

Halloween Lesson by Andrew Galang

What you need:

- Orange Construction paper
- Black Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue

Slide show script:

1. Happy Halloween! (encourage the children to say it back. Ask the children if they know what Halloween is)
2. Halloween is a holiday celebrated every year on October 31st
3. Halloween is a day where people believe the dead comeback to earth for one night.
4. Halloween is similar to two Japanese holidays. The first holiday is Obon. In Japan, Japanese people pray to the dead by going to their family's graves. Just like Obon, Halloween believes the dead comeback to earth.
5. Halloween is also like Setsubon. In Setsubon, Japanese people scare away Oni from their homes by throwing beans. In Halloween we use costumes.
6. Japanese people pray in Obon but in Halloween, Americans don't pray to the dead. Instead...
7. We wear costumes to scare away the dead from visiting our homes! Halloween is similar to both Obon and Sestsubon.

8. Halloween started in Europe and it was known as “All Hallow’s eve.” Hallow means dead and Eve is short for evening. So many people believe this is the night of the living dead.
9. The next day November 1st is Day of the Dead. But only one country celebrates day of the dead...
10. (Ask if anyone knows what country this is) Mexico is the only country that celebrates day of the dead. Americans don’t.
11. Day of the dead is called “Dia de los Muertos” in Spanish. Dia means day and los Muertos means “the dead.” In Mexico, Dia de los Muertos is very similar to Obon.
12. Mexicans visit their family graves to pray just like Japanese do in Obon.
13. They even have special traditional costumes they wear when they visit their family graves.
14. Let’s learn about some traditional monsters used for costumes.
15. (from slides 15-21, ask what the monster is and then correct the children if they are wrong) Ghost
16. Black cat
17. Frankenstein
18. Vampire
19. Zombie
20. Skeleton
21. Witch
22. Traditionally, Halloween Costumes were monsters because people believed they had to dress like a monster to scare away the dead. Nowadays, you can wear

anything that you like. You can be a superhero, a famous actor, a doctor, or a cartoon character. Halloween today is much more fun and colorful than before.

23. Does anyone know what this? (wait for a response) This is a Jack-O-Latern.
 24. Jack-O-Laterns are an important part of Halloween because they are used to help guide lost souls. Many people believe that the dead who come back to earth on Halloween are lost souls.
 25. Many people make Jack-o-laterns every year to help the lost souls find their way to heaven.
 26. Let's learn how to make a Jack-O-Latern.
 27. First you cut open the top and empty out the insides.
 28. Use a stencil to trace a picture.
 29. Then carve out a picture.
 30. Put a candle inside and you're finished.
 31. Once you have your Jack-O-Lantern, you place them outside of your house to scare away the dead and guide them to Heaven.
 32. Jack-O-Laterns have become Artworks. Many people have Jack-O-latern competitions. Today we are going to make our very own Jack-O-latern.
 33. Happy Halloween (encourage the children to say Happy Halloween back)
- (The last slides are stencils for children to trace)

Jack-O-Latern carving

Choose a stencil and trace the image onto an orange sheet of paper. Then use a boxcutter to cut small slits. Give the children scissors to cut out the picture. Once the picture is cut out, Glue it onto a sheet of black paper.

Depending on the time of the class this craft can take a very long time. You must adjust the image of the stencil manually so it lines up with the orange sheet of paper. Make sure the stencil is easy enough. But if you have time, let the students pick a difficult stencil. Do not let the children use box cutters. Box cutters should only be used to make small slits to follow the image. You can always add more stencils by simply using google to find stencils.