公众号：Wecancan

National Geographic Readers: Halloween

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From visiting the pumpkin patch, to bobbing for apples, to picking out a costume, Halloween is a magical time.

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Halloween Fun!

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Q What does a vampire take for a scratchy throat?

A Coffin drops!



Costumes, candy, trick-or-treating,
parties, games, and lots of eating.

Halloween just can't be beat—
it's a holiday that's one big treat!

Ghost and goblins,
pumpkins, too,
black cats, bats,
and witches' brew.









In October,
have you seen
all these things
on Halloween?





Trick-or-Treat

What's the best part about Halloween? Most kids would say trick-or-treating!

Going door-to-door for candy is lots of fun.



Candy corn is a popular Halloween treat. It was first made more than 100 years ago!

What's your favorite Halloween candy?

Costumes

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What will you be for Halloween?
Will you be silly or scary,
something real or make-believe?

You can be almost anything.
How about . . .

a circus clown

a bat

a shark

a ghost

Pumpkin Picking

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Do you know where pumpkins come from? A pumpkin patch!

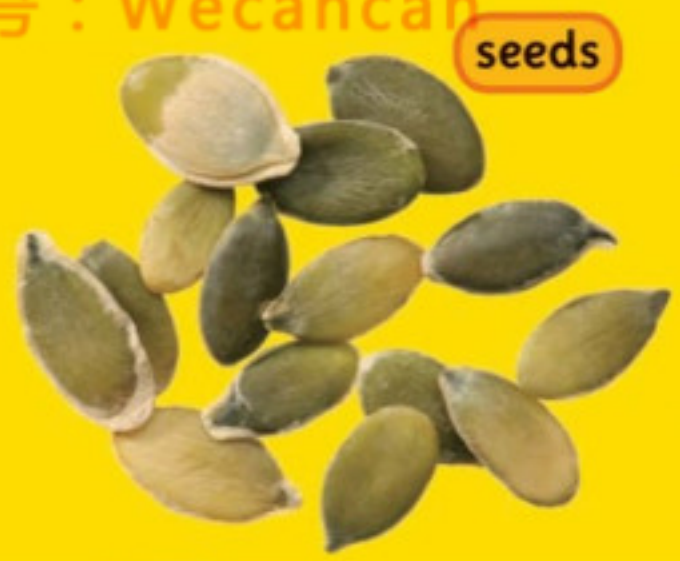


TRICKY TERM

PATCH: A small piece of land where fruits and vegetables grow

Q What does a ghost eat for lunch?

A A boo-logna sandwich!





A pumpkin grows from a seed. First a vine grows from the seed. Next the vine grows fruit—pumpkin fruit, that is!



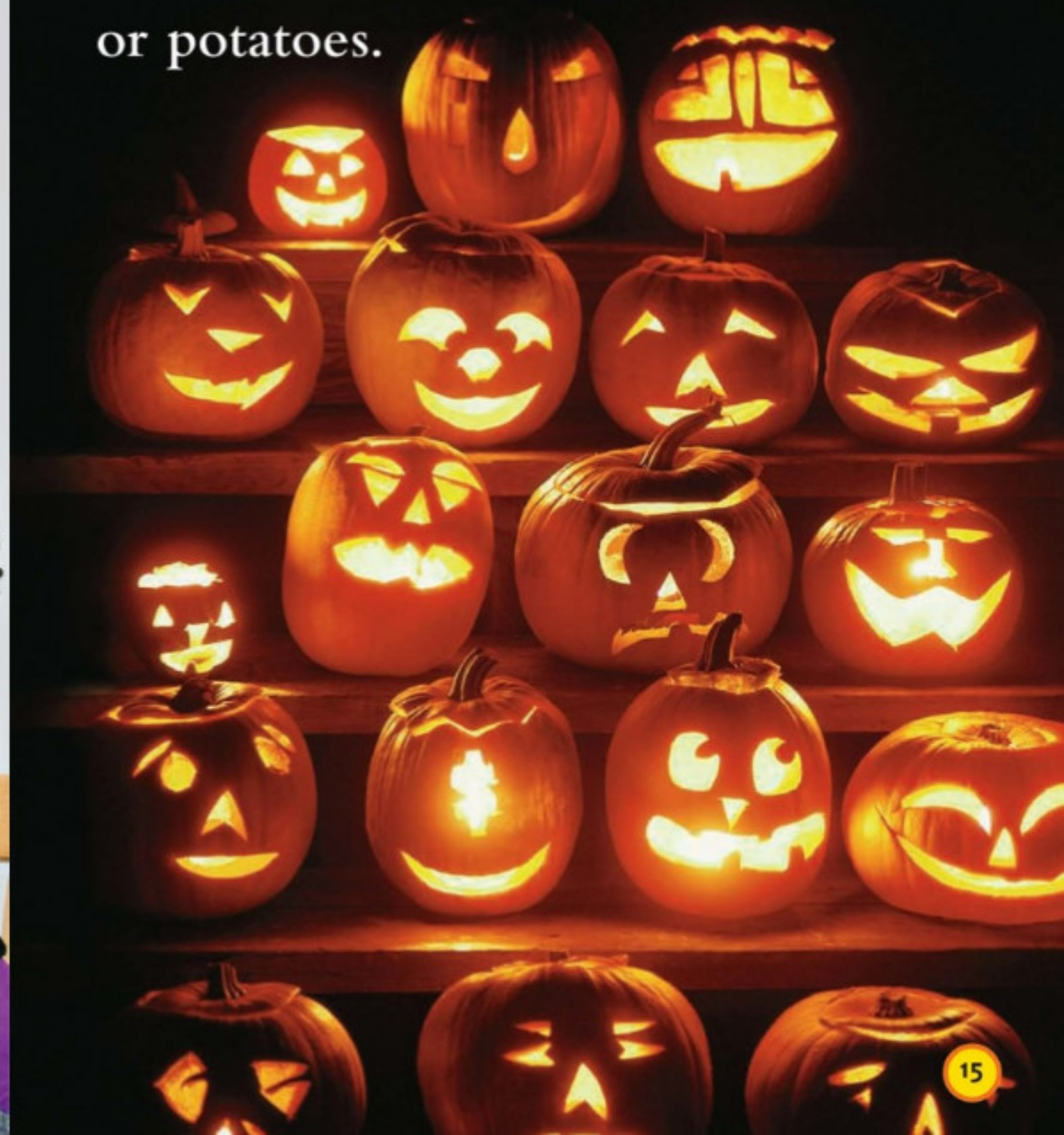
Pumpkins can be **BIG** or **SMALL**, **ROUND** and **WIDE**, or **TALL** and **SKINNY**.

Jack-o'-lanterns

You can make a jack-o'-lantern! Draw a funny face on a pumpkin. Ask an adult to carve it for you. Then place a light inside.



We carve pumpkins in America. But jack-o'-lanterns started in Ireland. People there carved turnips, beets, or potatoes.



Painting Pumpkins

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You can paint a pumpkin for Halloween!

Pumpkin faces can be silly or serious. They can be scary or friendly.

Q What does a skeleton order at a restaurant?

A Spareribs!



You can paint monsters, a pirate, or even a puppy.



Costumes

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What will you be for Halloween?
Will you be silly or scary,
something real or make-believe?

You can be almost anything.
How about . . .



a shark



The world's largest pumpkin had to be lifted by a tractor!



Half of Americans decorate their homes for Halloween.



Pumpkins can be orange, red, green, yellow, blue, tan, or white.

A Spooky Home

Give trick-or-treaters a creepy welcome on Halloween night. Here are some ideas:

Decorate your doorway with black paper bats.

Hang a skeleton or ghost in a window.

Cover bushes with fake spiderwebs.

Play spooky music.

Pet Parade

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Why should people have all the fun? Pets can dress up, too!







Check out these funny pet costumes.



Halloween candy is not safe for pets. Make sure pets only eat treats made just for them.





First Halloweens



Q What do witches learn in school? | spelling! **A**

Halloween traditions started in ancient times. People dressed in costumes. They lit fires. They be lieved this would scare away ghosts.

October 31 was later called All Hallows'E ve. That's how we got the name Halloween.

TRICKY TERM

TRADITION: A way of doing something that is passed from older family members to children

ANCIENT: From a long time ago, very old

Halloween Today

Halloween is a mix of these traditions and many others. They come from Europe, North America, and South America. But most of all, Halloween is a day for fun!

Q How do you fix a broken jack-o'-lantern?

A With a pumpkin patch!



Day of the Dead

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Instead of Halloween, some people around the world celebrate the Day of the Dead. It's similar to Halloween. But it's different, too.

Families honor loved ones who have died. They make special food. They decorate graves. Sometimes children dress in skeleton costumes. They also eat skull-shaped candy.

TRICKY TERM

HONOR: To show respect for someone or something



Decorating a grave with flowers in Mexico

The Day of the Dead is called Día de los Muertos (DEE-ah DAY lohs MWER-tos) in Spanish.



candy sugar skulls

What in the World?

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These pictures show close-up views of Halloween objects. Use the hints to figure out what's in the pictures.

Answers are on page 31.

WORD BANK

jack-o'-lantern seeds spider pumpkin
candy apple bat



HINT: A chewy, sweet treat on a stick



HINT: A pumpkin grows from one of these.



HINT: A candle inside makes it glow.



HINT: It sleeps upside down.



HINT: It spins a web.



HINT: Most are orange, but they can be other colors, too.

Answers: 1. candy apple, 2. seeds, 3. jack-o'-lantern, 4. bat, 5. spider, 6. pumpkin



ANCIENT: From a long time ago, very old



HONOR: To show respect for someone or something



TRADITION: A way of doing something that is passed from older family members to children



PATCH: A small piece of land where fruits and vegetables grow