

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Showcase

- 1) Scream Team 4-5
- 2) Trick or Shriek 4-5
- 3) Terrible Tongue Twisters 4
- 4) The Witch Hunt 5
- 5) Spooks- Be Fire Safe 9
- 6) Pumpkin Patch 7
- 7) Little Orphan Annie 5
- 8) Sanity Shop 4
- 9) Auditioning a Ghost 5-6
- 10) The history of Halloween 4

Five acts of Talent. Should wear Halloween costumes and follow Halloween theme.

## 1) Scream Team

Holly talks her best friend Vanessa into watching a scary horror flick, and now she's totally freaked, frightened and upset, she regrets it. Vanessa is scared to death and Holly claims she isn't scared at all. Until oddly enough, strange things start to happen, like the phone starts to ring even though the line is severed. Creaking noises come from the attic, an axe is found in the living room, random slow knocking is at the front door and a guy in a Jason from Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> mask opens the door slowly. Holly and Vanessa think that this guy is an old psycho serial killer about to chop them to bits. They scream and it turns out to only be Holly's little brother Peter who came home from goalie practice with his friend Donald who was showing Peter his new chainsaw sound app on his ipod.

2-3 girls, 2 guys

## 2) Trick of Shriek

Holly is over at Vanessa's house for a much needed spa night on Halloween claiming their "too old for babyish thinks like trick or treating". Peter, inspired by the fiasco about the scary movie, tries to scare Donald when he comes to the door. Donald claims that he doesn't scare. Donald and Peter are debating on whose costume is scariest. Vanessa goes off to find Holly. Holly comes down the stairs wearing a face mask and rollers and the boys get scared and run away screaming "Zombie!"

2-3 girls, 2 guys

### 3) Tongue Twisters

- ☒ Giant, gross, green ghouls giggle at ghosts.
- ☒ Werewolves watch witches watching werewolves watching witches.
- ☒ Which witch will watch Wendy's witch's brew?
- ☒ Black cats can't cough because black cats coughing is something black cat's can't do.
- ☒ Owls hoot haughtily.
- ☒ Patricia Poltergeist picked a peck of plump pumpkins. How many plump pumpkins did Patricia Poltergeist pick if she picked a peck?
- ☒ Menacing monsters mingle at menacing monster monthly meetings.
- ☒ Many mournful mummies moan mournful 'til morning for their mommies.
- ☒ Seven spindly spiders spin spooky silk speedily.
- ☒ Vernon vampire visits various vampires virtuously.
- ☒ Beastly, bigger bats boisterously bully baby brothers.
- ☒ Headless horsemen hunt with horrible howling hounds.

4 people

#### 4) Rhyming Chant

##### The Witch Hunt

Leader takes a seated position in front of the audience and asks them to follow along, repeating after him and making motions as he does.

Would you like to go on a Witch Hunt? Okay! Let's go!!! Watch me and do all the things I do and repeat after me.

We're going on a Witch Hunt. Everyone tip-toe. (tip toe across stage) "Shhhh." (finger across mouth) I see a house. A haunted house. We can't go under it. We can't go around it. We can't go over it. I guess we'll have to go through it. (pretends to open a creaking door)

"Shhhh" (finger across mouth) I see the stairs. great long stairs. We can't go under them. We can't go around them. We can't go over them. I guess we'll have to climb them. (pretend to climb stairs; shade eyes and look around; continue tip-toeing)

"Shhhh" (finger across mouth) I see a cobweb. A great big cobweb. We can't go under it. We can't go around it. We can't go over it. I guess we'll have to go through it. (wave hands to get through cobweb)

"Shhhh" (finger across mouth) I see a room. a great big room. We can't go under it. We can't go around it. We can't go over it. I guess we'll have to go through it. (open creaking door; feel in front of you as if in the dark) It sure is dark in here. I feel something. (go through the motion of feeling something) It's big! It has a crooked nose! It has a pointed hat! I think it is a witch!!!! It IS a witch! Let's get out of here fast! (slap knees quickly for running)

Open the door (creaking sound), go through the cobweb (wave hands), down the stairs (slap knees), open the outer door (creaking sound), and run like crazy (slapping knees). I beat you home!!! Now you've been on a witch hunt.

5 people

## 5) Be Fire Safe

### SPOOKS

This skit ties in Fire Prevention with Halloween. The Narrator needs seven Cubs dressed as ghosts, but with their face (at least mouth) uncovered. You'll also need seven tombstones painted silver with the various names listed below.

Narrator: (haunting tone) WELCOME to our cemetery. Have you ever checked out the names of those who "live" here? Let's find out some.

Nick O. Teen: I smoked and smoked and smoked in bed. And now you see that I am dead.

In A. Flash: My pop said frayed wires were OK. I became a spook without delay.

G. R. Ease: I saved oily rags to use again. No telling what I might have been.

Lotta Fun: We thought the campfire under control. I just climbed out of my six foot deep hole.

Ima Cook: While in a hurry the hot grease splattered. I didn't know it really mattered.

B. Quick: I played with matches - it was such fun. Till I caught fire and began to run.

Brain Less: I filled with gas the lawn mower hot. So like the others, now I'm NOT.

Narrator: Thanks for coming to visit. Do come again when you can stay (drag out the next word) longer

Everyone: BE FIRE SAFE!

9 people

## 6) Pumpkin Patch

Characters: speaking parts: 13 boys dressed as pumpkins, a mother and children; non-speaking parts: other boys maybe dressed up as pumpkins sitting on stage at the sides.

Setting: Pumpkin Patch sign is placed on stage. The 12 pumpkins sit on the floor in single file. Mother and children enter and remain on stage pretending to look at the pumpkins.

Costumes: Boys may either make actual pumpkin costume or may make large paper pumpkins and pin them on their clothing.

Props: One large sign saying "PUMPKIN PATCH" and 12 signs saying "THE END."

Pumpkin 1: (Angrily) Well, here we are once again. I hate being a pumpkin.

#2: I know what you mean. Pretty soon they'll all be over here poking and squeezing...and trying to decide how to dress us up.

#3: (Loudly) I'm tired of being CARVED! IT HURTS!

#4: (Smiling) I wish they'd give me a pretty smile and not tooth decay.

#5: (Wiping his brow) And that candle is so hot. Boy, were they glad I used DIAL!

#6: Well, it's better than crayon all over your face. They really get carried away. I even had a beard and mustache.

#7: Be thankful for a beard and mustache. How would you like to be wearing a girl's wig! I was humiliated!

#8: At least a wig is soft. The family I was with stuck gourds all over my head. Two ears, two eyes and a big nose!

#9: I keep getting a spot on the windowsill. I need more room than that. You can't imagine the bruises I have from falling. (Rubs his back.)

#10: (Very indignantly) Well, I resent when they decide to build a pyramid with two or three of us. They call it a pumpkin man. I call it sore shoulders.

#11: (Disgustedly) I've been listening to you all complain for the last 10 minutes, and not one of you mentioned being put outside. Every year, for one solid week, I get the place of honor on the front porch.

#12: (Shaking his head in agreement) Me, too. The least they could do is take us in when it rains, or give us a raincoat.

#13: (Pointing to the family coming over) Be quiet; here they come. Maybe we'll be too small or the wrong shape.

Children: (Excitedly) Mommy, over here! Look at all the pumpkins!

Mother: Why, these pumpkins are too small and are all twisted out of shape.

Pumpkins: (In unison) Thank goodness!

Mother: (Very slowly says as she is eyeing each pumpkin) But . . . they'll make perfect ... pumpkin pies.

Pumpkins: (Groan in unison) Oh NO! (All hold up sign saying, "THE END")

15 people



7) Little Orphan Annie -- by James Whitcomb Riley

adapted for stage by Jeannette Jaquish

CAST: Child 1, 2, 3 & 4, Bad Girl & Bad Boy (can be Child 1,2,3 or 4), Annie, Mother, Father, Old Folks, Black Thing.

STAGE: High stool at rear of stage for Annie. Black Thing actor hides downstage side, maybe an audience member who pulls on costume.

START: Children enter in order, dropping hats, scarves, baseball mitts, dolls, jackets, etc. on floor, as kids do..

CHILD 1: Little Orphan Annie (Children form line downstage across stage.)

CHILD 2: by James Whitcomb Riley

CHILD 1: Little Orphan Annie's come to our house to stay, (ANNIE ENTERS, picks up stuff, hangs it up)

And wash the cups and saucers up, and brush the crumbs away,

CHILD 2: And shoo the chickens off the porch, and dust the hearth, and sweep,

And make the fire, and bake the bread, and earn her board and keep;

CHILD 3: And all us other children, when the supper things are done,

We sit around the kitchen fire and have the mostest fun, (Child 1, 2, 3 go pull Annie to upstage high stool.)

CHILD 4: A-listenin' to the witch tales that Annie tells about,

And the Gobble-ins that get you

(Children form half circle downstage of Annie, facing her.)

CHILDREN: (turn to yell at audience) If You Don't Watch Out! (face Annie, then watch actors.)

(Mother, Father enter holding Boy's hand, start to pray.)

ANNIE: Once there was a little boy who wouldn't say his prayers, (Boy acts up. Mother sends him off.)

And when he went to bed at night, away upstairs, (Parents mime serious talk, start to exit other side.)

His mommy heard him holler (Yell, mother turns), and his daddy heard him bawl, (Cry, Parents run towards)

And when they turned the covers down, he wasn't there at all! (Parents exit, return with ripped blanket)

And they sought him in the rafter room, and cubbyhole, and press, (parents search stage)

And sought him up the chimney flue, and everywhere, I guess;

But all they ever found was just his pants and roundabout! (find his chewed clothes or pajamas.)

Because the Gobble-ins will get you (Mother sobs in Father's arms, Exit.)

CHILDREN (facing audience): If You Don't Watch Out! (face Annie, then watch actors)  
(Parents Enter with Bad Girl, mime telling her to behave)  
ANNIE: Another time a little girl would always laugh and grin, (Parents scold, girl sassy faces)  
And make fun of everyone, and all her blood and kin, (Girl points at parents, imitates)  
And once when there was company, and old folks was there, (Old Folks Enter, knock, Parents greet)  
She mocked them and she shocked them and she said she didn't care (Girl flips up skirt wiggles butt.)  
But as she kicked her heels, and turned to run and hide, (Old Folks shocked, Girl spins and runs)  
A Great Big Scary Black Thing was a-standin' by her side, (Girl runs past and Black Thing rises)  
And it snatched her through the ceiling 'fore she could turn about! (Thing lifts her to shoulder, spins)  
Yes, the Gobble-ins will get you (Girl screams & kicks as Black Thing exits w/her. Adults aghast, exit.)

CHILDREN (face audience): If You Don't Watch Out! (Children walk downstage again.)  
(Children are fearful. Annie watches mysteriously, pleased.)

CHILD 1: And little Orphan Annie says, when the blaze is blue,  
And the lamp wick sputters, and the wind goes woo-oo!

CHILD 2: And you hear the crickets quit, and the moon is gray,  
And the lightning bugs in dew are all squenched away –

CHILD 3: You better mind your parents, and your teachers fond and dear,  
And cherish those who love you, and dry the orphan's tear,

CHILD 4: And help the poor and needy ones who cluster all about,  
Or the Gobble-ins will get you

CHILDREN: If You Don't Watch Out!

(Notes: As the orphan, Annie does all the work. Scaring the kids is her revenge. Original had "Two Great Big Black Things". )

5 people

8) A New Play on last year's Brain Shop skit using SANITY

Gus The Ghoul: Do you ever worry about losing your sanity? If so, please check the lost and found in our lobby. If you can't find your sanity there, you can probably find mine! And if you've never worried about losing your sanity, don't be concerned. Our show is just getting started! ...

4 people

9)

“Auditioning a Ghost” is a theatrical version of a Sir Arthur Conan Doyle short story. A spoiled rich girl pouts for a ghost to impress her aristocratic tea party friends, and gets more than she expected.

- Only thing missing is a ghost in their big rich house
- Hates anything fluffy, furry or colorful
- Not impressed by any of the scary auditions, ect when a carebear or teletubby auditions she runs out of the room
- 6 people

## 10) The history of Halloween

Halloween is a wonderful celebration of parties, costumes and candy that comes once each year. But how did this strange custom originate?

The beginning:

Originally Halloween was a festival of the end of summer, which has survived to the present day in popular culture as "Halloween." It is observed the night of October 31. The ancient Celts called the festival "Samhain" and observed it to celebrate the onset of winter and the beginning of the Celtic New Year. "Samhain" means "end of summer." In Ireland the festival was known as "Samhain", the feast of the Sun.

In Scotland, the celebration was known as "Halloween." Samhain marked the third and final harvest, and the storage of food for the winter. It had nothing to do with anything evil, that is a modern day myth perpetuated in films.

Samhain was a solar festival marked by sacred fire and fire rituals during the height of the Druids, the priestly caste of the Celts. All fires except those of the Druids were extinguished on Samhain. All fires were then relit from the town's fire. The Druid fire was kept burning in the Middle of Ireland, at Usinach. So on the night of October 31, villagers would extinguish the fires in their homes. In Ireland and Scotland, the custom of extinguishing one's home fire and relighting it from the festival bonfire has continued into modern times. They would then dress up in all manner of fancy costumes and parade around the neighborhood.

In some parts of modern Scotland, people still celebrate by building bonfires on hilltops and high ground. The fire is known as Halloween bleeze, and custom once included digging a circular trench around the fire to symbolize the sun.

The custom of trick or treating has several origins.

An old Irish practice called for going door to door to collect money, bread cake, cheese, eggs, apples, and such in preparation for the festival.

Another was the asking for soul cakes, or offerings in exchange for promises of prosperity or protection against bad luck.

So, although some people may think that Halloween was once a practice of evil people, Halloween itself did not grow out of evil practices. It grew out of the rituals of Celts celebrating a new year, and out of Medieval prayer rituals of Europeans. You have nothing to fear and you should just enjoy the good clean fun of Halloween