

HALLOWEEN NON-FICTION ARTICLE

PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS




2 Peas and a Dog

Middle School Teaching Resources

RESOURCE INCLUDES



- ✓ Detailed Lesson Plan
- ✓ Engaging Non-Fiction Article
- ✓ Modified and Regular Article Versions
- ✓ MP3 Audio Files
- ✓ 3 Post-Reading Activities
- ✓ Answer Keys
- ✓ Print & Digital Formats

WHY CHOOSE THIS ASSIGNMENT?

- Versatile Usage:** Perfect for Halloween or any time you want to explore intriguing non-fiction material with your students.
- Comprehensive Learning:** Promote reading skills, historical knowledge, and critical thinking with a single resource.
- Comprehensive Support:** Benefit from a teacher lesson plan and a pre-reading K-W-L chart to guide your teaching journey.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



LESSON PLAN



The History of Halloween

Teacher Instructions:

1. Have students complete column 1 and 2 of the K-W-L chart.
2. Show Video 1 to build background knowledge.
 - **Video #1:** [Bet You Didn't Know: Halloween](#) History Channel
3. Have students read the article independently or using the audio file.
4. After, have students independently complete the comprehension questions. Collect the comprehension questions to grade once students have completed them.
5. Give students time to complete the long answer thinking
6. **LESSON PLAN** format.
7. Have students work with their seat partners to complete the final K-W-L column.

ESL & IEP Accommodations:

- Depending on the needs of your students, you can read the article out loud using the included audio file. Then have them work on the post-reading activities independently or in pairs.
- A modified version of the article has been included for students reading significantly below grade level.
- The Google Translate iPad app allows for real-time translation. Just hold the iPad over the text for it to translate on the screen.

K-W-L CHART

Topic:

K	W	L
What do I already know about this topic?	What do I want to know about this topic?	What new things did I learn about this topic from the article?
KWL CHART		
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WHAT'S INSIDE?



THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

What is Halloween?

Halloween is a special celebration that occurs once a year on October 31. Currently, Halloween is celebrated in North America by children dressing up in costumes and going door to door to ask for candy. This is known as "trick-or-treating". Adults celebrate Halloween as well. They often attend costume parties and compete in costume competitions.



Jack-o'-lantern

Another Opinion

Other historians argue that

**REGULAR
FORMAT**

The celebration of Halloween is the thinnest. This celebration was brought to the United States and Canada in the 1800's by Irish and Scottish immigrants. They believed that dressing up in disguises and offering food would help them avoid ghosts.

Some people believe that Halloween started as a Celtic celebration. They believed that on this one day of the year the dead would return to the living. This celebration was brought to the United States and Canada in the 1800's by Irish and Scottish immigrants. They believed that dressing up in disguises and offering food would help them avoid ghosts.

created to help convert the Celts to Christianity.

Trick-or-Treating

Trick-or-treating originated in the Middle Ages (5th to the 15th century) practice of souling.

THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

What is Halloween?

Halloween is a special day that happens once a year on October 31. Halloween is celebrated in North America. Children dress up in costumes and go door to door to ask for candy. This is known as "trick-or-treating". Adults celebrate Halloween as well. They often attend costume parties.

How Did It Start?

Some people believe that Halloween started as a Celtic celebration. They believed that on this one day of the year the dead would return to the living.

This celebration was brought to the United States and Canada in the 1800's by Irish and Scottish settlers. They believed that dressing up in disguises and offering food would help them avoid ghosts.

Different Opinion

Not everyone feels this is how Halloween started. Other people argue that Halloween came from the Christian celebration of All Saints Day, which occurs on November 1. The day before All Saints Day was called All Hallows' Eve.

Trick-or-Treating

Trick-or-treating developed from the Middle Ages (5th to the 15th century) practice of souling. During this time, the poor would go knocking on doors and offer to pray for dead relatives' souls. In exchange, they would be given food known as soul cakes.

When this tradition began to include children, they would provide entertainment like songs, poems or tricks for the homeowners. Children would receive nuts, fruit or

**MODIFIED
FORMAT**

Some people believe that Halloween started as a Celtic celebration. They believed that on this one day of the year the dead would return to the living.

This celebration was brought to the United States and Canada in the 1800's by Irish and Scottish settlers. They believed that dressing up in disguises and offering food would help them avoid ghosts.

Before pumpkins became the preferred decoration, people would carve out turnips, beets or potatoes. These jack-o'-lanterns were placed on porches to ward off evil spirits.

WHAT'S INSIDE?



SAMPLE ANSWERS

What day does Halloween occur?
October 31

How do people currently celebrate Halloween?

On this day, people dress up in costumes. Halloween is celebrated in North America by going door to door to ask for candy. People also celebrate Halloween as well. They also compete in costume competitions.

What Celtic belief is thought to be the origin of Halloween?
It was a Celtic celebration to recognize the line between the living and the dead.

How did Halloween migrate to North America?
It came to North America with the Irish immigrants in the 1800's.

Not all historians agree on the origin of Halloween. Some believe it is a combination of the Celtic festival of Samhain and the Christian holiday of All Saints Day. Other historians believe that the holiday was created to help people remember the dead.

Explain the practice of trick-or-treating.
Somewhere around the 1400's, people would offer to pray for the souls of the dead in exchange for food. This practice eventually became trick-or-treating, where children would go door-to-door asking for candy.

What other vegetables were used for jack-o-lanterns?
Before pumpkins became the preferred vegetable for jack-o-lanterns, people would use turnips, beets, or potatoes.

Why were jack-o-lanterns placed on porches?
These jack-o-lanterns were placed on porches to ward off evil spirits.

ANSWER KEYS

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ARTICLE QUESTIONS

Name: _____

Instructions: Answer the following questions on this paper.

- What does the word ward mean in the following sentence:
These jack-o-lanterns were placed on porches to ward off evil spirits.
A. Protect
B. Fight
C. Guard
D. Guide
- According to the article, what is guising?
A. To explain what trick-or-treating is.
B. To explain how some historians feel the holiday started.
C. To explain why Halloween is the best holiday.
D. To explain what the holiday is.
- Which sentence has the correct spelling and punctuation?
A. Before pumpkins became the preferred jack-o-lantern, people would carve out turnips beets or potatoes.
B. Before pumpkins became the preferred jack-o-lantern, people would carve out turnips, beets or potatoes.
C. Before pumpkins became the preferred Jack-o-lantern, people would carve out turnips, beets or potatoes.
D. Before pumpkins became the preferred jack-o-lantern, people would carve out Turnips, Beets or Potatoes.

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LESSON FORMATS



PDF



DIGITAL