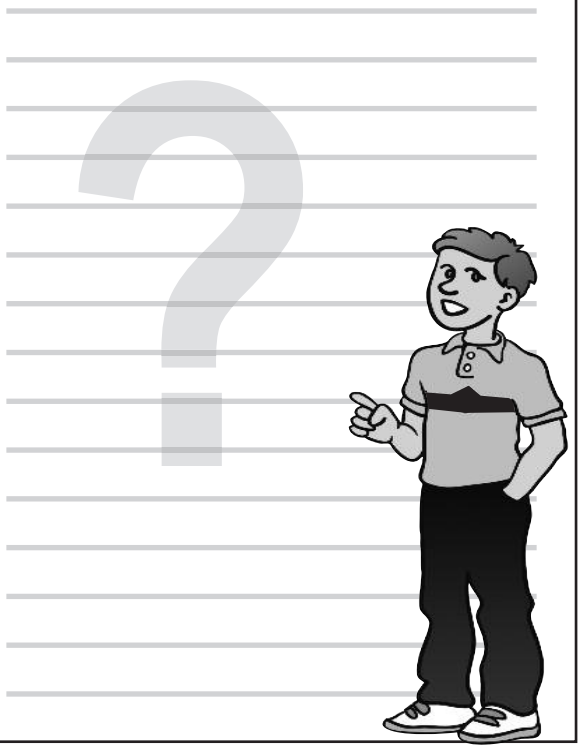
Key Stage 2/3

Top Tips for Halloween

Halloween falls on 31st October. Traditionally, people wore scary costumes on this day to frighten away spirits before the church celebrations of All Hallows Day (1st November). That's how we get the name. 'All Hallows Eve' was shortened to Halloween. Today many people dress up and go trick or treating – but before you step out remember the

Halloween Street Code...

The Code...	**Why** is each part of the code important? Discuss your ideas with a friend.
■ **Don't go trick or treating alone**. Go with a group **and stay with them** or go with a responsible adult.	
■ **Don't knock on strangers' doors**. Only visit people that you know and never go into a stranger's house.	
■ **Dress to be seen**. Wear light, reflective clothes and carry a torch or lamp. Try to stay in well lit areas and use your road sense!	
■ **Respect other people**. Be polite. Don't go out too late. Ring or knock only once and be ready to take no for an answer.	
■ **Don't damage property, demand money or threaten to play tricks**. You may think it's a joke – others won't!	

Here are two people's accounts of Halloween night. Read each one carefully and discuss it with your friends. Remember that the same situation can look very different to different people. Think about the way that your actions can affect others...

I'd just got the kids to bed, when I heard banging and shouting in the porch. Then someone pounded on the front door. I nearly jumped out of my skin. I ran into the hall but then heard the baby screaming upstairs. I shouted at whoever was in the porch to hang on and ran upstairs to get the baby.

I could hear someone shouting 'trick or treat' over and over again. To be honest I'd forgotten all about it. Anyway - by the time I got back downstairs the porch was empty apart from a pile of sweet wrappers. Someone had taken our wellies and thrown them on the garden and my waterproof jacket was hanging from the aerial on the car. I know it's just kids - but I could have wept!

We had a brilliant time last night. It was the first time we'd been allowed to go trick or treating on our own. Dad said to stay in our road and not to cause any trouble. I was dressed as a zombie with bandages and blood and Jack wore a skeleton suit.

Old Mrs Jones at number 20 nearly freaked when she saw us. She looked a bit shocked – but she gave us a bag of sweets. We tried the new lady at number 24 – but she just shouted at us from the hall. She's so grumpy and miserable all the time so we 'relocated' her wellies! It was such a laugh.

Think!

Remember to stay where people know you. A **group of friends** having fun can look like a **scary gang** if people don't know you!

Damaging property is an offence called **criminal damage**. You could be prosecuted.

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