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Trick or Treating Safety

By Samantha Olea

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Halloween is such a fun time of year for kids and adults alike, so its important that we take some precautions to keep it that way! Here's my list of trick or treating tips for your family.

Wear comfortable shoes!!

Carry a flashlight

Wear something with a reflector on it (you can even find reflector tape and paint at your local home improvement store.

Go out before dark—especially for little ones. The big kids tend to flood the streets later at night making it hard for little ones to trick or treat.

Never go into a strangers house, even if they ask you to come in while they go and get some candy.

Throw away all homemade or unwrapped treats. I know some people work hard on making great home made treats, but in this day and age its not worth the risk!

When walking down the street, have the adult walk closest to the road, and the children closest to the houses.

Do not run ahead of the adults—its very easy for children to get carried away and accidentally run into the road.

Do not pet strange animals while trick or treating. Though you really shouldn't ever pet someone's animal with out being invited to do so, you especially shouldn't during trick or treating where your costume or other costumes may be irritating or confusing to the animal.

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Do not eat candy as you go.

Always be nice, even when people do not have any candy to give out.

Do not knock on doors where the lights are off.

Watch where you step!

Have a plan before you start. If you are walking in an unfamiliar neighborhood, it is easy to get lost.

When you approach a treat giving house, make sure to yell "Trick or Treat!" very loudly!

When you get home, check all of the candy before allowing children to eat any of it.

You are looking for: old worn wrappers torn wrappers (even with the smallest hole) home made treats unwrapped treats toys with small parts that may be a choking hazard money (change) fruit any candy that looks like it may have been tampered with. for small children, remove any hard candies. They tend to become slick once in the mouth and can quickly become a choking hazard. lickable stamps glass or sharp objects

If you find any of the above mentioned items, its best to discard them—trust me, there will still be plenty of treats to go around afterwards!!

Have a safe and Fun Halloween—and take lots of pictures!

Samantha Olea is a designer, business woman, wife, and most of all Mother of 2! Samantha founded a free parenting resource at

hoping to help every mom be the very best mom

they can be! Samantha is also the owner of her own web design, graphic design, and hosting firm at :

and AWU Gifts:

, where she helps Moms

work from their homes.

Tips For Fun–Filled Trick–Or–Treating For Your Kids

By Susanne Myers

What's a child's favorite part of Halloween? Going trick–or–treating, of course. What could be more fun than dressing up, and then walking from door to door collecting plenty of candy along the way? Best of

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all, this fun tradition takes place at night. Make this the most fun trick-or-treating experience for your child with these simple tips.

Location, Location, Location

Pick a good neighborhood with plenty of people who are prepared for and welcome trick-or-treaters. If you are new in the area, talk to other parents in your neighborhood about where to go trick-or-treating. Usually neighborhoods or subdivisions that decorate a lot are a good choice as well.

Chaperone

You may be tempted to send older children out on their own to Trick-or-Treat, but unless you know everyone on the street they are walking on, and have them go in a group, it's just not a safe option. Instead, send at least one adult along with them. Having an adult will make sure the trick-or-treating stays a fun experience for your children.

Trick-or-Treat in a Group

Kids have even more fun trick-or-treating if they get to run around in a group. Get a few families in the neighborhood together, or ask the cousins over to go trick-or-treating with you and your kids. Just make sure you bring several adults, especially if the kids are young, to keep up with everyone.

Don't Overdo It

Start early, right at or even before dusk and don't overdo the trick-or-treating. How long you end up trick-or-treating will of course depend on the age of your children. Just keep an eye on how they are doing and take them home when they start getting tired. The whole evening will be more memorable if you end it on a good note.

By implementing these tips, you and your kids will have a great time Trick-Or-Treating this year.

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? Susanne Myers has co-authored a book to show you how — no sewing involved. Visit

to learn more.

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