

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Halloween can be a fun-filled afternoon or evening for everyone in the family. But sometimes, the fun can become scary if an injury occurs.

That's why the staff at Ministry Saint Joseph's Children's Hospital has put together this information to help trick-or-treaters have fun and be safe.

SAFETY TIPS

Preschool-age children and toddlers can be afraid of the scarier aspects of Halloween. Talk to younger children in advance about the difference between reality and make-believe.

NO ONE, no matter how old, should trick-or-treat alone. Make sure that all children have adult supervision when trick-or-treating.

When choosing or making a costume, make sure that it is made of fire-resistant material and bright colors. If you choose a dark color, add reflective tape so the trick-or-treater can be seen by the drivers of on-coming cars.

Make sure that the costume is not a tripping hazard.

Avoid sharp objects as accessories.

Make sure the costume is large enough to wear warm clothes underneath, in case the temperature outside is low.

If using face paint or make-up, make sure that the ingredient labels say "made with U.S. approved colored additives," "laboratory tested," "non-toxic" or "meets federal standards for cosmetics."



Younger children are better off not wearing masks. But if a mask is used, make sure that it doesn't obstruct the child's vision or breathing.

Carry a flashlight.

Give children bright-colored trick-or-treat bags.

Make sure children are cautious when crossing streets.

Trick-or-treat in familiar neighborhoods at homes of people you know.

Know in advance the route that older children are taking.

Set a curfew or check-in time and make sure your child has a watch and knows how to contact you.

Instruct children not to eat any treats until they get home. Treats should be checked by an adult. It may be helpful to serve children dinner before trick or treating so they won't be hungry.

Dispose of any candy that has a loose or open wrapper.

Wash all fruit and cut into pieces to inspect it before eating.

Contact police if any treats have been tampered with.

Make sure that your home is well lit for visiting trick-or-treaters.

Clear steps and lawns of any tripping hazard.

If driving, beware of children darting out into the streets.

Brought to you by: Trauma Services of Ministry Saint Joseph's Hospital



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