



"It's as much fun to scare as to be scared."

- Vincent Price

STEM in the News

Halloween is a holiday that we celebrate every year on October 31st. One of its traditions is for kids to go around getting candy from neighbors, called trick-or-treating. Halloween



has been a holiday for over 2,000 years, and kids all around the world are enjoying dressing up and getting candy. This is one of a few holidays when

you get candy for free. Also it is really fun to make your own costumes, and dress up as your favorite characters or famous people. Halloween is considered one of the most favorite holidays for many people.

STEM Career Spotlight

With Halloween just around the corner you will probably see a bunch of haunted houses. They rely a lot on actors whose job is to scare you. Such actors get paid \$10.88 an hour on average, and you don't need a degree to have this job. Knowing STEM helps you actors and designers come up with various tricks and scares that are sure to leave their audience scared but entertained.

STEM History

In much of Europe and most of North America, the celebration of Halloween is nonreligious and is celebrated on October 31st every year. According to tradition, the spirits of the dead are able to come back to life to harm the people and crops in the physical world. Halloween, also known as All Hallows' Eve, can be traced back about 2,000 years to the pre-Christian Celtic festival held around Nov. 1st, called Samhain, loosely translates to "summer's end" in Gaelic. According to the Indo-European Etymological Dictionaries, the celebration marks the day before the Western Christian feast of All Saints and initiates the season of All hallowtide, which lasts three days and concludes with All Souls' Day.

STEM Across the Curriculum

Do a Spooky Dance

Discipline- Science, Technology and Art

Activity- Get some white tissue paper and a black marker. Draw two dots on the tissue paper. Grab scissors and cut the tissue paper to look like a spooky ghost. Blow up a balloon and rub it on your head. This will create static electricity. Next, put the balloon over the ghost and watch it "dance". Video record your ghost's dance and upload it to social media. Challenge your friends to the best dance contest.

STEM Movies

One of many Halloween movies that are popular is *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. This movie is about a character named Jack who does scary things on Halloween, until he stumbles into another world where it is called Christmas Town. Then Jack gets the worst idea ever, to kidnap Santa and take over his job in Christmas Town. Next, he finds a new solution to make things better again.

Resources: <https://www.imdb.com/list/ls025783055/>

“Magic is really very simple, all you've got to do is want something and then let yourself have it.”

— Aggie Cromwell, *Halloweentown*

Famous STEM Person

People, called the Celts, lived over 2,000 years ago. According to them, the last day of October marked the end of summer and the harvest as well as the beginning of the dark and cold winter. 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 31st they celebrated Samhian, when it was believed that the ghost of the dead would return to earth to scare all the people in the town.

STEM Challenge

Let's make a spooky ghost!

Materials: White bed sheet, black marker, and scissors.

Step 1: Find the center of the white bed sheet and put two circles just below the center of the bed sheet.

Step 2: Put the costume on and make sure that the black circles are in front of your eyes.

Step 3: Check that black circles match with your eyes, then grab your scissors and cut holes.

Step 4: Enjoy your spooky creation!

Bonus: check out *InsideSTEM Vol. II Issue 3* to see how to make a paper bag to hold your sweets!

STEM Puzzle

Can you unscramble these halloween words?

akdr _____

dyaen _____

metcuos _____

oopsy _____

umpsikn _____

huntade uohes _____

kelsont _____

kckaalnotre _____

nkarfnetsein _____

hotsg _____

htead _____

ithgnraem _____

tsab _____

wweoflr _____

llhaweoen _____