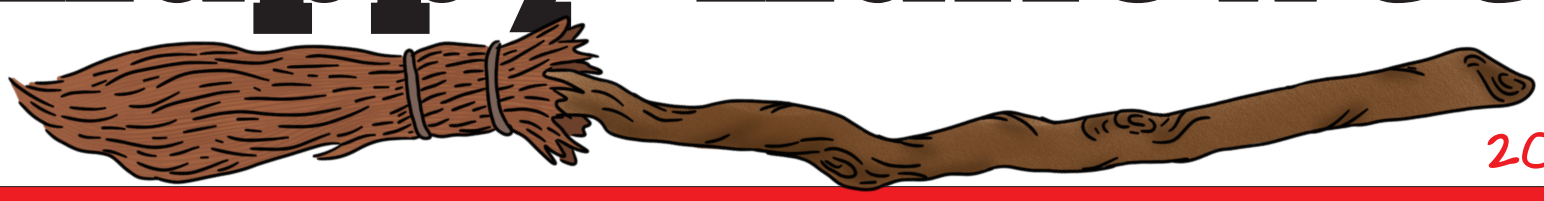
Happy Halloween!



2026 Edition



By Lilliana & Jocelyn - Grade 7

The History of Halloween!

by Jocelyn - Grade 7

The history of carving pumpkins came from Ireland using turnips not pumpkins. It started with a man named Stingy Jack who captured the Devil and only let him go on the condition that he would not go to Hell. When he died he realised that Heaven would not accept his soul. He was forced to roam the Earth as a ghost for eternity. The Devil gave Jack a carved turnip with a burning lump of coal to light his way. Locals started carving faces in turnips to scare away dark spirits.

The history of wearing costumes comes from the Celts during the festival of Samhain. The Celts wore disguises to avoid being terrorized by all the dark spirits roaming the streets. The costumes were meant to confuse the spirits so the people could be left alone.



IN THE LIGHT OF THE MOON.

There is a lot of dispute behind the history of trick or treating but here are two theories:

One. During the festival of Samhain, Celtic people would leave food out to please the spirits roaming the Earth at night. Throughout time people would dress as these spirits in exchange for related offerings.

Two. Trick or Treating comes from a German-American tradition known as “belsnicking” where children would dress-up in disguises and walk around the neighborhood. Adults would then try to guess what these disguises were. If the adults failed to guess, the children would get rewarded with food or other treats.

The colors, black and orange, originates from the Celts and their festival of Samhain. The color black is used to represent death and orange to represent autumn's harvest.



Costumes Through Halloween History!



Costumes in 1905



Costumes in 1929



Costumes in 1953



The History of Halloween!

by Lilliana - Grade 7



Halloween first began over 2,000 years ago as the ‘’ancient Celtic festival of Samhain” in Ireland and the UK. The first person who came up with the idea for Halloween is Pope Gregory III.

That date marked the end of warm weather and the harvest and heralded the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with humans and death. The ‘’Celts’’ believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31, they celebrated ‘’Samhain’’, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead could come back from the dead and come to Earth.

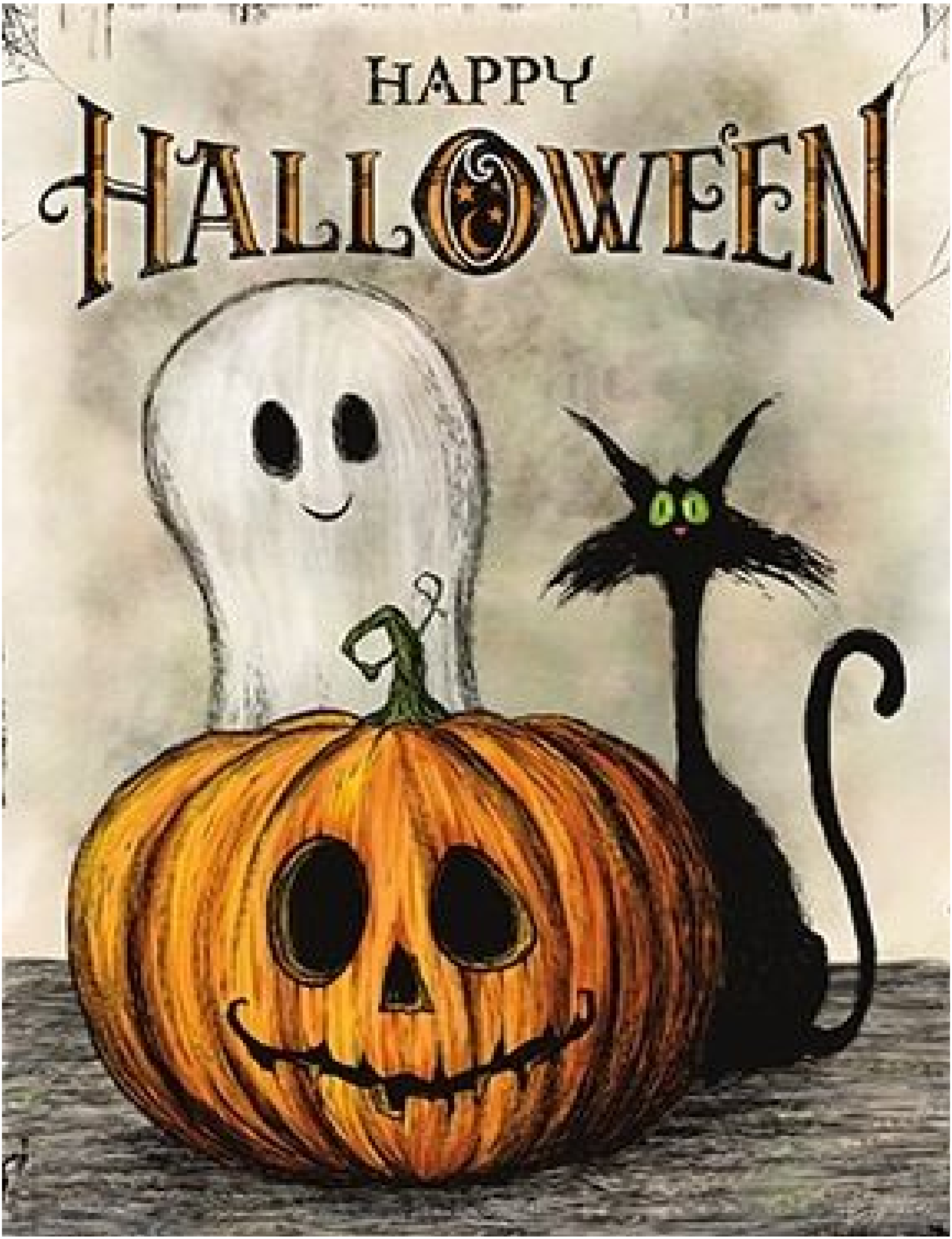
Fun Facts:

Turnips Before Pumpkins: The first Jack-o'-lanterns were carved from turnips, potatoes, or beets in Ireland, inspired by the myth of "Stingy Jack". Irish immigrants later switched to pumpkins in America because they were bigger and easier to carve’’

Black Cat Myths: Black cats became tied to Halloween because medieval Europeans feared they were witches' helpers or shapeshifters, though science shows their dark fur gene may actually help them fight infections.’’

Bone Fires: The word “bonfire” comes from "bone fire," because ancient Celts tossed animal bones into the flames to ward off evil spirits.




HAPPY
HALLOWEEN