



#10047 BY THE LIGHT OF THE HALLOWEEN MOON

WESTON WOODS STUDIOS, 1997
Grade Level: Ps-3
7 mins.

DESCRIPTION

A cumulative story about a girl who refuses to be scared by a cat, a witch, a bat, and other assorted Halloween fiends who are hiding under an old wooden bridge. Based on the book by Caroline Stutson.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Language Arts–Reading

- Standard: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of familiar literary passages and texts (e.g., fairy tales, folktales, fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, myths, poems, nursery rhymes, picture books, predictable books) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1 and 3.)

Subject Area: Language Arts–Listening and Speaking

- Standard: Uses listening and speaking strategies for different purposes
 - ◆ Benchmark: Recites and responds to familiar stories, poems, and rhymes with patterns (e.g., retells in sequence; relates information to own life; describes character, setting, plot) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To illustrate a cumulative Halloween story.
2. To experience rhythm and rhyme in a poem.
3. To promote the reading of children’s literature.

VOCABULARY

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| 1. bat | 6. Halloween | 11. taps |
| 2. cat | 7. light | 12. tune |
| 3. ghost | 8. moon | 13. witch |
| 4. ghoul | 9. silvery | |
| 5. girl | 10. sprite | |



BEFORE SHOWING

1. Discuss Halloween. Ask:

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- a. What kinds of costumes do you like to wear for Halloween?
 - b. What is your favorite thing about Halloween? What is your least favorite thing?
 - c. What kinds of feelings do you have on Halloween night?
2. Read the book *By the Light of the Halloween Moon* by Caroline Stutson.
Discuss:
- a. What did you think might pop up to tickle the little girl's toe?
 - b. How did the different things that appeared make you feel?
 - c. Why do you think the girl continued to sit there while her toe was tickled by these things?

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. What time of year did the story take place? How did you know?
2. What was the girl doing on the bridge?
3. Discuss why the cat was getting ready to spring on the girl's toes.
4. Who snatched at the cat before it sprang on the girl's toes?
5. What happened to the witch?
6. Who swatted at the bat?
7. What happened to the ghoul?
8. Who bit the ghost?
9. What did the girl say to the sprite?



Applications and Activities

1. Dramatize the story. Use simple props and costumes. Paint a moonlit scene for a backdrop. Present the play to other classes and/or parents.
2. Replay the video, encouraging recitation of the repeating lines of the story. Identify specific rhyming words and lines. Point out examples of alliteration.
3. Brainstorm a list of other Halloween creatures. Create other verses for the poem. Illustrate these additional verses.
4. Fold a piece of drawing paper into six boxes numbering them one through six. Draw the creatures that appeared in the poem in order, one per box. On the back, draw the girl.
5. Read other cumulative or add-on stories or rhymes. Consider:
 - a. *This is the House That Jack Built* by Simms Taback.
 - b. *Old McDonald*.
 - c. *One Fine Day* by Nonny Hogrogian.
 - d. *The Mitten* by Jan Brett.
 - e. *The Gingerbread Boy* by Paul Galdone.
 - f. *Stone Soup* Marcia Brown.
 - g. *There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly* by Simms Taback.

SUMMARY

Readers will enjoy this bouncy poem about a girl and her toe being followed by a cat, a witch, a bat, a ghoul, a ghost, and a sprite. Each one is trying to steal the "gleaming" toe that shines *By the Light of the Halloween Moon*.

CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed A Fly* #10101
- *Pumpkin Circle* #3645
- *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears* #10106
- *Witch Who Was Afraid of Witches* #1324



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• **HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES**

<http://www.kiddyhouse.com/Themes/halloween/halloween.html>

Contains information about the origins of Halloween, coloring activities, and craft ideas.



• **HALLOWEEN**

<http://members.aol.com/MrDonnLessons/Holidays.html#HALL>

Includes Halloween worksheets, information about the history of Halloween, interactive Halloween games, and ideas for Halloween treats.

• **HALLOWEEN (INCLUDING SPIDERS AND BATS)**

<http://www.teacherhelpers.homestead.com/Halloween.html>

Includes crafts and activities for Halloween and links to Halloween sites on the Web.

• **MEET THE AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR: KEVIN HAWKES**

<http://www.eduplace.com/kids/hmr/mtai/hawkes.html>

Read about the illustrator of *By the Light of the Halloween Moon* and see a list of his books.

• **POETRY TEACHERS**

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

Find all sorts of ideas for teaching poetry on the number one site for poetry teachers.