

Not So Scary Halloween Fun for Toddlers



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Halloween can be a very intimidating time of the year for your toddler. Toddlers cannot tell the difference between real and make believe and often times can be frightened by costumes and other traditional Halloween activities.

We have put together some fun recipes and games to do together with your toddler.

Even more fun would be to plan a not so scary Halloween party that all the little ones in the neighborhood could enjoy.

Please note that all these activities should only be performed with absolute adult supervision.

Fun Toddler Halloween Recipes

Spending time in the kitchen with your toddler can be so rewarding, especially during the holidays. There are so many fun treats that you can whip up together. Serve these tasty goodies at your fun Halloween party, or just make them up for the family to enjoy.

Monster Party Mix

Ingredients:

* Be warned this mixture is very rich and contains quite a bit of sugar... serve in small amounts!

1(11 ounce) package of small pretzels
1 (10 ounce) package miniature peanut butter filled crackers
1 cup sugar
½ cup butter or margarine
½ cup light corn syrup
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 (10 ounce) package M&M's
1 (18 ounce) package candy corn

Directions:

In a large bowl combine pretzels and peanut butter crackers and set aside.

In a large saucepan combine sugar, butter and corn syrup.

Bring to a boil over medium heat and simmer for approximately 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Remove from heat and stir in vanilla and baking soda.

Pour over pretzel mixture and stir until coated.

Transfer mixture to a greased baking pan.

Bake at 250F for 45 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes.

Remove from oven and break apart while warm then allow to cool completely.

Transfer to large bowl and toss with candy corn and M&M's.

Store monster mix in an airtight container.

Easy Halloween Party Mix

Ingredients:

10 cups prepared popcorn
1 package peanut butter chips
1 cup candy corn
1 cup chocolate chips

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl and mix well.

Hot Witch's Cider

Ingredients:

1 gallon apple cider
1 (16 ounce) can frozen orange juice concentrate
2 cinnamon sticks
2 cloves

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a large saucepan.

Simmer over low heat for approximately 15 minutes.

Transfer to punch bowl and serve.

Pumpkin & Goblins Punch

Ingredients:

- 1 (12-ounce) can frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 (1-liter) bottles of ginger ale
- 1 package orange sherbet

Directions:

In a punch bowl combine condensed milk and orange juice concentrate.

Add ginger ale and mix well.

Right before serving top with scoops of orange sherbet and serve.

Not So Scary Frozen Bugs

Ingredients:

*These are great for serving in party punch or drinks.

Water

Raisins

Directions:

Fill ice cube tray with water and place a raisin in each ice cube.

Freeze and use in any beverage.

This is SO clever! The raisins in the ice cubes resemble bugs!

Mummy Dogs

Ingredients:

6 hot dogs
1 package ready to bake pastry
Parmesan cheese
Ketchup

Directions:

Wrap each hot dog in a pastry sheet and lightly brush with melted butter.

Sprinkle parmesan cheese over top.

Place "Mummy Dogs" on a lightly greased baking tray and bake at 350F for approximately 15 minutes or until golden and baked through.

Top with "blood" (ketchup) and serve.

*Cut hot dogs into smaller pieces when serving to younger toddlers.

Halloween Burgers

Ingredients:

6 hamburgers or veggie burgers
6 slices cheese
Pitted olives
Red and green bell peppers
6 lettuce leaves
6 hamburger buns (split)

Directions:

Using a pumpkin shaped cookie cutter and cut cheese into pumpkin shapes.

Cut olives into shapes for eyes and nose.

Cut bell peppers into shapes for mouth and pumpkin top (green pepper).

Cook burgers according to recipe and during the last few minutes of cooking top with cheese.

Carefully remove and place into lettuce-lined buns.

Garnish pumpkin face using olives and peppers.

Serve open top.

Ghostly Eyeballs

Ingredients:

2 packages red Jello (Cherry, Strawberry)

Vanilla ice cream

Raisins

Red decorating gel

Directions:

Prepare Jello according to package instructions.

Fill individual glass serving bowls with Jello and place in refrigerator to set.

Once Jello has set, use a spoon scoop out a circle of Jello in center of bowl.

Fill circle with one scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Place one raisin in center of ice cream and using red decorating gel paint lines going down the side. This will create a "bloodshot eye".

Pumpkin Cake

Ingredients:

3 1/2 cups self-rising flour
2 1/2 cups brown sugar
4 eggs
1 cup vegetable oil
1 (16 ounce) can pumpkin puree
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon all spice
1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

Directions:

In a large bowl combine flour, sugar and spices.

In a separate bowl combine beaten eggs, vegetable oil and pumpkin puree.

Mix well and add pumpkin mixture to flour mixture.

Mix well.

Fold in chopped walnuts (if using).

Place in a lightly greased pumpkin shaped baking tin.

Bake in a preheated oven at 350 for approximately 25 minutes or until golden and baked through.

Decorate with orange frosting, candy corn and liquorice to form a pumpkin face.

Tip: If you don't have a pumpkin shaped baking tin, you can use a regular tin and decorate as a pumpkin for a similar effect.

Graveyard Cupcakes

Ingredients:

Prepared Cupcakes

Frosting of choice

1 package gummy worms

1 package chocolate cookies or graham crackers

Directions:

Place a few cookies in a plastic bag and using the back of your hand or a rolling pin press down until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.

Using a teaspoon make a small well in the center of each cupcake.

Frost cupcakes around well and sprinkle with cookie crumb mixture.

Stick a gummy worm into the center of each cupcake.

Skeleton Bones

Ingredients:

4 large egg whites

2 cups icing sugar

Directions:

Preheat oven to 250F.

In a large bowl beat egg whites until stiff.

Gradually start adding the sugar, one tablespoon at a time.

Keep beating and adding sugar until you have a meringue.

Line baking trays with paper.

Using a piping bag with a plain nozzle, pipe a straight meringue bone line (approximately 4 inches long).

Pipe a meringue ball at the end of each bone.

If necessary, shape bones further using a small knife.

Bake for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes, or until bones have dried out.

Remove from oven and let cool on paper.

Halloween Party Games

Having a Halloween party with lots of little ones? Or maybe just want some fun activities to make and play with your toddler during the day. Try one of these fun Halloween party games.

Pin the Wart on the Witch

Using black felt material (available from crafts and art supply stores) cut out a witch's outline. It doesn't have to be perfect as most little ones won't mind, but don't forget to include the pointy hat and nose!

Stick the cut out up on the wall or on a large peg board. Decorate the witch with plastic spiders and fake web.

Cut out large shaped warts (yuck) from a green felt material and stick some strong tape onto the end of each one.

Use a plain dark colored bandana as a blind fold and let the children take turns sticking the wart on the witch's nose.

Wiggly Worms

Cook a large pot of different shaped pasta such as spirals or macaroni drain and cool completely.

Place cooled pasta in a large plastic bowl and add a few olives.

Add some wrapped candies or treats like mini fun sized chocolate bars.

Cover the bowl with material that you've cut into a decorative shape like a pumpkin.

You can even use a cloth mask that will go over the bowl or a decorated plastic bag (Only for adult supervision).

Basically, you need to cover the bowl with something decorative and head shaped that has a slit in the back. You should not be able to see the contents of the bowl.

Sit the kids in a circle and let them take turns digging into the bowl to find the candies. They won't be able to see into the bowl and the squiggly texture of the pasta along with the olives will feel like "worms".

Halloween Graveyard Hunt

Decorate your backyard to resemble a spooky (but not too spooky) graveyard or just add lots of Halloween things. You can add cut out black felt bats, plastic spiders, fake web, fake tombstone, jack-o-lanterns and even Halloween music.

Hide prizes and treats amongst the plants and decorations and let your little one go on a fun graveyard hunt.

Not So Spooky Story Time

Toddlers love story time. Make this one extra special by buying or checking out spooky age appropriate books for your toddler (ex. Story of the Jack-o-lantern).

Take turns telling the stories and serve one of the special Halloween snacks we recommend above.

You can also serve Witch's Milk, which is warm milk sprinkled with a little chocolate and cinnamon. YUM!

Fun Halloween Craft Ideas

Toddlers love craft time. Its great bonding time as well as an activity the whole family can enjoy. Here are some fun Halloween craft ideas for you and your kids to make this year.

Trick-or-Treat bucket

Supplies: ice cream bucket, construction paper, markers, crayons, glue, glitter (any craft supplies)

Directions: Use construction paper to draw ghosts, pumpkins, scarecrows, etc.

Cut out your decorations and glue them to the outside of an ice cream bucket.



Trick-or-Treat goody bags

Supplies: small brown paper bags, Halloween stickers, markers, treats (candy, pencils, erasers, bubblegum, etc.)

Directions: Decorate paper bags in Halloween themes using your art supplies. Put treats inside bags. Fold the top of the bag down and tape shut with a Halloween sticker.

Tiny pumpkins

Supplies: acorns, orange paint, and green paint

Directions: Lay acorns on a sheet of newspaper. Paint the bottom of the acorns with orange paint. After the orange paint dries, paint the top of the acorns green (for the stem of the pumpkin). Allow to dry thoroughly.

Spooky Spiders

Supplies: black construction paper, cotton balls or cotton stuffing, black pipe cleaners, small bowl or saucer, and a stapler

Directions: Using black construction paper, trace around a small bowl or saucer. (Cut out two circles per spider.) Place stuffing or cotton balls on first circle. Lay second circle on top of cotton stuffing and staple half-way around. Insert 3-4" pipe cleaners on each side, then staple the second half of the circles together. Bend pipe cleaners to make the "legs" of the spider.

BONUS - Simple Halloween treats you can make in Minutes

Halloween is all about the treats, and toddlers LOVE treats! Make some fun treats at home that your little ones will love.

You will need some Halloween Cookie Cutters to make these first 3 treats.

Not So Terrifying Tortilla Chips

Start with some flour tortillas and spray a bit of canola oil on them. Sprinkle parmesan cheese or cinnamon and sugar on them. Then cut fun shapes out of the tortillas with a bat, ghost or pumpkin cookie cutter. Put the shapes into the oven for a crispy treat.

Spooky Sandwiches

Make your toddlers favorite sandwich. Peanut butter and jelly works great. Use a cookie cutter to press hard into the sandwich to make the shape of the cutter. If you use a pumpkin shaped cookie cutter add licorice or candy corn to make eyes and nose on a jack-o-lantern face.

Creepy Cheese and Cold Cuts

Get some packaged cheese (the kind that you peel the plastic off), and some cold-cuts. Take your cookie cutter and cut the cheese and meat into some spooky shapes. Present the cheese and cold cuts on a platter as an appetizer – or have a sandwich smorgasbord and allow your guests to use the creepy cheese to make their own sandwiches.

Green Anything

Take your toddlers favorite foods and add a drop of green food coloring to them. Are they in the mood for French toast? Make it green. How about pudding? Make it green. You can even serve green milk with your cookies. Your toddler will get a kick out of it!

I hope you enjoyed some of the fun recipes and activities you can make and do with your toddler this Halloween. Remember safety is always first and adult supervision is required.

I also want to recommend two great resources that I have used for Halloween costumes for my toddler.

The first is an eBook by a friend of mine.

Would you like to quickly make creative Halloween costumes that you and your children will be proud of -- for a fraction of the price of store bought?



Halloween Was Made For Kids

Make One Of Over 90 Costumes

This eBook contains OVER 90 do it yourself costumes ideas that are all no-sew! How easy is that? This is an eBook that you can use year after year as your children grow. This will also come in handy during other times of the year when your child might need a costume quick for pageants and plays.

<http://www.tipsfortoddlers.com/i-love-halloween-costumes.html>

My second great resource for Halloween costumes is a bit expected, and that's the Disney Store's Halloween Costume section.

You know there are times when only an authentic Disney Princess Costume will do (this was the case this year for us) and the Disney Store delivers all of your favorite character costumes. I also find their sales to be unbeatable!!

Check them out early! (Or late for deals for next year and dress up play)

<http://www.tipsfortoddlers.com/disney-costumes.html>

I hope you enjoyed the tipsfortoddlers.com/halloween Not So Scary Halloween Fun Guide. Be sure to check back to the site often and your comments are always appreciated!

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www.TipsForToddlers.com

www.EasyToddlerMeals.com

Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!!

