

# Halloween around the World



## What Is Halloween?

Halloween is celebrated on 31<sup>st</sup> October.

It is one of the world's oldest festivals.

It started because Celtic people celebrated their New Year on 1<sup>st</sup> November.



On the night before they held the festival Samhain.

They thought that ghosts came back to earth on this night.

## Did You Know?

People used to originally carve turnips. This changed to pumpkins when people from Ireland moved to America.

## Halloween in the United Kingdom

In the UK, Halloween is a time for costumes and games. People like to have fun and scare each other. They carve pumpkins and go trick-or-treating.





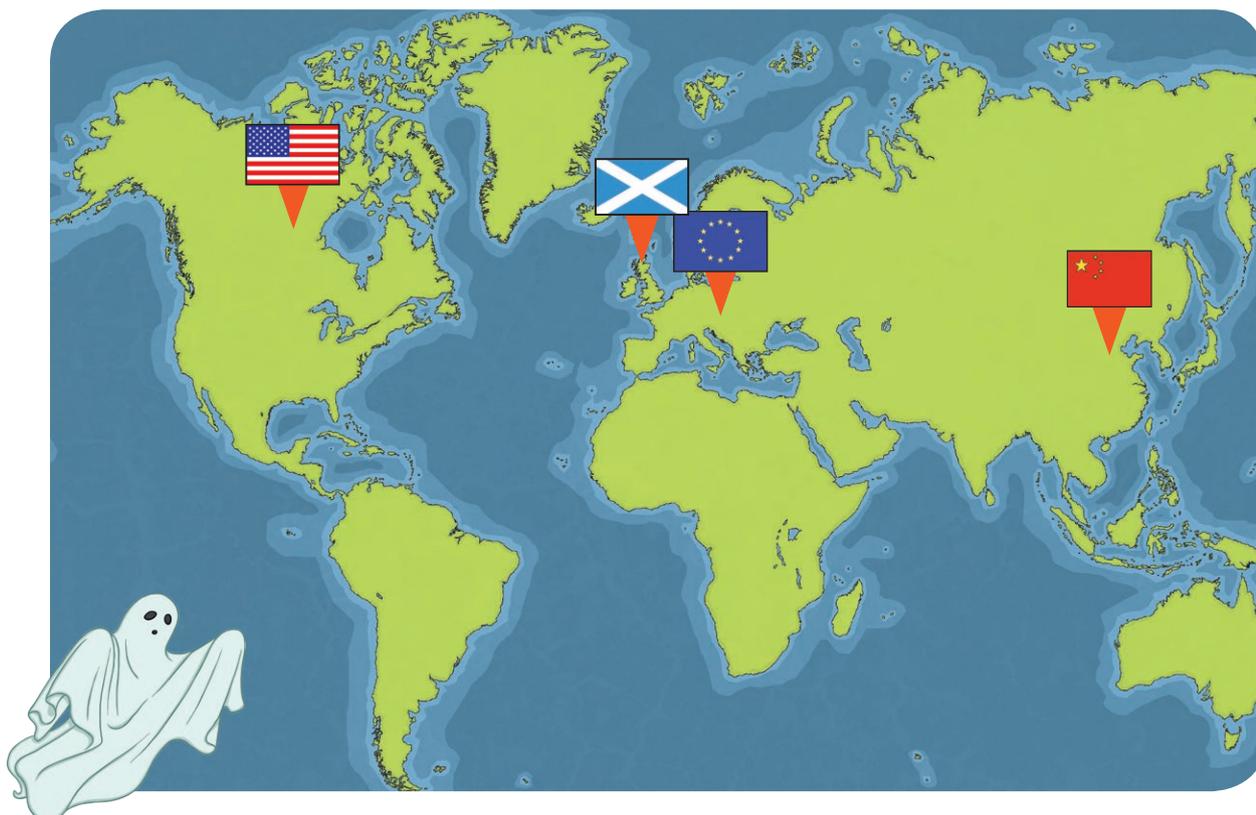
## How Is It Celebrated around the World?

### Scotland

In Scotland, children carry lanterns made out of turnips. They get cakes, fruit and money from houses.

### Europe

In Romania, Halloween is celebrated at the end of November around the same time as St Andrew's Day.



### China

In China, Halloween is called Teng Chieh.

They celebrate by putting food and water in front of photos of family who have died.

### USA

In the USA children go trick-or-treating. They call carved pumpkins 'jack-o'-lanterns'.



# Questions

1. When is Halloween?

- 31<sup>st</sup> October
- 1<sup>st</sup> November
- 30<sup>th</sup> November

2. 'They **carve** pumpkins and go trick-or-treating.' Tick one word below which means the same as 'carve'.

- colour
- light
- cut

3. Jack-o'-lanterns have always been made out of pumpkins.

- true
- false

4. At the festival Samhain, what did people believe came back to earth?

- people
- ghosts
- plants

5. In which country do they put photos up at Halloween?

- Mexico
- Scotland
- China

# Answers

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## What Is Halloween?

Halloween is a festival celebrated on 31<sup>st</sup> October. It is one of the world's oldest festivals and it is believed to have started because Celtic people celebrated their New Year on 1<sup>st</sup> November. On the night before, they celebrated the festival Samhain. On this night, they believed ghosts came back to earth.

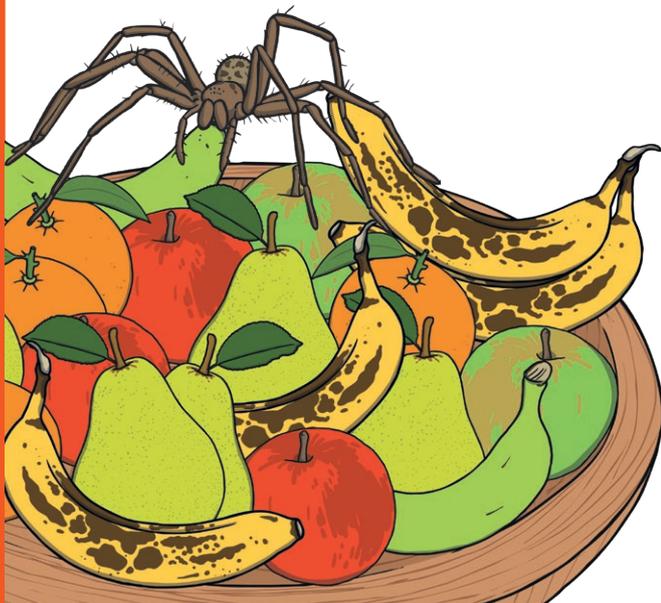


## Did You Know?

When trick-or-treating first started, people were given fruits and nuts, not chocolate!

## Halloween in the United Kingdom

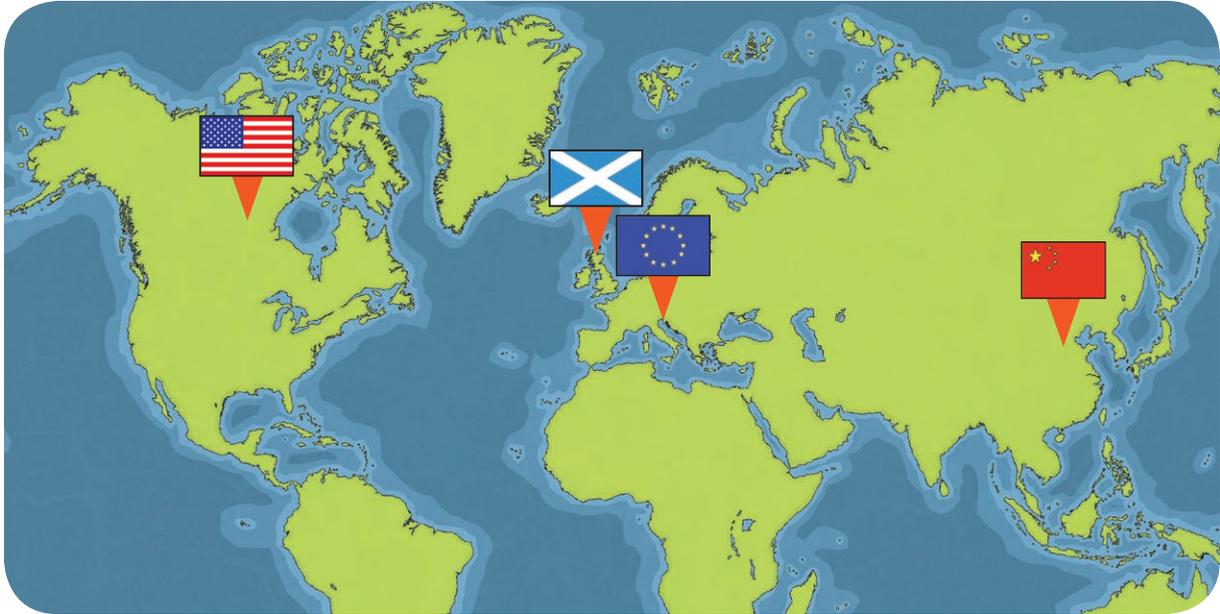
In the United Kingdom, Halloween is a time for costumes and games. When wearing their outfits, people like to have fun and scare each other. They will often go between houses, trick-or-treating. Many people carve pumpkins too.





## How Is It Celebrated around the World?

The festival of Halloween is recognised in many countries around the world but it is celebrated in different ways.



### Scotland

Traditionally, children carry lanterns made out of turnips and go trick-or-treating (guising). They sing a song to be rewarded with a treat.

### Europe

In Romania, Halloween is celebrated at the end of November around the same time as St Andrew's Day.

Spooky parties take place in Transylvania, where Dracula is said to come from!

### China

In China, Halloween is known as Teng Chieh. The Chinese people celebrate by placing food and water in front of photographs of family members who have died.

### USA

In the USA the main celebration is trick-or-treating. People dress up in costumes and call from door to door. They call carved pumpkins 'jack-o'-lanterns'.



# Questions

1. Celtic people celebrated their New Year on which date?

- 31<sup>st</sup> October
- 1<sup>st</sup> November
- 30<sup>th</sup> November

2. Find and copy one other word which means 'began'.

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3. Why do you think people in the United Kingdom go trick-or-treating?

Tick two.

- they like dressing up
- they are hungry
- they like getting treats

4. In the following sentence, what does the word 'placing' mean?

'The Chinese people celebrate by **placing** food and water in front of photographs of family members who have died.'

- pouring
- putting
- preparing

5. In the USA they make lanterns out of turnips.

- true
- false

# Answers

1. Celtic people celebrated their New Year on which date?

- 31<sup>st</sup> October
- 1<sup>st</sup> November**
- 30<sup>th</sup> November

2. Find and copy one other word which means 'began'.

**started**

3. Why do you think people in the United Kingdom go trick-or-treating?

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- false**

# Halloween around the World



## What Is Halloween?

Halloween is a festival celebrated on 31<sup>st</sup> October. It is one of the world's oldest festivals and it is believed to have originated with the Celtic people. They celebrated their New Year on 1<sup>st</sup> November and on the night before, they celebrated the festival Samhain.



## Did You Know?

Some people suffer from Samhainophobia, which is a fear of Halloween.

On this night, they believed ghosts came back to earth. Huge bonfires were lit and people gathered around them. The Christian church turned this celebration into All Hallows' Eve. This name eventually was shortened to Halloween.

## Halloween in the United Kingdom

In the past, on All Souls' Eve (All Hallows' Eve), families would stay up late and eat little 'soul cakes'. Now, people celebrate Halloween by dressing up in a variety of costumes and going 'trick-or-treating'. Trick-or-treating involves knocking on people's doors and collecting chocolate and sweets in return for no tricks. Many people carve pumpkins in a variety of different patterns too.



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### How Is It Celebrated around the World?

The festival of Halloween is recognised and celebrated in a variety of ways around the globe.



#### Europe

In Romania, Halloween is celebrated at a different time of the year. It is celebrated at the end of November, alongside St Andrew's Day.

Some Romanians bring out garlic to ward off ghosts and believe this is the time spirits go out into the world and wolves are able to speak.

Spooky parties take place in Transylvania, where Dracula is said to come from!

#### USA

The main celebration of Halloween for American children is the tradition of trick-or-treating. People disguise themselves in costumes and go door to door in their neighbourhoods, ringing each doorbell and yelling "Trick or treat!" They call carved pumpkins 'jack-o'-lanterns' and people have parties with spooky-themed food. Every year, in New York, around 50,000 people dressed in costumes and attend the Village Halloween Parade.





### China

In China, Halloween is known as 'Teng Chieh'. They celebrate by putting food and water in front of photographs of family members who are departed. They also light bonfires and lanterns in order to light the paths of spirits as they travel the earth on Halloween night.

### Scotland

Traditionally, children carry lanterns made out of turnips and go 'guising', where they visit their neighbour's homes to be given cakes, fruit and money. Rather than trick-or-treating, Scottish children are encouraged to sing a song or tell a story in order to be rewarded with their treat.

### Did You Know?

Trick-or-treating was initially called 'guising' as people were going from door to door in disguise.



# Questions

1. Why was the festival Samhain celebrated?

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2. Find and copy one word which means 'started from'.

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3. Why do you think to have a fear of Halloween has the name Samhainophobia?

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4. In the following sentence, what does the word 'globe' mean?

'The festival of Halloween is recognised and celebrated in a variety of ways around the globe.'

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5. Why was trick-or-treating once called guising?

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6. In your opinion, do you think Halloween will continue to be celebrated?

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# Answers

1. Why was the festival Samhain celebrated?

**The festival Samhain was celebrated because Celtic people believed ghosts came back to earth on this night.**

2. Find and copy one word which means 'started from'.

**originated**

3. Why do you think to have a fear of Halloween has the name Samhainophobia?

**I think the name Samhainophobia came from the festival celebrated by the Celts, called Samhain. They believed that on the night before, ghosts came back to earth.**

4. In the following sentence, what does the word 'globe' mean?

'The festival of Halloween is recognised and celebrated in a variety of ways around the globe.'

**Planet Earth**

5. Why was trick-or-treating once called guising?

**Trick-or-treating was called guising because people went from door to door in disguise.**

6. In your opinion, do you think Halloween will continue to be celebrated?

**Answers will vary.**