

Trick-or-treat rap

by Jackie Holderness & Annie Hughes

Level 1 • Starter / Beginner +

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aims: To practise describing fears; to practise using adjectives; to practise intonation and speech rhythms

Time: 30 minutes

Student grouping: Pairs, whole class

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student; the audio (played via onestopenglish or downloaded in advance); Blu-Tack; pictures of *night, witch, moon, wind, stars, sky, ghosts, boys, girls, street*; pictures of things people are typically scared of, e.g. spiders, snakes.

Language focus: *Black/white; What's this?; cold/bright, spooky; night, witch, moon, wind, stars, sky, ghosts, boys, girls, street; meet, beat, fly, rhythm, rhyme*

Procedure

Step 1

Explain that you will teach the children a rap. Teach new vocabulary using visuals (*sky, moon* and so on) or mime (*cold, bright, spooky* and so on). Hand out the worksheet and use it to consolidate vocabulary: *black, white, night, witch, moon, wind, stars, sky, ghosts, boys, girls* and *street*.

Step 2

Stick each picture you prepared on the board. Ask:

T: What's this? (*pointing to one picture*)

Class: Moon.

T: Yes, it's the moon.

Then call two volunteers to the front to model the exchange, for example:

A: What's this? (*pointing to one picture*)

B: It's a ...

A: Yes./No.

They then swap turns.

Step 3

Split the class into pairs. Explain that they should use the worksheet to point to the items of vocabulary and practise the exchange from step 2.

Step 4

Play the audio. Check that the children understood the rap. Ask 'What's it about?' 'Can you hear any words you know?' and so on.

Step 5

Play the audio a few more times. Which words did the children hear this time? The children should hear the rap a few times to be sure of the rhythm.

Step 6

Teach the rap.

Follow-up activity

Conduct a class survey of what everyone is afraid of. Attach pictures of frightening things to the board and ask the class to raise their hands if they are afraid of these things. Point and ask, 'Are you afraid of spiders?' and so on. Count up the hands raised and write the number next to the picture.

Transcript

The sky is black, the moon is white
Do you know tonight's the night
When witches fly above the street
And boys and girls say Trick-or-treat!

Trick-or-treat, trick-or-treat
This is the rhythm of the street
Trick-or-treat, trick or treat
This is the rap with the spooky beat.

The wind is cold, the stars are bright
Do you know tonight's the night
White ghosts say BOO! when they meet
And boys and girls say Trick-or-treat!

Trick-or-treat, trick-or-treat
This is the rhythm of the street
Trick-or-treat, trick or treat
This is the rap with the spooky beat.