

Trick or Treat Safety Tips



Halloween is an exciting event for many, but one must be careful not to overlook safety hazards. There is no real “trick” to making Halloween a real “treat” for the entire family. Halloween tends to encourage unruly behavior, so parents need to be especially vigilant to ensure that kids follow basic safety guidelines when trick or treating, snacking on candy and playing with friends. By following simple safety tips, parents can help make Halloween a safe, healthy and fun experience.



Before Trick or Treating

- Make sure a responsible person will be supervising children, especially those under 12.
- Plan and discuss a safe route.
- Inform children to stay in familiar areas and only stop at houses with lights on.
- Set return times.
- Tell your youngsters not to eat any candy until they return home.
- Give children a well balanced, good portioned meal to reduce excess candy consumption.
- Review all safety signs and traffic rules.
- Safety pin each child’s name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case of an emergency
- Be sure each child will be visible in the dark – use items such as reflective tape, as “glow stick”, and/or a flashlight.



The Trick

Children should understand and follow these rules:

- Do not enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.
- Walk rather than run, from house to house.
- Do not cross lawns where unseen objects or uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Walk on sidewalks rather than the street.
- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic, if there are no sidewalks.



The Treat

- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.
- Wash fruit and slice into small pieces.
- When in doubt, throw it out.



Driving

- Watch for children darting out from between parked cars.
- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing
- Slow down!

Helpful Resources:

[US Consumer Product Safety Commission](#)

[National Fire Protection Agency](#)

[FDA](#)