



For many, Halloween is a special time of year, filled with spooky fun and tasty treats. The following are a few tips to ensure everyone is having a safe experience.

Treat Safety Tips

- Eat only factory-wrapped treats, and never eat anything homemade from strangers.
- Examine all candy for choking hazards and tampering.
- While there is little evidence illicit drug producers are intentionally targeting children with candy-colored pills, always check Halloween candy for unpackaged items and suspicious packaging.
- Be aware of products containing THC, CBD or other cannabis-related products that may resemble gummies or chocolate. While some of these products can be legally purchased by adults, they could be mistakenly consumed by children if not secured properly.
- Remember: If in doubt, throw it out!

Neighborhood Safety Tips

- Trick-or-treat in groups if possible.
- Never allow small children to visit a door without a trusted adult.

- Teach children not to approach vehicles.
- Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, they should stick to well-lit and familiar areas.
- Only approach well-lit homes where porch or exterior lights are on.
- Avoid shortcuts through back yards, alleys or parks.

General Safety Tips

- Citizens should keep doors locked, even if you are just “out front” handing out candy, to prevent unwanted persons entering your home.
- Another way to ensure the safety of trick-or-treaters is to attend public, organized events. Instead of visiting unfamiliar neighborhoods, consider Halloween festivities at malls, churches or events sponsored by local businesses.
- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- Report suspicious activity to law enforcement.

Source(s):
Florida Sheriffs Association (FSA)
Safe Kids Worldwide

Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)
Florida Department of Health (FDOH)

