Happy Halloween!

Long, long ago, there was a special day that we now call Halloween. Halloween is a time when we wear spooky costumes, go trick-or-treating, and carve pumpkins. But do you know where Halloween came from?
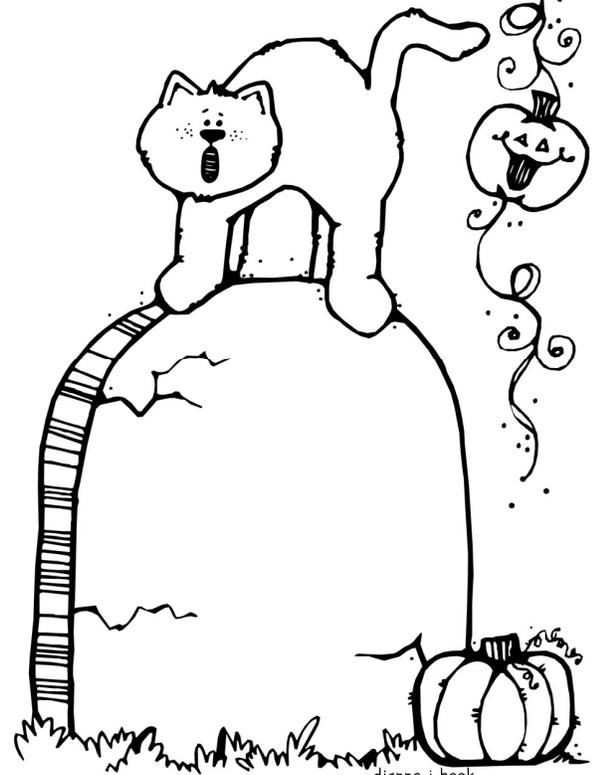
Halloween began a very, very long time ago with a holiday called "Samhain." The people who celebrated Samhain lived in a place called Ireland. Samhain happened at the end of October, just like Halloween does today.

The people of Ireland believed that on this day, the line between our world and the spirit world became very thin. They thought that ghosts, fairies, and other magical creatures could cross over to our world on Samhain. To protect themselves, they would dress up in scary costumes to trick the spooky spirits and keep them away

In the 800s, a long time after Samhain, the Christian church wanted to create a new holiday to remember the saints. They decided to celebrate it on the same day as Samhain. This new holiday was called "All Saints' Day" or "All Hallows' Day." The night before became known as "All Hallows' Eve," which later turned into "Halloween."

Over time, Halloween spread to other countries, like the United States, and it changed a lot. People started carving pumpkins, telling spooky stories, and going door to door asking for treats. And that's how Halloween became the fun and spooky holiday we know today!

So, when you put on your costume and go trick-or-treating, remember that Halloween has a long and interesting history that began with the ancient celebration of Samhain in Ireland. It's a day of dressing up, having fun, and not being too scared of those ghostly spirits from long ago!

dianne j hook

The History of Halloween

1. What is the text structure of this passage?

   description   cause and effect   compare and contrast

   problem and solution   sequence

2. What was the name of the holiday in Ireland that evolved into Halloween?

   _____

   _____

3. Why would the people of Ireland dress up in scary costumes?

   _____

   _____

4. What was the name of the new holiday the Christian church created to remember saints?

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