

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Halloween

Today we're going to talk about Halloween...in just a minute.

Did you know \_\_\_\_\_ is thousands of years old? The Celts had a \_\_\_\_\_ every fall called Samhain, which means "summer's end." They believed ghosts and other supernatural beings could return to Earth during the changing of seasons. They dressed like animals to scare evil \_\_\_\_\_ away and left food outside to keep them happy. We still wear \_\_\_\_\_ and go trick-or-treating on Halloween today!

When the Roman Empire conquered the Celts, many \_\_\_\_\_ to Christianity. In 600 CE, the church created a new holiday on November 1 called All Saints' Day, or All Hallows' Day. The night before was called All Hallows' Eve, which later became "Halloween." Many \_\_\_\_\_ from Samhain became part of this holiday.

The Latin American holiday Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is similar to Halloween. People honor the souls of the dead, decorate with skulls and skeletons, and light candles for spirits who return to Earth for one night.

Today, Halloween isn't really a religious holiday. Ghosts, skeletons, jack-o'-lanterns, costumes, and treats are more about having fun and celebrating the season.

How do you and your community celebrate Halloween?