

# **HALLOWEEN**

## **Origins and Traditions**



# ORIGINS

- ö Halloween began two thousand years ago in Ireland, England, and Northern France with the ancient religion of the Celts (Paganism)



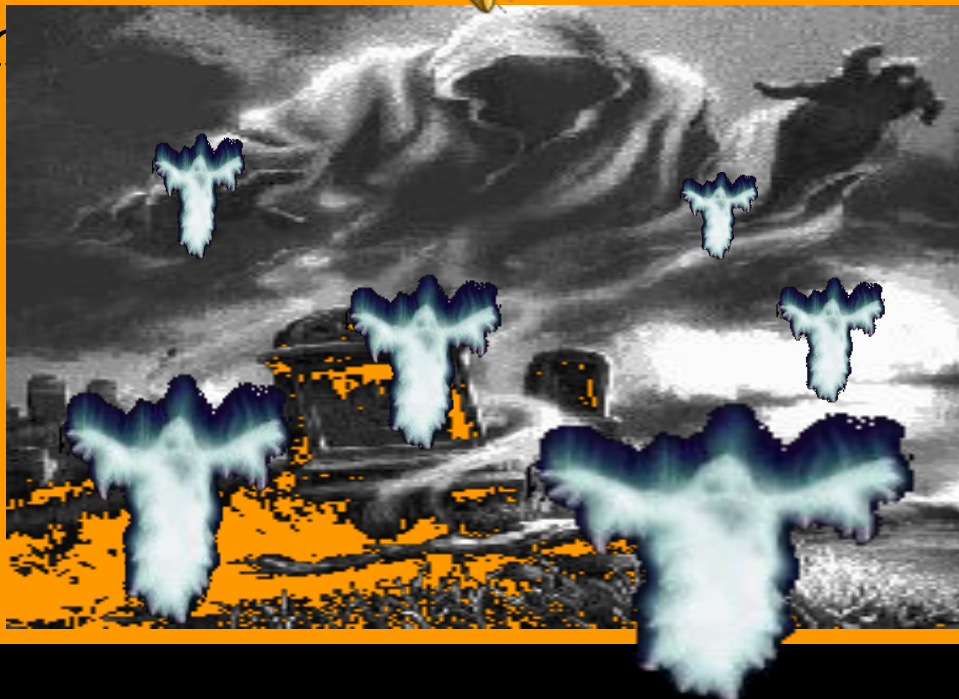
# THEY CELEBRATED THEIR NEW YEAR ON NOVEMBER 1ST.

- ö This day marked the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death.



# SAMHAIN (SOW-IN)

- ö On the night of October 31, they celebrated *Samhain*, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead return



# COSTUMES

ö People thought that they would encounter ghosts if they left their homes...



# SO THEY WORE COSTUMES.

ö This way, the ghosts couldn't recognize them





# THE CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE

- ö As the influence of Christianity spread into Celtic lands, in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, Pope Boniface IV introduced *All Saints' Day*, a time to honor saints and martyrs.



# A CHANGE OF DATE

- ö In 834, Pope Gregory III moved *All Saint's Day* from May 13<sup>th</sup> to Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> thus became *All Hallows' Eve* ('hallow' means 'saint').





# TRICK-OR-TREATING BEGAN WITH THE POOR IN THE 15<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY \*\*\*

- ö During the *All Souls Day* festival in England, poor people would beg for “soul cakes,” made out of square pieces of bread with currants
- ö Families would give soul cakes in return for a promise to pray for the family’s relatives



# THEN CHILDREN...

- ö The practice, which was referred to as "going a-souling" was eventually taken up by children who would visit the houses in their neighborhood and be given ale, food, and money.



# TODAY:

- ö Children still go from house-to-house, but instead of ale, food, and money, they get candy.



# WITH IRISH IMMIGRATION...

- ö In 1848, millions of Irish emigrants poured into America. They brought with them their traditions of *Halloween*.





# THE JACK-O-LANTERN

- ö **The Irish used to carry turnips with candles in them to light their way at night and to scare away ghosts..**



WHEN THEY WERE USED AS A LIGHT SOURCE  
FOUND  
THAT PUMPKINS WERE BOTH  
PLENTIFUL AND EASIER TO CARVE THAN  
TURNIPS.





**NOW, JACK-O-LANTERNS ARE  
USED FOR DECORATING  
PEOPLE'S HOMES.**



# PEOPLE HAVE RECENTLY STARTED CARVING LESS TRADITIONAL JACK-O-LANTERNS



# TODAY PEOPLE GO TO PARTIES...





# TAKE THEIR KIDS TRICK-OR-TREATING...



# AND EAT LOTS OF CANDY!



IF YOU DON'T GIVE CANDY  
TO A TRICK-OR-TREATER...





# THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!



*HAPPY HAUNTING!*

THE END

