

Safe Halloween Celebrations



For many of our classes, Halloween is a fun and exciting time with special celebrations. This year it is important that our plans stay consistent with our district health and safety protocols, and we all continue in our efforts to limit the further spread of COVID-19 in our community. Here are some recommendations to ensure your classroom celebrations are safe and fun:

Costumes: Costumes can be safely worn in the classroom with a few simple rules:

- Remind students not to touch each other's costumes, no matter how intriguing they are!
- Prohibit accessories that may be passed around as these can easily transfer germs.
- Encourage students to integrate a non-medical mask or face covering into their costume, ideally one that covers their nose and mouth.
- Remind students not to wear a costume mask over a non-medical mask. It might make it difficult to breathe.

Handing Out Goodies In-Class: If teachers would like to hand out goodies to the class, please:

- Designate one adult to distribute sealed, pre-packaged goodies. If possible, go outside to hand them out.
- Ensure hands are clean before and after handling goodies.
- Hand out goodies in creative ways that minimize contact and maximize physical distancing – use tongs, baking sheets or a slide to distribute goodies. Don't put treats in a shared bowl where germs can congregate.

Groups In-Class: Limit celebrations to your cohort/learning group only.

- Encourage students to keep their hands to themselves and limit physical contact.
- Celebrate outside if possible and use caution with any activities that involve singing or dancing.

Activities: Here are some fun and safe activities to do with your class:

- **Outdoor Fall/Halloween Scavenger Hunt:** Look for dry leaves, creepy twigs and other materials for art projects or assignments geared towards subjects like math. Students can search individually or in small groups within their cohort.
- **Goodie Launcher:** Share a picture of a candy launcher made of Lego to spark curiosity for STEM and inquiry in your students! Then let them build their own goodie launcher and test it outside.
- **Gallery Walk:** Have students decorate the windows of their classrooms, then let cohorts walk the perimeter of the school to see everybody's artistic endeavors!
- **Costume Parade:** Students can still safely show off their Halloween costumes, so long as parades are done outdoors or in open areas, and cohorts are separated from each other. Take your costumes to the field and put them on display from a safe physical distance!