



Keeping Your Child Safe on Halloween



Safe Kids Worldwide reports some alarming statistics on Halloween safety:

- On average, twice as many child pedestrians are killed while walking on Halloween compared to other days of the year.
- Only one-third of parents talk to their kids about Halloween safety.
- Just 18 percent of parents use reflective tape on their children's costumes.
- Twelve percent of children 5 years and younger are permitted to trick-or-treat alone.

Halloween Safety Tips

*Put Halloween safety first with these common-sense tips:

See and be seen

Make costumes bright and reflective. Add reflective tape to trick-or-treat bags and give your little witches and warlocks flashlights and glow sticks. Masks can limit or block eyesight, so consider alternatives like non-toxic makeup and decorative hats.

Stay safe

Accompany your scary skeletons on their neighborhood rounds. If your older children are going alone, plan the route before they leave and agree on a specific time when they should return home.

Drive safely

Pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, so slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.

Use candles with care

Place candlelit pumpkins on a sturdy surface away from curtains and other flammable objects, and never leave candlelit pumpkins unattended. Better yet, light pumpkins with flashlights or battery-operated flameless candles.

Eat a healthy Halloween meal

Eat a good meal before parties or trick-or-treating to discourage young mummies from filling up on Halloween treats.

Cut the candy

If your little goblin brings home gobs of goodies, dole out a few pieces at a time and save the rest or ask your child if he or she would like to swap some of it for something else, such as a special toy, book or outing. Consider purchasing non-food treats such as coloring books or pens and pencils to give to trick-or-treaters.