



# HALLOWEEN



October 31<sup>st</sup> is Halloween. On this day, children in the USA and Britain dress up as witches or ghosts.



Some children also make lamps out of pumpkins.

They are called Jack o' lantern. The children put them in the windows at night.

In the evening, the children go out in groups and knock at people's doors.

They call out "Trick or treat". Most people give the children a "treat".

This is usually a sweet, some chocolate or maybe a toffee apple.

When people don't give the children a treat, they play a trick on them.

Sometimes, they ring the doorbell again and then they hide or run away. Or, they come to the house again ten minutes later and put leaves, grass, stones or other things into the letterbox.

Children and other people often have Halloween parties where they play games.



Such a game is "bobbing the apple".

The players try to get an apple out of a bowl of water, but they cannot use their hands. Of course, they get wet in this

Another game is "apples on a string".

People hang apples on a piece of string.

The players try to eat an apple, but they cannot use their hands.



A third game is "fortune telling". For this game you need some apples and a knife. This is what to do: Take an apple and peel it, so that the peel is one long piece. Then throw the peel over your shoulder. Then look at the peel on the floor. Try to see a letter of the alphabet. This letter is the first letter of a name: the name of the person you are going to marry.

Halloween goes back many, many hundreds of years. At that time the Celts lived in England. The Celts said "In this night the ghosts of the dead come back."

