

# PEDAGOGICAL GUIDE

Escenarios  
Educativos



The story is based on the film nominated for the Oscar Award for the Best Animated Film: *Monster House*. In this theatre adaptation we get to mix a suspense story with the traditions of Halloween celebration. In a fun and interactive way with the audience we approach the preparation of this special day, understanding its meaning and the way in which it is carried out. On the other hand, and as the characters develop, we deal with existing conflicts in school parties today, such as "Bullying". Also, in this theatrical piece we address skills, like teamwork to achieve common objectives, solidarity and generosity among the youngsters. As the story moves forward, the characters are able to acknowledge and become responsible of any harm caused to others, what leads them to a life lesson and to maturity. A show spoken entirely in English for Second and Third cycles of Primary school.

## English exercises for: What a Halloween Night!

“No Child is fully educated or  
Adequately prepared to live in an  
Increasingly technological world  
Without understanding the meaning  
And beauty transmitted by the Arts.”

-J.P. Getty Trust

### Before watching the play

#### Activity 1:

**Go over the following vocabulary. Look up the words in the dictionary if necessary.**

To show up	To shout
To take	Dangerous
Soul	Tall
To scare	Short
To give sb. a scare	Long
To hurt	Strong
To make sth. up	Weak
To come out	Feet
To run away	Legs
Trick or treating	Trunk
To refresh	Arms
To ring	Head
Reward	Doll
Shaving foam	Volunteer
To give sb. a break	To be very careful
Lollypop	To snore
Jack-o'-lantern	To sleep
Pumpkin	To dare
To carve	To wake up
Candle	To set a trap on sb.
Autistic	To disturb
To stand	Worst
To jump	

## **Activity 2:**

### **Listening comprehension:**

#### **1. Songs from the play:**

- **Read the lyrics and underline the words you don't understand.**
- **Listen and follow the lyrics.**
- **Try to deduce the meaning of the words you don't understand from the context.**
- **Look up the words you still don't understand in the dictionary.**
- **Listen and sing each line from the song.**
- **Sing the whole song.**

#### **2. Scene from the play:**

- **Read the whole scene and underline the words you don't understand.**
- **Listen and follow it in the script.**
- **Try to deduce the meaning of the words you don't understand from the context.**
- **Look up the words you still don't understand in the dictionary.**
- **Listen and repeat each line from the script.**
- **Read the whole scene with a partner.**

### 3. The opening Song:

Fill in the blanks with the following words:

corner school move Neighbourhood holiday October clue fashionable

We are Amy, Roy and Michael

We live in Lexington \_\_\_\_\_

We've always been very cool and \_\_\_\_\_

And we are also great at \_\_\_\_\_

We are out here today

For today is our \_\_\_\_\_

31 of \_\_\_\_\_

The wait is over

31 of \_\_\_\_\_

Halloween is round the \_\_\_\_\_

We have to get things ready

For the night is here already

Roy, do you know your \_\_\_\_\_?

Amy, you know what to do!

All together, ready to \_\_\_\_\_!

**Activity 3:**

Look for the following words on the grid:

Soul

Trick

Treat

Reward

Lollypop

Pumpkin

Candle

Autistic

Dangerous

Tall

Short

Long

Strong

Weak

Feet

Legs

Trunk

Arms

Head

Doll

Worst

Volunteer

W	E	S	R	A	S	O	U	L	P	A	R	Z	V	K	D
O	Q	T	E	U	B	N	M	O	U	W	E	A	K	C	A
R	Q	R	E	T	L	K	G	L	F	D	W	S	D	I	N
S	P	O	T	I	X	C	V	L	D	B	A	N	M	R	G
T	I	N	N	S	U	B	R	Y	A	T	R	E	A	T	E
E	T	G	U	T	A	L	L	P	E	L	D	N	A	C	R
A	R	E	L	I	R	I	O	O	H	O	F	J	Q	Y	O
E	U	M	O	C	M	O	N	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	U
R	N	B	V	A	S	K	G	B	U	R	T	R	O	H	S
T	K	J	F	E	E	T	Z	V	T	E	G	S	F	U	A
P	O	L	D	F	G	H	D	O	L	L	H	S	G	E	L

**Activity 4:**

**Match the verbs in the left with the words in the right:**

Ask	a lie
Say	a question
Set	goodbye
Tell	slowly
Call	a trap
Make	a scare
Run	by the name
Be	home
Come	your memory
Hurt	still
Give	a mistake
Stand	a leg
Refresh	careful

**Activity 5:**

**Gap-fill exercise:**

Teenagers stories neighbourhood become character woman live alive fight will knocks trick  
or treating night Halloween

Roy, Michael and Amy are three \_\_\_\_\_ that tell false \_\_\_\_\_ to two children from Lexington \_\_\_\_\_, to scare and frighten them away. However, they don't yet know that one of their stories will \_\_\_\_\_ real: The \_\_\_\_\_ of Old Florence who is an old \_\_\_\_\_ that takes any child's young soul to \_\_\_\_\_ forever, will come \_\_\_\_\_. Roy, Michael and Amy will \_\_\_\_\_ her to avoid her making her \_\_\_\_\_ on the night that every child \_\_\_\_\_ on his neighbour's door for \_\_\_\_\_ on the most horrifying \_\_\_\_\_ of all, on the night of \_\_\_\_\_.

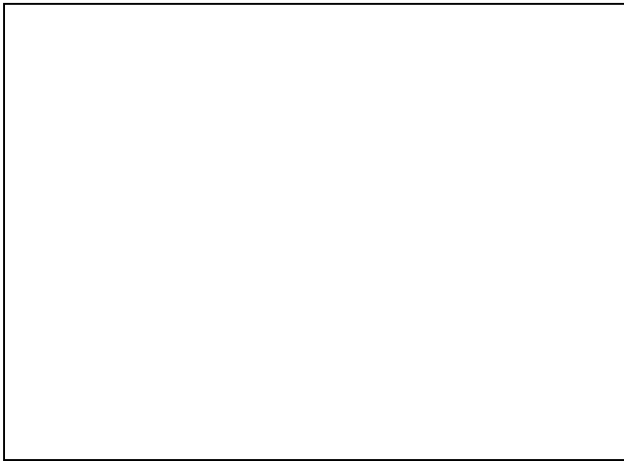
## **DISCUSSION WITH THE ACTORS**

**After watching the play**

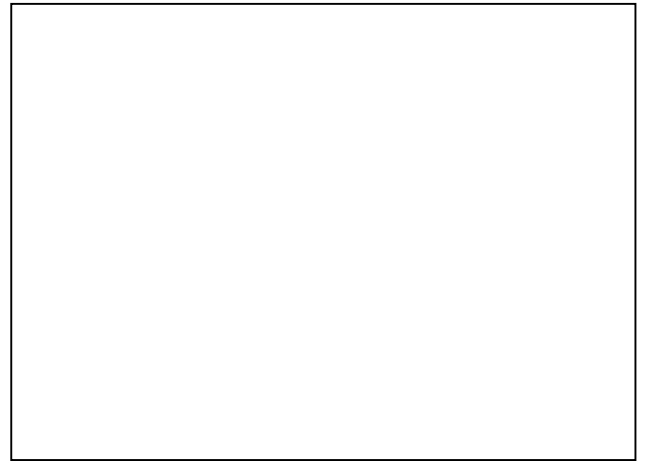
**Activity 1: Draw the story using the following guidelines:**

- 1) Roy, Michael and Amy practice how to go trick or treating.
- 2) Old Florence takes little John.
- 3) Roy, Michael and Amy build up a doll.
- 4) Roy and Michael fight Old Florence.

1)



2)



3)



4)



**Activity 2: Read the following passage and answer the questions:**

We celebrate Halloween every year on October 31st. Where does the holiday come from?

The holiday originally comes from a people called the Celts. The Celts lived in Europe more than 2000 years ago. On November 1st they celebrated the end of summer. They thought ghosts visited the living on October 31st. They dressed up like ghosts, so the spirits would not harm them. Today, many countries still remember the dead on November 1st. It is called All Saints Day. Another name for it is All Hallow's Day. The day before, October 31st, is called All Hallow's Eve, or Halloween for short.

Halloween is an old tradition in Ireland and Scotland. In those countries, people dressed up and carried lanterns made of turnips. When people moved from Ireland and Scotland to the United States, they started using pumpkins. This is where the jack-o'-lantern comes from. They also had a tradition of giving food to the spirits. Later, they gave the food to poor people. This is where trick-or-treating comes from.

Halloween has changed a lot since its origins. New people have brought new traditions and changed the old ones. What do you think Halloween will be like in another two thousand years?

- 1) What is this story about?
  - a. Trick-or-treating.
  - b. Ireland and Scotland.
  - c. Ghosts.
  - d. Where the Halloween tradition comes from.
- 2) When did the Celts live in Europe?
  - a. 20 years ago.
  - b. 200 years ago.
  - c. More than 2000 years ago.
  - d. More than 2,000,000 years ago.
- 3) Who did the Celts think visited the living on October 31st?
  - a. Their relatives.
  - b. Spirits of the dead.
  - c. Poor people.
  - d. Irish people.
- 4) Why did the Celts dress in costumes?
  - a. It is fun.



- b. To go trick-or-treating.
- c. So spirits would not hurt them.
- d. To scare poor people.

What costume will you wear on Halloween? Why?

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**Activity 3:** Match the following adjectives with each character:

Serious Brave Bad Evil Tall Weak Clever Nervous Funny Childish Young Old Strong Short Smart Dumb Cry-baby Clumsy
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Michael

Amy

Roy

Jane

John

Old Florence

**Activity 4: Read the passage and put the verbs into the past tense:**

Once upon a time there \_\_\_\_\_ (to be) three teenagers that \_\_\_\_\_ (to live) in Lexington neighbourhood. They \_\_\_\_\_ (to use) to scare every little child with some false stories about an Old woman \_\_\_\_\_ (to call) Old Florence. They \_\_\_\_\_ (to use) to say that this old woman \_\_\_\_\_ (to take) the children's souls to live forever. One day they \_\_\_\_\_ (to find out) that their stories \_\_\_\_\_ (to be) not false any more. So they \_\_\_\_\_ (to decide) to fight Old Florence and stop her from doing any harm. They \_\_\_\_\_ (to build up) a doll to set a trap on her but they \_\_\_\_\_ (to fail). Old Florence \_\_\_\_\_ (to capture) Amy. Roy and Michael \_\_\_\_\_ (to get into) the house and \_\_\_\_\_ (to fight) Old Florence. they \_\_\_\_\_ (to discover) they \_\_\_\_\_ (to have) some powers and so they \_\_\_\_\_ (to use) them to defeat her. Finally, Roy, Michael and Amy \_\_\_\_\_ (to go back) to their houses.

**Activity 5: Read the passage above and answer to the following questions:**

1) Where did Roy, Michael and Amy live?

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2) What did they tell young children?

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3) What was the old lady's name?

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4) Why did Roy, Michael and Amy decide to fight Old Florence?

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5) Who won the fight?

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**Activity 6:** Write a passage in past simple tense telling a new ending for “What a Halloween Night!” You may start from...:

Old Florence captured Amy, but Roy and Michael managed to get into the house....

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**Activity 7:** How much did you like the play and why?

In your own words write a short paragraph telling us how much you liked the play and explain some reasons:

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## Answer Sheet for: What a Halloween Night!

### 4. The opening Song:

Fill in the blanks with the following words:

corner school move Neighbourhood holiday October clue fashionable

We are Amy, Roy and Michael

We live in Lexington **Neighbourhood**

We've always been very cool and **fashionable**

And we are also great at **school**

We are out here today

For today is our **holiday**

31 of **October**

The wait is over

31 of **October**

Halloween is round the **corner**

We have to get things ready

For the night is here already

Roy, do you know your **clue**?

Amy, you know what to do!

All together, ready to **move**!

**Activity 3:**

**Look for the following words on the grid:**

W	E	S	R	A	S	O	U	L	P	A	R	Z	V	K	D
O	Q	T	E	U	B	N	M	O	U	W	E	A	K	C	A
R	Q	R	E	T	L	K	G	L	F	D	W	S	D	I	N
S	P	O	T	I	X	C	V	L	D	B	A	N	M	R	G
T	I	N	N	S	U	B	R	Y	A	T	R	E	A	T	E
E	T	G	U	T	A	L	L	P	E	L	D	N	A	C	R
A	R	E	L	I	R	I	O	O	H	O	F	J	Q	Y	O
E	U	M	O	C	M	O	N	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	U
R	N	B	V	A	S	K	G	B	U	R	T	R	O	H	S
T	K	J	F	E	E	T	Z	V	T	E	G	S	F	U	A
P	O	L	D	F	G	H	D	O	L	L	H	S	G	E	L

### **Activity 5:**

Teenagers stories neighbourhood become character woman live alive fight will knocks trick  
or treating night Halloween

Roy, Michael and Amy are three **teenagers** that tell false **stories** to two children from Lexington **neighbourhood**, to scare and frighten them away. However, they don't yet know that one of their stories will **become** real: The **character** of Old Florence who is an old **woman** that takes any child's young soul to **live** forever, will come **real**. Roy, Michael and Amy will **fight** her to avoid her making her **will** on the night that every child **knock** on his neighbour's door for **trick or treating** on the most horrifying night of all, on the night of **Halloween**.

## **DISCUSSION WITH THE ACTORS**

### **Activity 2:**

**Where does Halloween come from?**

**Read the following passage and answer the questions:**

We celebrate Halloween every year on October 31st. Where does the holiday come from?

The holiday originally comes from a people called the Celts. The Celts lived in Europe more than 2000 years ago. On November 1st they celebrated the end of summer. They thought ghosts visited the living on October 31st. They dressed up like ghosts, so the spirits would not harm them. Today, many countries still remember the dead on November 1st. It is called All Saints Day. Another name for it is AllHallow's Day. The day before, October 31st, is called All Hallow'sEve, or Halloween for short.

Halloween is an old tradition in Ireland and Scotland. In those countries, people dressed up and carried lanterns made of turnips. When people moved from Ireland and Scotland to the United States, they started using pumpkins. This is where the jack-o'-lantern comes from. They also had a tradition of giving food to the spirits. Later, they gave the food to poor people. This is where trick-or-treating comes from.

Halloween has changed a lot since its origins. New people have brought new traditions and changed the old ones. What do you think Halloween will be like in another two thousand years?

- 5) What is this story about?
- a. Trick-or-treating.
  - b. Ireland and Scotland.
  - c. Ghosts.
  - d. Where the Halloween tradition comes from.
- 6) When did the Celts live in Europe?
- a. 20 years ago.
  - b. 200 years ago.
  - c. More than 2000 years ago.
  - d. More than 2,000,000 years ago.
- 7) Who did the Celts think visited the living on October 31st?
- a. Their relatives.
  - b. Spirits of the dead.
  - c. Poor people.
  - d. Irish people.
- 8) Why did the Celts dress in costumes?
- a. It is fun.
  - b. To go trick-or-treating.
  - c. So spirits would not hurt them.
  - d. To scare poor people.

**Activity 3: Match the following adjectives with each character:**

Michael: Brave, Clever, Nervous, Funny, Childish, Young, Strong, Short, Smart, Dumb, Cry-baby and Clumsy.

Amy: Serious, Brave, Tall, Clever, Nervous, Funny, Young, Strong and Smart.

Roy: Brave, Clever, Nervous, Funny, Childish, Young, Strong, Smart, Dumb and Clumsy.

Jane: Tall, Weak, Nervous, Funny, Childish, Young, Dumb, Cry-baby and Clumsy.

John: Weak, Nervous, Funny, Childish, Young, Dumb, Cry-baby and Clumsy.

Old Florence: Serious, Brave, Bad, Evil, Tall, Clever, Nervous, Old, Strong and Smart.

**Activity 4: Read the passage and put the verbs into the past tense:**

Once upon a time there **were** (to be) three teenagers that **lived** (to live) in Lexington neighbourhood. They **used** (to use) to scare every little child with some false stories about an Old woman **called** (to call) Old Florence. They **used** (to use) to say that this old woman **took** (to take) the children's souls to live forever. One day they **found out** (to find out) that their stories **were** (to be) not false any more. So they **decided** (to decide) to fight Old Florence and stop her from doing any harm. They **built up** (to build up) a doll to set a trap on her but they **failed** (to fail). Old Florence **captured** (to capture) Amy. Roy and Michael **got into** (to get into) the house and **fought** (to fight) Old Florence. They **discovered** (to discover) they **had** (to have) some powers and so they **used** (to use) them to defeat her. Finally Roy, Michael and Amy **went back** (to go back) to their houses.

**Activity 5: Read the passage above and answer to the following questions:**

6) Where did Roy, Michael and Amy live?

In Lexington neighbourhood.

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1) What did they tell young children?

They told them false stories to frighten them away.

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1) What was the old lady's name?

Her name was Old Florence.

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1) Why did Roy, Michael and Amy decide to fight Old Florence?

Because they wanted to stop her from doing any harm.

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1) Who won the fight?

The three teenagers won.

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