

How to host an in-studio Halloween party that will bring a buzz to your studio long after the sugar wears off.

What it is

A Halloween-themed studio party. The event is organized like a 'fete' or 'fair', with different games and activity stations where students earn their candy. This tried-and-tested format provides a purposeful and playful party vibe (so it's not just another dance party): it gives students something to do, spreads out the sugar consumption, and channels their energy into purposeful activities so it's not total chaos. It also allows parents and carers to enjoy a kid-free night (that's the kind of goodwill that keeps on giving!).

Ages

We recommend from ages 5yrs and up.

Cost

This could be a free or a paid event.

Time

Around 2-3 hours. We found 2.5 hours to be our sweet spot.

You'll need

- Halloween-themed decorations
- Required resources for each activity station (see next pages)
- Assistants to run the activity stations (get your assistant teachers or teen/senior students to help out
- Candy... lots of it. Don't forget gluten-free and Vegan options (gelatine is a pork-based product which some students can't eat).
- Candy buckets for each activity station, plus a few spare.
- Loot bags for students to keep their hard-earned candy (name labels can prevent mix ups later on)
- Another room or quiet corner that can be made into a sensory area is ideal.
- Marketing and comms (email, posters, RSVP form, etc)

Handy typs

- Use painter's tape to mark out where to line up for each activity. A tape arrow on the ground also helps tell students which way to line up. This makes managing bulk kids in the space way easier.
- Some activities may require two different starting positions: one for under 8's and another for over 8's.
- Make sure your RSVP form includes dietary requirements and allergies. Keep separate buckets for specialized candy (e.g. gluten-free, vegan, dairy-free etc). Do not purchase candy with nuts or other known allergens.
- Set a cap on RSVP's based on your studio space, the number of helpers you have available, and child-adult ratios in your area.
- Students should eat dinner beforehand.
- Students should bring a water bottle unless there is a drinking fountain available at your venue.
- Ask assistants and any other staff who are helping to arrive from 90-minutes to 2 hours prior to decorate the venue.
- Create starter kit loot bags for each student before the event. Make sure to review the dietary requirements and create specific bags (a different design works best so they are easily identified).

How it works

- Before students arrive, decorate the studio and set up the activity stations.
- Assign activity stations to assistants/helpers, and explain the rules and how students can earn candy (e.g. 1 piece for participating, 2 pieces for ____.)
- Students can participate in any activity as many times as they like (as long as they line up and wait their turn).
- Once all the candy is gone, students can keep playing activities or it can turn into a dance party usually it's both at the same time!

Procedures

- As students arrive they will be signed in by a teacher who will greet them and confirm parent/carer phone number and dietary/other requirements.
- Give each student a 'starter' kit a small Halloween loot bag with a couple of pieces of candy in it. Make sure students are given the right bag based on their dietary requirements.
- Let students know they can participate in different activities to earn more candy.
- Some students may need a little support as they transition into the party space.
 Walk them around the studio and explain the activities and find a station that is most interesting or comfortable for them to begin.



Spider Web Toss

You'll need:

- fake spiderweb
- 6 x plastic spiders

Set up:

Drape the spiderweb over a wall or corner of the studio.

Objective:

Students throw 6 spiders trying to get each to stick onto the web.

Scoring:

0-2 spiders - 1 piece; 3-5 spiders - 2 pieces; 6 spiders - 3 pieces.

Eyeball & Spoon Race

You'll need:

- fake plastic eyeballs and a container to keep them in.
- plastic spoon (using children's plastic cutlery is safer than disposable cutlery which can splinter when it is broken).
- painter's tape or roll out line.

Set up:

Set up a long line of painter's tape in one area of the studio. Keep the bucket of eyeballs and spoon near the starting line.

Objective:

Scoop an eyeball from the bucket and travel down the line and back to the start without dropping their eye!

Scoring:

Participation/dropping eyeball - 1 piece; No drops - 2 pieces.

Broomstick Obstacle Course

You'll need:

- small broomstick
- assorted equipment (e.g. poly dots, yoga blocks, etc)
- painter's tape or poly dots to mark the start and finish line
- if you want to keep record: a phone or timer and a whiteboard

Setup:

Set up a small obstacle course for students to 'fly' through (e.g. dodging poly dots in curvy pathways, jumping or leaping over yoga blocks, etc.).

Objective:

Fly on their broomstick to complete the obstacle course.

Scoring:

Participation – 1 piece. Optional: set a time limit for different age groups, students earn 2 pieces of candy if they make it within the time limit. The time limit can get smaller and more challenging throughout the event.





- projector or large screen
- laptop or other device
- internet connection and playlist with Just Dance Halloween YouTube tracks queued
- clear space with no other activities

Setup:

Set up the screen/projector in an area of the studio where there will be no other activities or thoroughfare.

Objective:

Dance by following along with the characters on screen.

Scoring:

Participation - 1 piece; awesome dance moves and performance vibes - 2 pieces.

Note: some students may find these a little scary. Having a scare-free break out space is recommended. Everyone is different, so if it does get too overwhelming, just make it a general dance party station with non-Halloween themed tracks.

Monster Bowling

You'll need:

- 6 to 10 paper cups decorated with monster designs (think Frankenstein, ghosts etc)
- 2-3 small balls (juggling or bean filled balls are ideal)

Set up:

Set up the cups in a vertical pyramid (e.g. for 6 cups: 3 bottom, 2 middle, and 1 up top, or for 10 cups: 4, 3, 2, 1).

Objective:

Students throw the ball and try to knock over all cups.

<u>Scoring</u>

Depends on number of cups used. E.g. 6 cups: 0-4 cups - 1 piece; 5-6 cups - 2 pieces

Witches Brew Toss

You'll need:

- 6 x plastic witches cauldrons, or 6 buckets/containers
- 6 x mall plastic rats, bats or other halloween themed objects

<u>Set up:</u>

Set up the cauldrons/buckets in a pyramid (like bowling skittles). Use tape or blutack to stick them to the floor so they don't tip over.

Objective:

Students throw the 6 objects aiming to get all 6 into a cauldron.

Scorina:

0-2 - 1 piece; 3-5 - 2 pieces; 6 - 3 pieces; one in each cauldron; 5 pieces.

Scare-free sensory zone

You'll need:

- tables
- · coloring pencils
- craft materials (see below for suggestions)
- yoga mats, wobble cushions and other sensory equipment
- · coloring sheets
- activity sheets





- paper chains (perfect for next year's decorations!)
- cotton bud skeletons
- handprint bats
- paper cup monsters (get students to create them for next year's event)

<u>Set up:</u>

If it's available, try to set this up in a separate area that's removed from the other activity stations. Set up different tables for each activity and place the required materials on each (e.g. colouring pencils). Rather than having all the sheets available on the tables, the station assistant should keep stacks of sheets and can hand them out to students. This keeps things cleaner and students more focused on the task. If you don't have tables you can set up coloring stations on the floor (you may want to cover the floor to avoid any unintentionally arty dance floors!).

Objective:

Color in, complete the activity sheets, or create Halloween-inspired crafts to earn candy.

Scoring:

Completing an activity/coloring sheet or craft – 1 piece; extra amazing craft or coloring – 2 pieces.





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