

BY THE LIGHT OF THE HALLOWEEN MOON

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From the book by Caroline Stutson © 1993

Theme: Halloween

Grade Level: Pre-K - 2

Running Time: 6:00

SUMMARY

This is a cumulative story started by a black cat trying to catch a little girl's toe one spooky Halloween night.

OBJECTIVES

- Children will share their Halloween experiences.
- Children will become acquainted with the rhythm and rhyme of cumulative poetry.

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Talk with children about Halloween Ask:

- What kinds of costumes do you like to wear for Halloween?
- What is your favorite thing about Halloween? What is your least favorite thing about the holiday?
- What kinds of feelings do you have on Halloween night?

Share the book By The Light Of The Halloween Moon with children. Then ask:

- What did you think might pop up to tickle

the little girl's toe?

- How did the different things that appeared make you feel?
- Why do you think the girl continued to sit there while her toe was tickled by these

things?

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Have children think about the music and rhythm of the story. Ask:

- How did the music make you feel?
- How would the story have felt if the words didn't rhyme?

Supply costumes and props children can use to dramatize the story of "By The Light Of The Halloween Moon." You can use several chairs turned backward or a long bench for the bridge, and have children work together to paint a moonlit night scene on a large piece of cardboard or a large white sheet for a backdrop. Encourage children to perform their dramatization of the story for other classes. (You might even serve up some special Halloween treats to the audience during show time!)

Remind children of the fiddle the girl played in the story. Then play a variety of fiddle music for children to enjoy in the classroom. As you play different selections ask:

- How does the music make you feel?
- How is the music different from the sounds you hear from a piano? a drum?

Later, offer children a variety of household objects that can be used to imitate the sounds of various instruments (an egg beater, a tin pie plate and wooden spoon, pot lids, etc.) Let children experiment

with making different kinds of music with these homemade instruments.

Read other cumulative poetry to children, such as: This is the House that Jack Built. Then give them the opportunity to create their own

verses (you might want to suggest a Halloween theme). Children can dictate their poems to you as you print them on pieces of manila construction paper. Let children illustrate their poetry. Display the poems in an area where they can be enjoyed by children and parents alike.

OTHER VIDEOS AND FILMS ABOUT HALLOWEEN/ SCARY STORIES AVAILABLE FROM WESTON WOODS INCLUDE:

- A DARK, DARK TALE by Ruth Brown
- JACKIE TORRENCE: TWO WHITE HORSES by Jackie Torrence
- TEENY-TINY AND THE WITCH-WOMAN written by Barbara Walker and illus. by Michael Foreman
- THE THREE ROBBERS by Tomi Ungerer
- WHAT'S UNDER MY BED? by James Stevenson
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