

# Halloween

*Halloween*

## Background information

Halloween began in the British Isles as a festival called Samhain. It was believed that on this day spirits rose from the dead. So people wore masks to scare bad spirits away. Centuries later, in the 1840s, Halloween found its way to America with the Irish immigrants. Over time, it developed into the children's festival that we now know.

Halloween is not a traditional German holiday. But the Germans began to hear about it from tourists, and in their English lessons. German children prefer to have a themed party, rather than go trick or treating. They enjoy dressing up in costumes, and there are now many shops and places on the Internet where you can buy Halloween costumes and decorations.



## Teaching Activities

- ◆ Pupils could write a German Halloween word each and draw a picture to match it.
- ◆ Pupils could write a spooky Halloween story.
- ◆ Anagrams – Pupils could make up their own anagrams.
- ◆ Write a recount (link to Literacy) about Trick or Treating.
- ◆ Design your own spooky costume.
- ◆ Design a Halloween poster, and include some spooky German words.

### Schlüsselwörter

ein Gespenst	a ghost
ein Schädel	a skull
ein Kostüm	a costume
ein Vampir	a vampire
ein Spukhaus	a haunted house
eine Hexe	a witch
die Süßigkeiten	sweets
ein Skelett	a skeleton
eine Spinne	a spider
ein Zombie	a zombie
ein Kürbis	a pumpkin

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## Pupil Task Sheet

# 20



Name:

Datum:

Draw and label key Halloween words. Make up a wordsearch or crossword in German.

Write a spooky, short Halloween story.



**And now for some  
RESEARCH!**

Investigate and research the origins of Halloween. Present this information.

### Quick quiz

- ◆ What are the origins of Halloween?
- ◆ How do German people celebrate Halloween?