

Reader's
Theater:

The Halloween
Trick-or-Treat
Challenge

Characters

- Narrator
- Eli (A boy dressed as a vampire who loves scaring people)
- Maya (A girl dressed as a witch who loves the magic of Halloween)
- Sam (A boy dressed as a superhero, always cracking jokes)
- Lily (Maya's younger sister, dressed as a cat, a bit shy but excited)
- Jake (A boy from an older group, dressed as a pirate, confident and competitive)
- Sophie (Jake's friend, dressed as a ghost)

Optional Props:

1. Costume Accessories:

- Vampire cape (for Eli)
- Witch hat and broom (for Maya)
- Superhero cape and mask (for Sam)
- Cat ears and tail (for Lily)
- Pirate hat and eyepatch (for Jake)
- A sheet with holes for eyes wearing sunglasses (for Sophie)

2. Trick-or-Treat Bags:

- Small Halloween-themed bags or pillowcases for each character to collect candy.

3. Halloween Decorations:

- Spooky Cobwebs: Spread around to create a haunted house feel.
- Jack-o'-lanterns: Use either real pumpkins or craft paper pumpkins for decorations.
- Ghost and skeleton decorations: Hang these to add to the spooky atmosphere.

4. Flashlights:

- Each character could carry a small flashlight to enhance the spooky effect as they walk around the "neighborhood" or explore the haunted house.

5. Door Prop:

- A simple doorframe or cardboard cutout of a door for the kids to knock on when they go trick-or-treating.

6. Candy Bowl:

- A large bowl filled with fake candy for the haunted house scene, where the kids find the hidden second bowl.

7. Ghost Decoration:

- For the haunted house scene, you could have a small hanging ghost made of fabric or paper to set the spooky mood (although in this version of the story, it's not real).

Narrator:

It's Halloween night, and Eli, Maya, Sam, and Lily are ready to go trick-or-treating. This year, their neighborhood is packed with kids in costumes, eager for candy. But the challenge is on—who will get the most candy by the end of the night? As they begin, they run into Jake and Sophie, older kids with a reputation for teasing.

(Scene: The kids gather on the street, dressed in their Halloween costumes, bags in hand.)

Eli:

(Excited) Alright, team! It's Halloween, the best night of the year. Who's ready to get the most candy in town?

Maya:

(Smiling) I'm in! And with a little magic, this witch is going to fill her bag with sweets.

Sam:

(Joking) And I'm here to save the day... from running out of chocolate!

Lily:

(Shyly) Do you think we'll get to the haunted house at the end of the block? I hear they give out full-sized candy bars!

Eli:

(Nods) Oh yeah, we're going there last. Save the best for last, right?

Narrator:

The friends start going door-to-door, knocking on doors, collecting candy, and laughing all the way. But suddenly, Jake and Sophie walk up, their bags already half full.

Jake:

(Confidently) Well, well, look who it is. You guys think you're going to get the most candy? Good luck keeping up!

Sophie:

(Playfully teasing) You better watch out. We've already hit all the best houses. What's your plan?

Eli:

(Challenging) We've got a plan, don't worry. You guys better watch out for us.

Maya:

(Standing tall) Halloween isn't just about how much candy you get. It's about having fun!

Jake:

(Shrugging) Sure, if that's what makes you feel better. We'll see who's having fun when we get all the good stuff first!

Narrator:

Jake and Sophie laugh and walk ahead, leaving Eli, Maya, Sam, and Lily standing there.

Sam:

(Shrugs) Let them go first. We can still beat them. We've got the best costumes and the best team!

Lily:

(Worried) But what if they take all the candy at the haunted house?

Maya:

(Smiling) Don't worry, Lil. They may be fast, but we've got the spirit of Halloween on our side!

Narrator:

The friends continue their trick-or-treat adventure, hitting more houses. They make jokes, laugh, and get a variety of candy. But as they get closer to the haunted house at the end of the street, their bags still aren't as full as they'd hoped.

Eli:

(Determined) Alright, we've gotta be strategic. Haunted house is next, and we've got to catch up!

Sam:

(Laughing) And maybe throw in a few superhero moves on the way!

Narrator:

As they approach the haunted house, they see Jake and Sophie leaving, their bags full of candy.

Jake:

(Grinning) Too bad you guys didn't make it here earlier. We got all the best candy!

Sophie:

(Teasing) Better luck next year, right?

Narrator:

The friends feel a bit discouraged, but Maya isn't ready to give up.

Maya:

(Confident) Come on, guys. Let's go in. Maybe there's still some magic left for us.

Lily:

(Nervous) It looks a little spooky, but I'm ready.

Narrator:

The group enters the haunted house. It's dark, with spooky decorations, creaky floors, and a giant bowl of candy at the end of the hallway. A sign reads: "Take one piece... if you dare!"

Eli:

(Laughing) This is awesome! Let's grab our candy and head out.

Narrator:

As they each take a piece of candy, they notice something strange—there's a whole second bowl of candy hidden under the table.

Sam:

(Surprised) Whoa! Looks like Jake and Sophie missed out. This is even better!

Maya:

(Grinning) See? Sometimes being patient pays off.

Lily:

(Smiling) And being brave!

Narrator:

The friends leave the haunted house with smiles on their faces, bags full of candy, and a sense of victory. When they meet Jake and Sophie again, they're ready for some friendly competition.

Jake:

(Surprised) No way! How'd you guys get all that?

Sophie:

(Shocked) We thought we grabbed the best stuff!

Eli:

(Grinning) We did a little trick-or-treating magic of our own. Looks like you missed something.

Maya:

(Confident) See? Halloween is more fun when you enjoy the adventure, not just the candy.

Jake:

(Shrugging) Okay, okay, you win this time. But next year, we're taking you down!

Narrator:

The kids laugh, knowing that no matter what happens next Halloween, this year's trick-or-treat adventure brought them closer together—and they learned that friendship and patience can make any night a success.

Eli:

(Proudly) We did it! Best Halloween ever.

Maya:

(Smiling) And we didn't need to rush to have fun. We had the best night together.

Sam:

(Joking) And I saved the day... with a ton of candy!

Lily:

(Happily) I can't wait for next year. I'll be even braver!

Name: _____

Date: _____

What did the older kids, Jake and Sophie, think about trick-or-treating?

How did Eli, Maya, Sam, and Lily deal with the problem at the haunted house?

What lesson did the kids learn about Halloween and trick-or-treating?

Eli



Maya



Sam



Lily



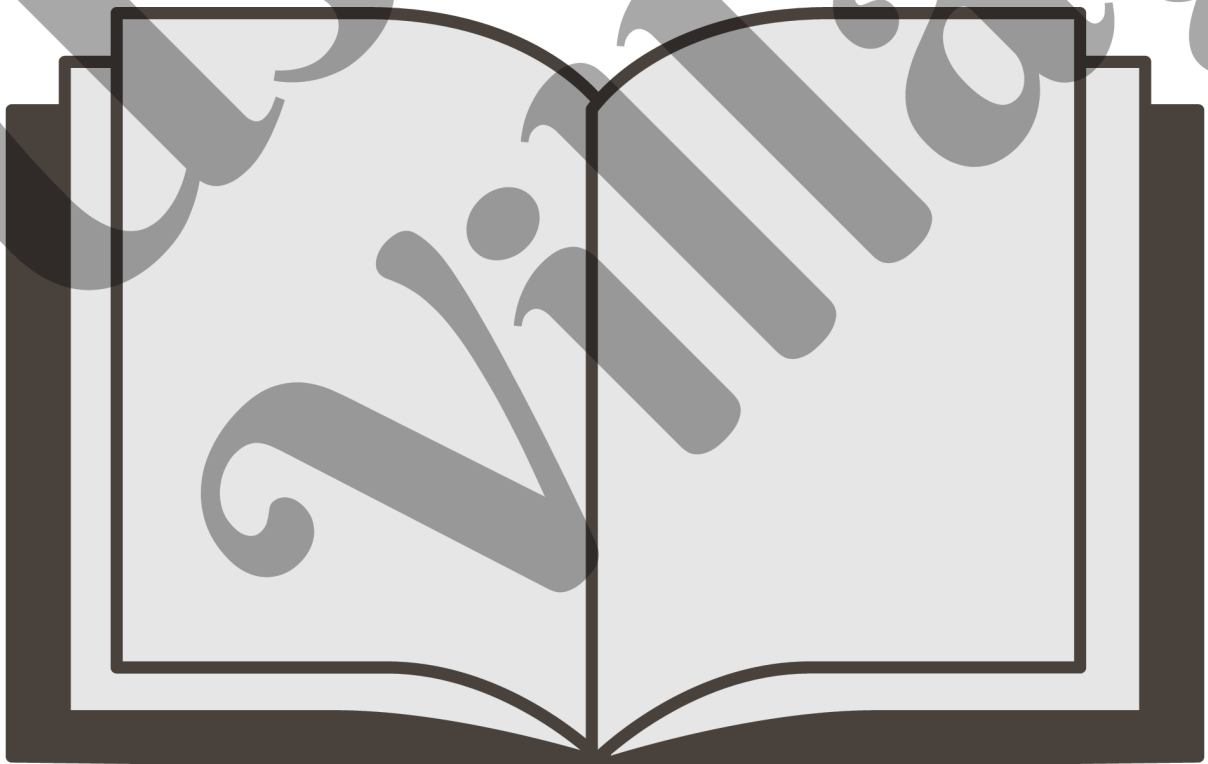
Jake



Sophie



Narrator



Teacher Suggestions:

Assigning Roles: Consider your students' reading levels and confidence when assigning roles. Encourage students to practice their parts at home or during independent reading time.

Practicing Fluency: Have students practice their parts multiple times to build fluency and expression.

Props & Costumes: Use the optional props list to create simple, engaging props.

Character Labels: Students can also use the provided character names to either cut out to hang around their neck to help identify characters to the audience or alternatively draw and illustrate what they imagine their character to look like.

Performance: Arrange a space in the classroom where students can perform. Invite other students to watch the final performance to boost students' confidence and make it more special.

Reader Response Questions: Use the provided questions to facilitate a post-performance discussion. This will help assess comprehension and encourage students to think critically about the play.

Extension Activities:

Design Your Own Costume:

Have students design and draw their own Halloween costumes. They can explain why they chose that costume and what they enjoy about Halloween.

Trick-or-Treat Strategy Game:

Create a classroom game where students map out a trick-or-treat route. They can decide which houses to go to and in what order to collect the most "candy" (points).

Friendship Reflection:

After reading the script, ask students to reflect on a time they were brave or helped a friend. They can write a short paragraph about it or share their story with the class.

Halloween Vocabulary Challenge:

Create a list of Halloween-themed vocabulary words from the script (such as "costume," "haunted," "brave," "spooky," "trick-or-treat," and "shadow"). Have students write the definitions of each word and then use the words in sentences. You could also create a word search or crossword puzzle using these words.

Character Comparison:

Divide students into pairs or small groups, and have them compare the two groups of characters in the story (Eli's group and Jake's group). They can write about or discuss how the two groups approach trick-or-treating differently, what motivates each group, and how they resolve their competition by the end. Students can also reflect on which group they identify with more and why.

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