



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS *With* TRICK-OR-TREATERS



TIPS FOR PARENTS



Here are 10 ideas to help trick-or-treating be a positive, relationship-building experience for your children.

1. Go trick-or-treating with your child or children to ensure their safety.
2. To have a lot of fun together, wear a goofy costume yourself!
3. Before leaving, talk to your child about being polite and respectful to neighbors.
4. Encourage your child to talk to the neighbors—not just take their treats and run!
5. Stop and visit in homes of people you know. Use trick-or-treating as an opportunity to introduce your child to your neighbors.
6. Emphasize the creative side of Halloween. Make your own costumes together.
7. Carve creative pumpkins. Make and decorate treats together.
8. Limit the amount of treats that your child eats at a time.
9. Make sure your child trick-or-treats in safe areas. If your child is going out with friends, find out where they're going and when they'll be back.
10. Team up with another family in your neighborhood to go trick or treating together.



TIPS FOR NEIGHBORS



Here are 11 tips to help build relationships with neighborhood children when they come trick-or-treating.

1. If you don't know the kids who come to your door, ask their names and grades in school.
2. Compliment (or get scared by) their costumes.
3. Ask the child a question or talk to them briefly before you give a treat.
4. Turn on a light so children will be safe.
5. Intervene if trick-or-treaters become disrespectful or damage property.
6. Invite kids with parents you know to come in for a short visit. (Don't invite kids you don't know inside.)
7. Offer to take a busy parent's child or children out along with yours.
8. Share treats that reflect your culture or values.
9. Get together with neighbors to decorate together. (Make it more fun for kids—and get to know neighbors at the same time.)
10. Remember to greet kids the next day . . . when they don't have costumes on!
11. Consider making a special treat bag (with extra treats or extra surprises) for the children who live nearest to you. When these children arrive, make a fuss about them coming and say you have something extra special for them.