

# October Newsletter



- 16 Halloween-colored chocolate sandwich cookies, chopped
- 1 1/2 cups broken small pretzels
- 1/3 cup raisins
- 1 1/2 pounds white chocolate, broken into squares
- 2 cups candy corn
- orange and brown sprinkles

Spread the cookies, pretzels and raisins evenly onto a lightly greased small baking sheet. Melt chocolate in a bowl set over a pan of simmering water, or in the microwave, stirring frequently until melted. Remove from the heat while there are still a few chunks, and stir until smooth. White chocolate burns easily.

Drizzle chocolate with a spoon over the goodies in the pan, spreading the top flat to coat evenly. Top with candy corn and sprinkles. Let cool until firm.

We are excited that you are able to be in America during this season. You can celebrate Halloween with us! Halloween is October 31st. It is a holiday filled with candy, costumes, and fun!

Here is a bit of history on this fun holiday. The word Halloween is a shortening of All Hallows' Evening. Halloween has its origins in the ancient Celtic festival. The ancient Gaels believed that on October 31, the boundaries between the worlds of the living and the dead overlapped and the deceased would come back to life and cause havoc such as sickness or damaged crops. Masks and costumes were worn in an attempt to mimic the evil spirits or appease them.

The traditions have evolved over the years. While the original costumes were meant to communicate with the spirits, current costumes are worn for fun. Those dressed up (typically children) walk door to door saying, "trick-or-treat". The resident of the home will give a sweet treat like a piece of gum or chocolate. In addition, people of all ages will throw Halloween parties, go to haunted houses, attend fall festivals, and carve pumpkins. Be sure to enjoy these activities this month!



## October Cultural Exchange Assignments

### 1. Carve a pumpkin

Check out this video to start you on your pumpkin carving experience.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMHfei2Hoe0>

### 2. Halloween party

Go to a party or plan your own! Here are some fun party activities.

-Pumpkin carving contest

-Watch America's favorite Halloween movies like Young Frankenstein, Beetle juice, Halloween, Hocus Pocus, The Addams Family, and Scream.

-Bobbing for apples: Fill a tub or a large basin with water and place apples in the water. Players must get the apples without using their arms. The best part is watching others get soaked as they attempt to grab apples. Enjoy!

### 3. Navigate a corn maze

-Enjoy the wonderful Fall weather while using your navigation skills to get from one end of the corn field to the other. Usually corn mazes have other fun activities like s'more roasting and hay rides. Not sure if a corn maze is near you? This link might help.

[http://www.themaize.com/map\\_locations.php](http://www.themaize.com/map_locations.php)

### 4. Visit a haunted house

Want a wicked adventure? Go to a haunted house. There is sure to be a haunted house in your area. Here are a few that might be near you!

Dallas, Texas- [http://moxleymanor.com/?gclid=CJ37q4z4\\_bkCFWZk7Aodu2UAew](http://moxleymanor.com/?gclid=CJ37q4z4_bkCFWZk7Aodu2UAew)

New York, New York- [http://bloodmanor.com/google/?gclid=CKm99ez3\\_bkCFQkSMwodVgYARA](http://bloodmanor.com/google/?gclid=CKm99ez3_bkCFQkSMwodVgYARA)

Miami, Florida- [http://www.hauntworld.com/haunted\\_house\\_in\\_miami\\_Florida\\_house\\_of\\_horror](http://www.hauntworld.com/haunted_house_in_miami_Florida_house_of_horror)

### 5. Basketball game (high school, college, or National Basketball Association)

-Enjoy sporting events? Check out a basketball game. Only have a few spare dollars? Go to local high school game. Want to see more experienced players? Go to a college or NBA game. You'll have an unforgettable time! For more information, check out these links.

<http://www.nba.com/>

<http://www.ncaa.com/sports/basketball-men/d1>

The best part of Halloween is dressing up! For a day, you get to be a different character. Some of the most popular costumes are witches, superheroes, pirates, and zombies. You can create your own costume fairly cheap or go to a costume shop like Party City and purchase one already made.

Here are some links for costume ideas!

<http://www.partycity.com/>

<http://thespookytimes.com/2011/08/make-a-zombie-costume/>

[http://www.ehow.com/way\\_5210046\\_quick\\_-cheap-halloween-costume-ideas.html](http://www.ehow.com/way_5210046_quick_-cheap-halloween-costume-ideas.html)

If you decide to participate in this fun part of Halloween, WISE wants to see your pictures! Send those to [stephanie@wisefoundation.com](mailto:stephanie@wisefoundation.com) by November 2nd. The winner will have their photo published in the November communication and will receive a Starbucks gift card! We are excited to receive your costume pictures!

