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# **Halloween Legends**



Halloween wasn't always about candy and fun costumes. Some of the traditions we adhere to today have interesting origins.

### Samhain

Halloween dates back to an ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. It was believed the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred.

You can read the story here: history.com/topics/holidays/samhain

# Jack-o'-lantern

Halloween Jack-o'-lanterns originated from an Irish folk tale! And were originally carved turnips! Stingy Jack was a man who tricked the Devil and was ultimately punished to walk the earth after death. The Irish people referred to the ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern."

You can read the story here: history.com/news/history-of-the-jack-o-lantern-irish-origins

## **Black Cats**

Cat and human connections have traces back through some of the world's earliest civilizations. In Greek mythology, Hecate, the goddess of magic and sorcery was said to have a cat as a companion, or "familiar". In the 13th century, Pope Gregory IX declared



You can read the story here: history.com/news/black-cats-superstitions

# **Candy Candy Candy!**

Candy is a Halloween staple! But it wasn't always so. Trick or treating started in the late 1930's. Children were given homemade cookies and cakes, nuts, coins, toys, etc. In the 1950's, candy manufacturers started promoting their products as easy alternatives for Halloween. Thus began the annual candy buying craze!

You can read the story here: history.com/news/the-haunted-history-of-halloween-candy

## Halloween Fun - Find The Events You Like



There are all kinds of fun events and happenings scheduled. Below are two sites to begin with. Then Google to find your specific town, community, or church activity.

Photo Source: https://www.americantowns.com/union-county-nc/trick-or-treat-halloween-events-haunted-houses/

https://www.charlotteonthecheap.com/trick-or-treat/

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