Going door to door is the stuff of childhood memories! It should be a fun time, without trouble and worry, so following these easy tips can keep your child safe every Halloween.

Explain to children the difference between tricks and vandalism. Throwing eggs at a house may seem like fun, but they need to know the other side of the coin as well. Clean up and damages can ruin Halloween.

To keep homes safe for visiting trick-or-treaters, parents should remove from the porch and front yard anything a child could trip over such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations.

Parents should check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs.

Wet leaves should be swept from sidewalks and steps.

Restrain pets so they do not inadvertently jump on or bite a trick-or-treaters.

Little Rock Police Department
Crime Prevention Unit:
Public Affairs Office

Neighborhood Watch Program
501– 918-5358

Crime Stoppers Program
501-371-4636

Home Security Survey
501-371-4634

Business Security Survey
501-918-5369

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 311

The City of Little Rock
Police Department
Neighborhood Watch Program
700 W. Markham
Little Rock, AR 72201

N W P 9-2011

Halloween Safety

Halloween Safety Tips For Kids

LRPD
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The excitement of children and adults at this time of year sometimes makes them forget to be careful. Simple common sense can do a lot to stop any tragedies from happening.

Help your child pick out or make a costume that will be safe. Ensure it is:

- Fire proof
- That the eye holes are large enough for good peripheral vision.
- Choose bright colors or add reflective tape.
- Make sure the costume's not a tripping hazard.
- If it's cold outside, wear warm clothes under the costume.

When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," or "Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application.

If you set jack-o-lanterns on your porch with candles in them, make sure that they are far enough out of the way so that kids' costumes won't accidentally be set on fire.

Better still, use Pumpkin Lights to light pumpkins. They make a light that looks like a flickering candle flame!

Kids always want to help with the pumpkin carving. Small children shouldn't be allowed to use a sharp knife to cut the top or the face.

There are many kits available that come with tiny saws that work better then knives and are safer, although you can be cut by them as well.

It's best to let the kids clean out the pumpkin and draw a face on it, which you can carve for them.

Ensure that if your child is carrying a prop, such as a scythe, butcher knife or a pitchfork, that the tips are smooth and flexible enough to not cause injury if fallen on.

Treating your kids to a Halloween dinner will make them less likely to eat the candy they collect before you have a chance to check it for them.

CANDY: When in doubt, throw it out.

- Be careful when crossing streets.
- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.
- Walk, do not run, from house to house.
- Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Make sure your child carries a flashlight, glow stick or has reflective tape on their costume to make them more visible to cars.

Halloween Safety Tips

Children Should:

- Cross streets only at corners. Never cross between parked cars.
- Carry a flashlight or glow stick and a Cell Phone if possible
- Walk on sidewalks and well lit streets (never walk through alleys or across lawns)
- Be aware of vehicles that may be turning or backing out driveways.
- Never go into a stranger's house. Go to houses with porch lights

Parent's Should:

- Know the route their children will be taking.
- Make sure children are accompanied by an adult.
- Set limits on when children should return home.
- Check all treats to make sure they are safely sealed and there are no signs of tampering.
- Consider purchasing Halloween treats other than candy. Stickers, erasers, crayons, pencils and sealed packages of raisins and dried fruits are good choices.
- Make sure trick-or-treaters will be safe when visiting your home. Remove lawn decorations and sprinklers, toys and bicycles or anything that might obstruct your walkway. Provide a well lit outside entrance to your home. Keep family pets away from trick-or-treaters.
- Explain to children the difference between tricks and vandalism.
- Instruct children NOT to eat treats until they return home and parents have had a chance to inspect those treats.

Costume Safety Tips

- Costumes, masks, beards and wigs should be flame resistant.
- Costumes should be light, bright and clearly visible to motorists.
- Make-up is safer than a mask, which can obscure vision.
- Avoid oversize and high-heeled shoes that can cause a child to trip.
- Trick-or-treat bags should be reflective and not be too large.
- Costumes should have reflective strips.

Have a Safe and Healthy Halloween

Little Rock Police Department
Public Affairs Office
Neighborhood Watch Program