a road or crossing a road?

5. What should you agree with your parents or carers when going out at Halloween?

6. Imagine you are telling a younger child not to go into a stranger's house. What should they say to them and why?

7. Which word is used that means causing damage to other people's property on purpose?

Staying Safe at Halloween Questions

8. What could happen if you do this?

9. Think of one more tip you would give a young child going out on Halloween.

Staying Safe at Halloween **Answers**

1. What is more likely to happen at Halloween than any other time?

Children are more likely to be hit by a car at Halloween than any other time.

2. Why is it sensible to wear reflective clothing at Halloween?

It is sensible to wear reflective clothing at Halloween so that drivers in cars can see you when their lights shine on your clothing.

3. What problem could there be with wearing masks?

A problem with wearing masks could be that the eyeholes might not be big enough so you cannot see properly through them.

4. What should you not do when you are near to a road or crossing a road?

You should be using your phone when you are near to or crossing a road.

5. What should you agree with your parents or carers when going out at Halloween?

You should agree what time you will be back with your parents or carers when going out at Halloween.

6. Imagine you are telling a younger child not to go into a stranger's house. What should they say to them and why?

I would say to a younger child that they shouldn't go into a stranger's house because they might not be as friendly as they seem. They shouldn't be afraid to say no.

7. Which word is used that means causing damage to other people's property on purpose?

The word which is used that means causing damage to other people's property on purpose is 'vandalism'.

8. What could happen if you do this?

If you did this you could end up in serious trouble with the police.

9. Think of one more tip you would give a young child going out on Halloween.

Pupil's own relevant idea.

Staying Safe at Halloween

Halloween is a time for fun. A time to dress up in scary costumes and knock on people's doors at night saying 'trick-or-treat!' Hopefully, you will be given some sweet treats and off you go.

Halloween, however, can also be a dangerous time. Did you know that children are twice as likely to be hit by a car at this time of year than any other?

We all need to keep in mind some useful advice to keep us all safe at Halloween.



Reflective clothing

Wear something reflective. This could be an armband, stickers, key fob or headband. This is so that car headlights can reflect on these items and show the driver where you are. This could be the difference between getting home safely or ending up injured.

Wear costumes that fit properly

Some costumes might be too big or have parts hanging down. This could result in you tripping up in the street and falling into the road. Also, some masks might mean your vision is impaired. Make sure masks have large eye holes, in the right place for you, to be able to see clearly through them. It might be better to use face paints instead.

Cross the street sensibly

Sometimes when we walk along the street with friends, we are not always paying attention to what's going on around us. We might even be using our mobile phones while walking. At night-time especially, we need to pay more attention and make sure we cross the road at traffic lights or pedestrian crossings. This gives drivers a better chance of seeing us and keeping us safe. Concentrate on what you are doing rather than texting and walking.

Staying Safe at Halloween

Tell your parents or carers your plans

Your parents and carers have a responsibility for your safety and need to know who you are going out with and where you are planning on going. Set an agreed time for when you will be home, so they know when to expect you back. Stick to that time. Your parents will trust you in the future. You don't want to worry them and they need to know you are safe.

Never go into a stranger's house

This might seem obvious, but it could easily happen. If the person who opens the door says they have sweets in the kitchen for you and ask you to follow them in, just think, in the daytime would you just walk into a stranger's house? The answer should be no, so do not go in at night-time just because they seem nice and friendly. Politely say no and go to another house to play trick or treat.

Think carefully about your 'tricks'

In the past, if a person said 'trick or treat?' the home owner would either give the Halloween visitors a treat like sweets, or say 'trick!' A trick would usually mean a small amount of mischief. However, tricks can often get out of hand. Vandalism is illegal and if you damage a person's property or injure a pet, you would be in serious trouble with the police. Think very carefully about your actions.

Have fun at Halloween, but stay safe. You are responsible for your own safety, so be sensible and think about what you are doing very carefully.

Vandalism:

The act of deliberately damaging property or belongings of another person or group.



Staying Safe at Halloween Questions

Answer the following questions in as much detail as you can and in full sentences.

1. Explain why Halloween can be a dangerous time?

2. Why is it a good idea to wear reflective clothing or items?

3. Name two possible problems with a Halloween costume.

4. Why might face paints be safer than a mask?

5. What might you be doing when walking along the pavement that might make you lose concentration on what is going on around you?

6. What word does the author use that means you should decide with your parents what time you will get home?

7. Explain why you shouldn't go into a stranger's house.

Staying Safe at Halloween Questions

8. Which word means that vandalism is against the law?

9. Think of one more useful safety tip for Halloween.

Staying Safe at Halloween **Answers**

1. Explain why Halloween can be a dangerous time?

Halloween can be a dangerous time because people are walking around at night in dark costumes and drivers might not see them/ children could get injured by a car/ children need to remember the rules of stranger danger.

2. Why is it a good idea to wear reflective clothing or items?

It is a good idea to wear reflective clothing or items because the car headlights would reflect on them and show drivers where you are.

3. Name two possible problems with a Halloween costume.

Two possible problems with a Halloween costumes are small eye holes in the masks so you cannot see clearly and long, dangly parts of the costume, which might trip you up.

4. Why might face paints be safer than a mask?

Face paints might be safer than a mask because you would not have anything in front of your face stopping you seeing properly.

5. What might you be doing when walking along the pavement that might make you lose concentration on what is going on around you?

When walking along the pavement you might not be concentrating on what's going on around you because you are using your mobile phone/ talking to your friends.

6. What word does the author use that means you should decide with your parents what time you will get home?

The word the author uses that means you should decide with your parents what time you will get home is 'agreed'.

7. Explain why you shouldn't go into a stranger's house.

Pupil's own response based on: they might not be friendly/ might be pretending to be friendly/ might be dangerous people/ might want to cause you harm/ parents don't know where you are.

8. Which word means that vandalism is against the law?

The word that means vandalism is against the law is 'illegal'.

9. Think of one more useful safety tip for Halloween.

Pupil's own response.

Staying Safe at Halloween

Halloween is a time for fun. A time to dress up in scary costumes and knock on people's doors at night saying 'trick-or-treat!' Hopefully, you will be given some sweet treats and off you go.

Halloween, however, can also potentially be a very dangerous time. Did you know that children are twice as likely to be hit by a car at this time than any other time of year?



Reflective accessories

Wear something reflective. This could be an armband, stickers, key fob or headband. Wearing something that car headlights can reflect and show the driver where you are could be the difference between getting home safely or ending up injured.

Wear costumes that don't restrict you

Some costumes might be too big or have parts hanging down. This could result in you tripping up in the street and ending up in the road. Also, some masks might mean your vision is impaired. Make sure masks have large eye holes, in the right place for you to be able to see clearly through them.

Cross the street sensibly

We have all walked along the street with friends, laughing and joking and not really paying attention to what's going on around us. We might even be using our mobile phones while walking. At night time, we need to pay more attention and make sure we cross the road at traffic lights or pedestrian crossings. This gives drivers a better chance of seeing us and keeping us safe. Concentrate on what you are doing to keep yourself safe, even though Halloween is a fun time of year!

Staying Safe at Halloween

Tell your parents or carers your plans

This might seem a bit of a nuisance, but your parents and carers have a responsibility for your safety and need to know who you are going out with and where you are planning on going. Set an agreed time for when you will be home, so they know when to expect you back. Stick to that time. Your parents will trust you in the future. You don't want to worry them and they need to know you are safe.

Never go into a stranger's house

This might seem obvious, but it could easily happen. If the person who opens the door says they have sweets in the kitchen for you and ask you to follow them in, just think, in daylight would you just walk into a stranger's house? The answer should be no, so therefore do not go in at night time just because they seem nice and friendly.

Think carefully about your 'tricks'

Traditionally, if a person said "trick or treat?" The home owner would either give the Halloween revellers a treat like sweets, or say 'trick!' A trick would usually involve a small amount of mischief. However, tricks can often get out of hand. Vandalism is illegal and if you damage a person's property or injure a pet, you would be in serious trouble with the police and could end up with a criminal record. Think very carefully about your actions.

Have fun at Halloween, but stay safe. You are responsible for your own safety, so be sensible and think about what you are doing.

Vandalism:

The act of deliberately damaging property or belongings of another person or group.



Staying Safe at Halloween Questions

Answer the following questions in as much detail as you can and in full sentences.

1. Why is safety a factor at Halloween more than many other festivals or celebrations?

2. Why do you think children are twice more likely to be hit by a car at Halloween than any other time?

3. In your own words what would the benefit be of wearing reflective accessories?

4. How could your costume choice make you unsafe?

5. Describe how people should cross the road to keep them safe.

6. Explain in your own words why you should let our parents know your plans.

7. Think of another way a stranger might try to encourage you to go into their house instead of waiting on the doorstep.

Staying Safe at Halloween Questions

8. What do you think the word 'revellers' means?

9. Explain the dangers of vandalism.

10. What might you do differently if you go out at Halloween this year?

Staying Safe at Halloween **Answers**

1. Why is safety a factor at Halloween more than many other festivals or celebrations?

Safety is a factor at Halloween more than many other festivals or celebrations because people go out at night and they are dressed up so that they are harder to see in the dark.

2. Why do you think children are twice more likely to be hit by a car at Halloween than any other time?

I think children are twice more likely to be hit by a car at Halloween than any other time because they are often wearing black costumes and it is dark. Drivers would have more difficulty seeing them.

3. In your own words what would the benefit be of wearing reflective accessories?

It would be beneficial to wear reflective accessories so that the car headlights would reflect them and show drivers where you are.

4. How could your costume choice make you unsafe?

Pupil's own response based on: small eye holes in masks means you cannot see clearly/ dangling costumes or costumes that don't fit mean you could trip over and fall into the road.

5. Describe how people should cross the road to keep them safe.

Pupil's own description based on using traffic lights or pedestrian crossings, and not using mobile phones while walking.

6. Explain in your own words why you should let our parents know your plans.

Pupil's own response based on: parents and carers have a responsibility for your safety/ need to know who you are going out with and where you are planning on going/ setting an agreed time for when you will be home, so they know when to expect you back/ your parents will trust you in the future if you stick to an agreed time/ you don't want to worry them and they need to know you are safe.

7. Think of another way a stranger might try to encourage you to go into their house instead of waiting on the doorstep.

Pupil's own thoughts on ways they might be persuaded: come in and shut the door to keep the heat in/ come in and get warm/ come and see my pet/ come in for food and drink.

8. What do you think the word 'revellers' means?

Revellers means people who are having a good time/ having fun.

9. Explain the dangers of vandalism.

Vandalism can result in trouble with the police and a criminal record. It also upsets the person who is the victim of the vandalism.

10. What might you do differently if you go out at Halloween this year?

Pupil's own thoughts.