

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# Halloween

Halloween is coming. I don't know why we have all these customs that we have, but I know I love it. It's kinda weird. We knock on people's doors and ask for candy. We carve pumpkins. Why?

Over 2,000 years in the past,  
Way before candy in plastic wrap,  
There were people in ancient Europe, near Britain,  
Called Celts—what did they believe in? Listen,  
They believed in many gods, ghosts and fairies, too,  
And back then, this was a normal thing to do.  
At the end of October was a festival  
To celebrate the harvest and all its vegetables.  
It was called Samhain, and on that evening,  
The ghosts came out, that's what the Celts believed in.  
They had rituals to keep evil at bay,  
They dressed up in costumes to scare the spirits away.  
The Celts worried that the spirits would come  
To their houses, but they didn't want to run.  
So people put out money and food,  
You know, that'd put the spirits in a good mood.

I love Halloween! What does it mean?  
We dress up, knock, knock, trick or treat?  
Don't be scared, I'm not really Dracula,  
Looking ghoully, looking spooktacular.  
(x2)

Way, way, way later on,

A new religion started to catch on.  
Christians arrived, and a lot of Celts converted,  
That means they changed their religion, and they started  
Believing what the Christians believed  
And celebrating a new day called All Hallows' Eve,  
Which was on the same day as Samhain,  
Remember that's the day where all the ghosts are out floating.  
So some of the Celtic traditions got mixed in  
With the holiday of the Christians.  
Halloween's really a combination  
Of a Christian holiday and a Celtic celebration.  
Think about it, All Hallows' Eve,  
That's where we get the name Halloween.  
And we do what the Celts used to do,  
Dress up in costumes and put that candy out, too.  
Nowadays, it's not a religious day,  
It's jack-o-lanterns, costumes and games.  
There're similar days in other parts of the globe,  
Like Día de los Muertos down in Mexico.

Ghosts in the streets, ghouls in the lobby,  
I saw a werewolf with a robot body.  
Knock, knock, trick or treat? Gimme something good to eat,  
It's Halloween, we're looking for some goodies, they look good to me.  
(x2)