

October 2014

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California Kids!

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Publisher: George Macko
General Manager: Kathleen Egan
Contributing Writers:
 Connie Goldsmith, Patricia Newman
Art Director: John Ochoa • **Graphic Artist:** Ryan Wunn
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Fairytale Town Programs

28th Annual Safe and Super Halloween: The Adventures of Percy Jackson Friday, Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 24, 25 and 26, 5 to 9 p.m.

Enter the mythological world of Rick Riordan's "Percy Jackson and the Olympians" for three nights of trick-or-treating and family fun. Young heroes can go on a quest to Mount Olympus to see the infamous Olympian Zeus. Visit the lair of Polyphemus the Cyclops, the replica Parthenon, the Oracle of Delphi and Medusa's garden--just remember not to look her directly in the eyes! Keep an eye out for plenty of mythological characters and creatures along the way. Plus, enjoy 17 candy stations, hands-on activities, a costume parade and performances by Puppet Art Theater Company (additional cost).

Tickets are on sale now. Advance tickets are \$7 members and \$10 nonmembers. Beginning October 24, tick-



ets are \$9 members and \$12 nonmembers. Puppet show tickets are \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmembers. For more information, visit www.fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462.

About Fairytale Town - Fairytale Town is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit children's park and educational center in Land Park whose mission is to promote the imagination, creativity and education of children. Established in 1959, Fairytale Town is home to 25 three-di-

mensional play sets based on favorite fairytales and nursery rhymes, a family of 22 rare and miniature breed animals, three interactive learning gardens and two performing arts stages. From March through October, the park is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weather permitting. From November through February, the park is open Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., weather permitting. For more information, visit www.fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462.

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Discovery Museum Science & Space Center Activities

• **October 4 and 5, Saturday and Sunday, Going Batty, Noon to 4 p.m.**

This weekend the Museum is highlighting some infamous creatures of the night- BATS! Bring your family to explore some of the science behind these nocturnal mammals. A small bat display is setup for this weekend only and children assemble a "bat clip" craft to take home. The noon and 2 p.m. Creature Feature is a PowerPoint presentation on bat biology in our planetarium (for all ages). Your admission includes these activities and a planetarium show (1 and 3 p.m., ages 4 and older).

• **October 11 and 12, Saturday and Sunday, Pumpkin Science, 12:30 to 4 p.m.** It's the season for Jack-o-lanterns. Some family friendly pumpkin stations are set-up to learn a bit about this squash. Kids 12 and under craft a paper pumpkin to take home as Fall décor. Admission includes these activities, an animal presentation at noon and 2 p.m., the Blast from the Past exhibit and planetarium shows at 1 and 3 p.m. (for ages 4 and older).

• **October 18 and 19, Saturday and Sunday, Microscope Mania, 12:30 to 4 p.m.**

From large to microscopically small, the Discovery Museum has it all this weekend!

Visit gigantic dinosaurs in our Blast from the Past exhibit and colossal redwoods in our nature area. Get down to the teeny, tiny in our microscope lab. By using different levels of magnification, visitors explore pond life and other samples. This is a great opportunity for youngsters to get their hands on real science tools! Admission includes planetarium shows at 1pm & 3pm for ages 4 and older.

• **October 25 and 26, Saturday and Sunday, World Pasta Day, 12:30 to 4 p.m.**

Have some fun celebrating World Pasta Day at the Discovery Museum. Children craft a pasta necklace to take home as a souvenir. Admission includes a visit to the "Blast from the Past" exhibit, an animal program at noon and 2 p.m., and planetarium shows at 1 and 3 p.m. (for ages 4 and older).

The Discovery Museum Science and Space Center is located at 3615 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento. General admission: \$8 adults (18+), \$7 seniors (60+), \$7 teens (13-17), \$6 children (4-12), \$0 children (3 and under), ages appropriate for 4 to 12 years old. For more information, call (916) 808-3942 or visit www.thediscovery.org.



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You will need:

- Red apples
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- Mini- Marshmallows

You will need to:

Cut the apple in half. Then cut into 8 slices. Spread peanut butter on one side of each apple slice. Arrange marshmallows along one slice to make the teeth. Assemble the smile by adding another slice to the bottom. Press together to make a smile!

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Davis Farmers Market's Fall Festival

Davis Farmers Market's Fall Festival celebrates local food, local farmers and the harvest season on Saturday, October 25, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Market opens at 8 a.m. and is jam packed with fall produce, meats, cheese, wine, baked goods, flowers, plants and crazy-good eats for breakfast, brunch or lunch. Pet baby piglets, pick a pumpkin at the pumpkin patch, keep little hands busy with free kids craft booths, plus pony rides, petting zoo and a 14-foot-tall black cat. The festival will be held at Central Park, 4th and C Streets, in Davis.



Photo courtesy of the Sacramento History Museum

Old Sacramento Underground Tour through October 30

Hidden beneath the city for nearly 150 years, Old Sacramento's underground has long been the capital's best-kept secret. Underground tour visitors have the unique opportunity to uncover the facts behind the legends that lie below historic buildings

and sidewalks. Tour guests explore excavated foundations and enclosed pathways while entertaining and knowledgeable tour guides recount the tales of the devastation, perseverance, and determination that led to California's only successful street-raising project.

Underground tour guests have a special, hands-on opportunity to learn what it was like to raise and level a building by operating "mini-jacks" during the tours.

The interactive experience allows guests to gain an understanding of and appreciation for the ambitious yet painstaking process successfully completed by Old Sacramento residents and business owners in the 1860s and 1870s. All underground tour guests need to check in at the Sacramento History Museum before descending below several historic Old Sacramento buildings and be prepared to walk in areas with uneven surfaces and low ceilings.

The Sacramento History Museum is located at 101 I Street in Old Sacramento. Advance tour tickets are recommended and can be purchased at www.historicoldsac.org. Admission: Regular tours: \$15 for adults; \$12 for HOSF members; \$10 for youths (ages 6-17); children five and under are free

More information is available at www.historicoldsac.org or by calling 916-808-7059.

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Effie Yeaw Nature Center Events

October 5, Sunday, Nature Fest 2014. Join the staff for this annual event featuring live animal shows, kids activities, nature and recreation themed demonstrations and exhibits. Family-friendly food and beverages available or bring a picnic. \$5/person aged 13 and up, 12 and under FREE, and FREE parking (a \$5 value). More information, visit www.SacNatureCenter.net or call (916) 489-4918.

Free Weekend Activities

October 4, Saturday, Fall Frolic, 10:30 a.m.

Acorns and leaves surround us. Find out how our oak woodland changes with the fall season and how wildlife is preparing for winter.

October 11, Saturday, Nature Detectives, 10:30 a.m.

Nature Detectives: Put your detective skill to use as we explore many of the different signs animals leave behind. We will go on a tracking adventure and examine pelts, tracks, teeth, and bones from a variety of animals to determine what has been visiting our trails.

October 12, Sunday, Going Batty, 1:30 p.m.

Explore the mysteries of bats and get eye to eye with some bat biofacts. Discover why these beneficial mammals have been so misunderstood.

October 18, Saturday, Birding for Families, 10:30 a.m.

Bring the family out for a birding and nature walk led by a Naturalist and special guest guides from the Sacramento Audubon Society. Birdwatchers of all levels welcomed. Make sure to bring your binoculars, or the staff can loan you a pair.

October 19, Sunday, Hunters of the Night, 1:30 pm.

Take an eye-opening look at these amazing nocturnal hunters. Find out when owls are most active, what an owl pellet is, and meet a resident owl up close.

October 25, Saturday, Spooky Story Time, 10:30 a.m.

Gear up for Halloween at the Nature Center with some spooky stories told by the Sacramento Storytellers Guild. Stories guaranteed not to cause nightmares.

October 26, Sunday, There's No Scent Like Home, 1:30 p.m.

The annual migration of Chinook salmon have arrived. Join a naturalist and hike to the river to catch a glimpse of these impressive fish as they swish and swirl in the shallows.

The Effie Yeaw Nature Center is located 2850 San Lorenzo Way, at California Avenue and Tarsbes Drive, Carmichael. Donations are gratefully accepted. There is a \$5 per car entrance fee into Ancil Hoffman County Park (Free to members). For more information, call (916) 489-4918 or visit www.sacnaturecenter.net.

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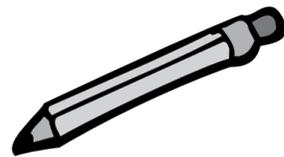
Scary Halloween! Boo!

Trick or Treat! Are you ready for some spooky fun? Dressing up as ghosts, witches, gypsies, super heroes, pirates or aliens from Mars, and then getting goodies is always something we look forward to no matter what our age is. To get you into the spirit, here's a puzzle that will test your skill at finding hidden words. Those on the list below can be found in disguise, spelled forward, backward, vertically, horizontally and even diagonally. Can you find them?

T F L O W E R E W E M N C V R J X S
A P K M R Y A S S S I H O A A G S S
C B O O P L D P K E E F B M S R L T
K H Z E L I I E T O A R W P K A L A
C S E U A D L S M K L I E I O V U C
A R K R E E N K E E I V B R J E K K
C S F R T E C B I E E R S E S Y S C
B A S O K N L B S T N Q I U R A K A
K I N N Y O M K I N S G O E Y R T L
R E A I O O F A N G S H N I C D R B
M R A D Z K C J N H D K B A T S N T
F B G O W I T C H E C S M A E R C S
R H H Q N O W I T C H A N Z R U L L
S P O O K Y S N H T O M B S T O N E
X C S I B R U C T Y M M U M V S J X
U R T M S A W Z R A S K E L E T O N
B C S M H T T G N I L W O H M R B T

Afraid	Fangs	Mask	Spiders
Aliens	Frankenstein	Mummy	Spooky
Bats	Ghosts	Rat	Tombstone
Black cats	Graveyards	Scream	Vampire
cobwebs	Haunted House	Skeleton	Werewolf
creepy	Howling	Skulls	Witch
Fake Blood			Zombie

MAKE IT YOURSELF!



Felt Toy Ghost

Kids can have fun sewing their own felt toy ghost for Halloween.

You will need:

White felt, needle and embroidery thread, toy stuffing, fabric glue, wiggle eyes, gems, sequins, scraps of felt, fabric paint whatever you can find to decorate your ghost

You will need to:

Cut two bat shapes from felt. Sew them together around the edge using running stitch. Leave a small gap at the bottom to stuff the toy. When the toy is full, sew up the gap.

Glue on buttons and ribbons and anything else you have in your craft box to make eyes and a nose. You can also use a large black button to give your ghost a very spooky mouth.



Felt Toy Jack-o-lantern

Here is an unusual Jack O' Lantern craft for Halloween, which will help the kids practice their sewing skills.

You will need:

Orange felt and black felt scraps, needle and embroidery thread, toy stuffing, fabric glue, black buttons, green ribbon

You will need to:

Cut two circles from the orange felt. Sew them together around the edge using running stitch. Leave a small gap to stuff the toy. Stuff the toy. When it is full, sew up the gap. Glue on the buttons to make your Jack O' Lanterns eyes and nose, and cut a shape out of the black felt scraps for his mouth. Now use some short lengths of ribbon to make some leaves and a stem.



Crafts courtesy of: www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

Handprint and Footprint Ghosts

These handprint and footprint ghosts are so effective - and, if you remember to date them, a great way of "capturing" a memory of your child. They make fun invitations for a Halloween party, too.

You will need:

Black paper, white paint, black pen

You will need to:

Print a white handprint onto the black paper, keeping your fingers together. Leave some space and print a white footprint. When the paint is dry, draw on some ghostly faces. The fingers/toes form the bottom of your ghost. Cut out the ghosts, leaving a thin rim of black paper around the edge. Why not punch a hole through the top, tie through some string and hang them as decorations this Halloween?



Wooden Spoon Ghost Puppet

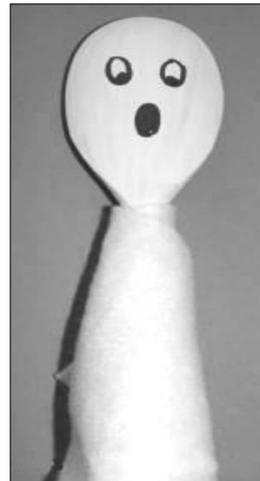
This ghost makes a quick and very easy craft for children while they wait for Halloween, with the added bonus of a puppet to play with when the craft is finished.

You will need:

A wooden spoon, white paint, white felt, glue, black pen

You will need to:

Paint the spoon white and leave to dry. Cut a quarter circle of white felt. Trim off the pointed corner. Apply glue around the base of the spoon handle and then stick on the felt, rolling it into a cone with the point being the bowl of the spoon. Glue the seams of the cone together. With the black pen, draw two eyes and a mouth on the bowl of the spoon.



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Who wrote that?

The Creators of Your Child's Favorite Books

Featuring Loree Griffin Burns

By Patricia Newman



Loree Griffin Burns' happiest memories are wrapped up in books. Around the age of twelve, she twice went into business with her best friend, Kelley Gillespie. First, they opened a lending library filled with Nancy Drew mysteries. They pasted a library card in each book and changed the numbers on their stamp to reflect the new due date. "We didn't have as many patrons as we would have liked," Burns says. "We strong-armed siblings into borrowing." Next Burns and Kelley established the G & G Detective Agency. "We were into sleuthing," she quips, but she admits they spent more time finding mysteries than actually solving them.

Burns was always "a sucker for a good story. That's still definitely a part of who I am. Part of the reason I'm so passionate about telling stories is because of how important stories were in my childhood." As a kid, she never would have guessed that she would become a celebrated author of dramatic nonfiction stories with science as the central focus.

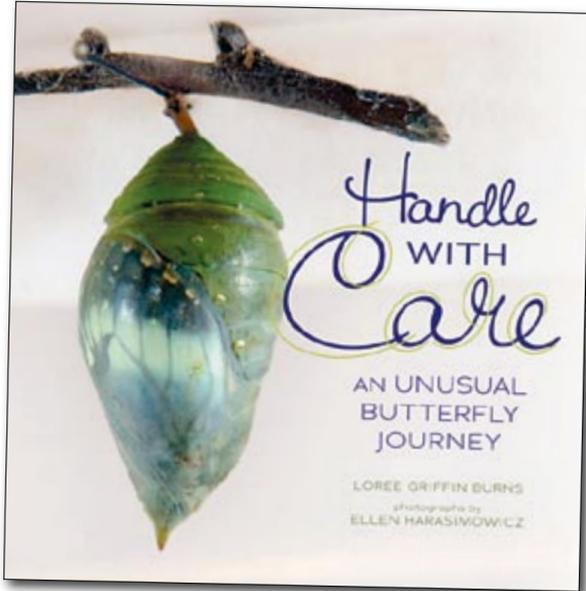
Although research science defined Burns' professional life, she also wrote fiction, personal essays and haiku for literary magazines in her free time. She even anticipated writing a novel one day. A 2003

if I wondered about it probably someone else will."

For instance, her newest title, *Beetle Busters: A Rogue Insect and the People Who Track It*, came from a report that trees in her central Massachusetts hometown were infested with Asian longhorn beetles. The beetles were native to China and had hitchhiked to the U.S. twenty years ago. Because they have no natural predators they have become established pests. To eradicate the beetles, trees are felled and chipped into tiny pieces. Burns had to find out more because she worried about her trees.

In another example, Burns and her family visited the Butterfly Garden at the Museum of Science in Boston. She learned that the butterflies that stock the garden are not allowed to breed, but come from a butterfly farm in Costa Rica. The pupae are imported, special delivery, and allowed to emerge as butterflies. When Burns wandered the garden with her kids, she saw butterflies mating "illegally" and asked the docent about it. Before she knew it, Burns had packed a bag and booked a flight to Costa Rica to find out more. "I give myself the gift of time to ask questions and look into the story. So often [my questions] lead to fun books. But my kids get so exasperated because they see me get to that point where I'm starting to ask questions and they roll their eyes and say, 'We're not going to get out of here any time soon.'"

In an upcoming release for teen readers, Burns trades the outdoors for the world of the microscope and molecular biology. Her topic is the story of the discovery of the structure of DNA. "My research in graduate school was on understanding the regulation of gene expression." In her doctoral thesis, she isolated DNA from eukaryotic cells,



cut it, pasted it in another location, and studied the changes. "The DNA book is so interesting to me because I have a lot of experience in that kind of work."

The Burns household is a busy one with three school-age children, a husband, seven hens, and a hive of 60,000 honeybees (acquired after Burns wrote *Hive Detectives: Chronicle of a Honey Bee Catastrophe*). On a good day, Burns rises before everyone else and with a cup of tea, spends an hour alone in her office. "A lot

of the work [I do] is not putting words on paper. At least half the time is researching and organizing my thoughts. How I'm going to pull this [project] all together. It took me a long time to give myself credit for that work."

Burns is driven to combine the drama and excitement of science into a broader understanding for her readers. "I don't necessarily write for kids. I write for the people who are interested in what I'm interested in."

Next month: Brian Lies

Patricia Newman visits schools! Her newest book *Plastic, Ahoy!* Investigating the Great Pacific Garbage Patch a Junior Library Guild Selection, is now available. Visit her website at www.patriciamnewman.com for more information.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LOREE GRIFFIN BURNS

Visit: www.loreeburns.com

SELECTIONS FROM LOREE GRIFFIN BURNS' LIBRARY

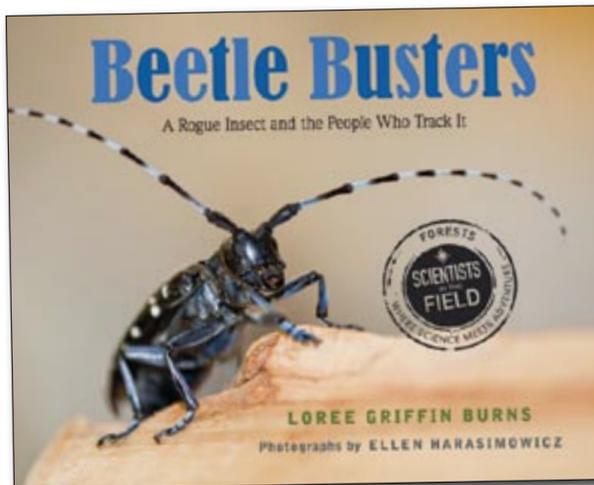
Beetle Busters: A Rogue Insect and the People Who Track It. Photographs by Ellen Harasimowicz, Houghton Mifflin, 2014.

Handle with Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey. Photographs by Ellen Harasimowicz, Millbrook Press, 2014.

Citizen Scientists: Be a Part of Scientific Discovery from Your Own Backyard. Photographs by Ellen Harasimowicz, Holt, 2012.

The Hive Detectives: Chronicle of a Honey Bee Catastrophe. Photographs by Ellen Harasimowicz, Houghton Mifflin, 2010.

Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion, Houghton Mifflin, 2007.



Small Wonders of Africa exhibit is open

The Small Wonders of Africa exhibit, located across from the giraffe habitat, is open at the Sacramento Zoo. This dynamic multi-species exhibit includes permanent residents as well as visiting exhibits and species. Each of the animal species, including Aardvark, Straw-colored Fruit Bat, Red-billed Hornbill, Crested Guineafowl and Wolf's Guenon, will help tell the story of East Africa, presenting the challenges of conserving wildlife in this corner of the world.

The \$700,000 renovation has increased the footprint of the older building and includes three, new exhibit spaces. Finer-grade, stainless steel mesh and glass allow up-close viewing by visitors – enabling them to get nose-to-nose with an Aardvark, exploring inside a termite mound. Visitors can explore the base camp and dig for fossilized bones as part of their African adventure.

Visit the Sacramento Zoo and explore Small Wonders of Africa! The Sacramento Zoo is located near the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park.



Photos courtesy Sacramento Zoo

JB Ranch

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Sandhill Crane Festival

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Nov. 7-9, 2014 | cranefestival.com | 800-581-6150 | Lodi, CA

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The Taste of Home Cookbook: Busy- Family Edition

The Taste of Home Cookbook: Busy-Family Edition is a great present for working parents and industrious cooks. This brand new edition of the bestselling Taste of Home cookbook makes a terrific holiday gift for that amateur chef in your life, or any cooking aficionado who's always on the go.

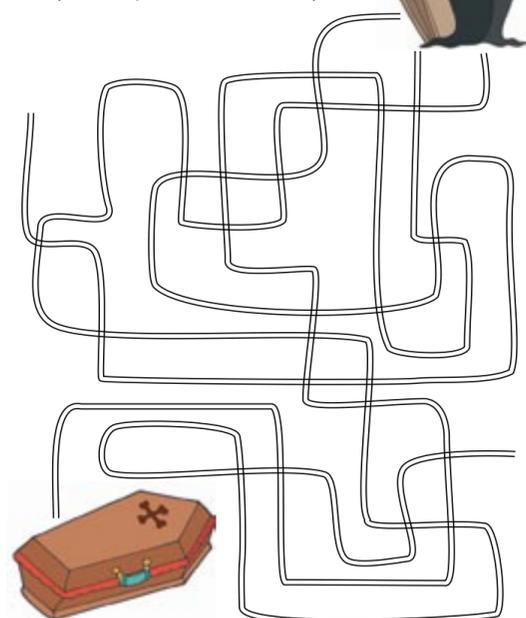


Inside the Busy-Family Edition you'll discover over 1,200 best-loved recipes from today's home cooks. Whether you need a quick after-school snack, no-fuss lunch or hurry-up supper, the Taste of Home Cookbook has you covered. You'll also find hundreds of effortless holiday entrees, simply sensational desserts and easy ideas for entertaining all year long. These tried-and-true recipes, tested in the Taste of Home Test Kitchen, are sure to become mealtime staples in homes coast to coast. Best of all, home cooks can quickly find the recipes they need with the new Busy-Family Icons: 5-Ingredient Recipes, Slow Cooker Recipes, Fast Fix Recipes and Freezer Recipes.

You can purchase The Taste of Home Cookbook: Busy-Family Edition at several Barnes and Noble locations including; 1725 Arden Way, 3561 N Freeway Blvd. and 6111 Sunrise Blvd. For more information, call (646-695-7045) or visit the Taste of Home site (www.tasteofhome.com/).

Advertorial

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THE BOOK REPORT

Watch out - It's Halloween!

By Connie Goldsmith

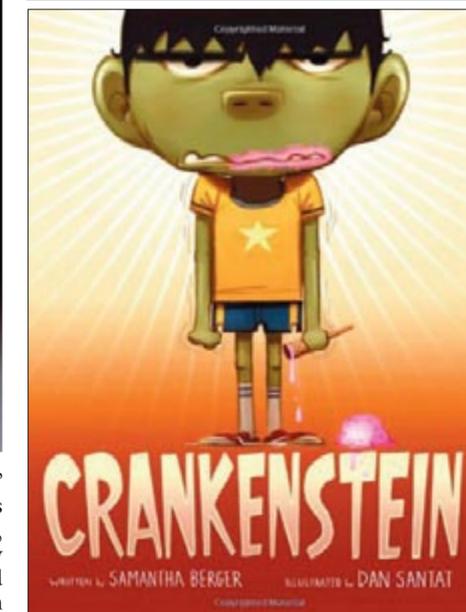
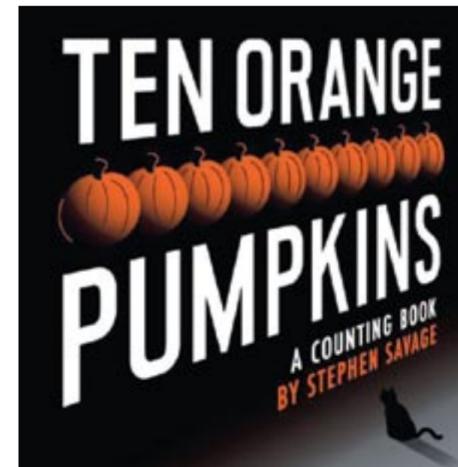
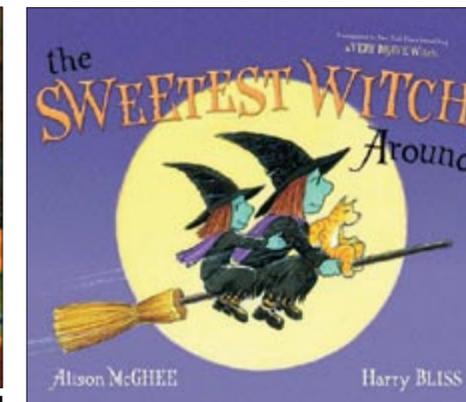
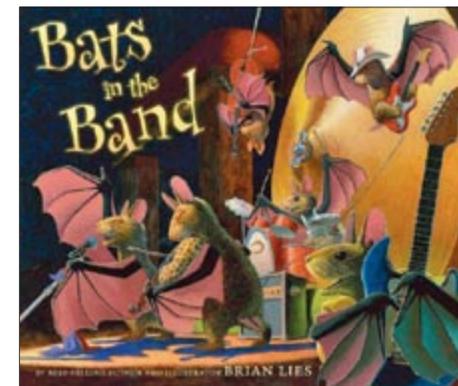
Kids of all ages look forward to Halloween. Maybe they love that feeling of being just a little scared, but still feeling safe. No matter what your family's Halloween plans, whether it's a party at home with friends, a school gathering, or a trick-or-treat excursion with a goodie bag the size of Sacramento, a new book is always a treat. If older sibs go out on their own, read a story to the little ones left behind so they'll feel like they're part of this favorite holiday.

"The Sweetest Witch Around," by Alison McGhee, illustrated by Harry Bliss. (Simon & Schuster). This could be the cutest Halloween book around this year! Big sister witch decides to teach her little sister witch about humans and what they do at Halloween. From a witch's point of view, kids look pretty scary all dressed up in their costumes. But Little Witch loves candy, so she sets off on the broom. Big sister follows and the ensuing adventure in which Little Witch mixes with the mortals is a guaranteed giggler. Be sure to notice the details, like the playing cards, the easy-bake cauldron, and Graveyard Barbie. This is a perfect not-at-all scary witch book for the littlest listener.

"Ten Orange Pumpkins, A Counting Book," by Stephen Savage. (Dial). "Ten orange pumpkins, fresh off the vine. Tonight will be a spooky night. Yikes! There are nine." Each double-page spread shows another pumpkin disappearing. See if your little one can figure out where the missing pumpkin goes from the visual clues. The spectacular art is the real star of this book. Seemingly simple, the scenes picture bold outlines against contrasting backgrounds. For example, bright orange pumpkins rest beneath a black tree that hosts an owl. The tree looms against a dark blue night sky lit by a full moon. And challenge your child to find the black cat in each picture. This reverse counting book is a bit spooky, but not at all scary, making it perfect for younger children.

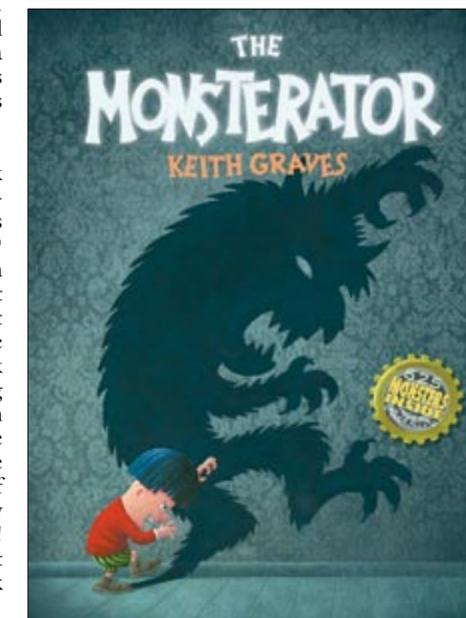
"Bats in the Band," by Brian Lies. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt). Strictly speaking, this is not a Halloween book, but bats are an iconic Halloween image, and the newest bat book from this popular author/illustrator doubles as a bedtime story. Bats wake up anxious for a little music. They fly to a deserted theater bringing their instruments along, or making them from things around the theater. "Hearts are pumping, drums are thumping, everything that's loose is jumping." Follow the bats as they play country music and jazz. There's a one-bat band and a classical quartet. Hanging from the ceiling, perched on the wall, and sitting on stage, these quirky bats love their music! Kids will enjoy studying the art for hilarious details such as the bat babysitter with sparkling headband and the little bat playing a flute made of a drinking straw. This story calls out for repeated readings.

"Crankenstein," by Samantha Berger, illustrated by Dan Santat. (Little Brown). "Have you seen Cran-



kenstein? Oh, you would totally know if you had." Crankenstein is loud. He's rude and bossy. He hates a lot of things, such as waking up early, long lines, and stingy Halloween candy givers. He especially hates bedtime! He scowls and yells in frustrated outbursts. Yet the dreaded Crankenstein has been known to smile when he's playing with friends. Crankenstein's face fills the giant two-page digital art spreads with exaggerated expressions. This is a fun read-aloud. We all get the grumpy-grouchies from time to time; will your child recognize his own cranky self within these pages?

"Monsterator," by Keith Graves. (Roaring Brook Press). "Master Edgar Dreadbury found Halloween a bore. The whole business of costumes was a miserable chore." Pirate? Mummy? Zombie? Edgar takes off and finds a mysterious store with a machine called a monsterator inside. He leaps at the chance to become a terrible, scary monster. But soon enough, he wants to change back into a little boy. The magic store has disappeared and he's stuck being a monster. Be sure to catch the child-pleasing details such as monster Edgar chowing down on spaghetti and meatballs out of a dog dish. While the book itself is entertaining, the highlight is the flipbook at the end where kids can flip panels of heads, faces, bodies, and feet to create their very own monsters. The cover promises 625 monsters! The acrylic paintings are darkly atmospheric, but not too scary for little listeners. ** Reviewer's pick of the month**



Connie Goldsmith (www.conniegoldsmith.com) lives in Carmichael where she writes for adults and children. Her newest nonfiction juvenile books, "Bombs over Bikini," and "Traumatic Brain Injury: from concussion to coma," are now available. Other books include: "Battling Malaria: on the Front Lines Against a Global Killer," and "Influenza," one of the USA Today Health Reports series. Her books can be found in school and public libraries, and at online booksellers.

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Here comes Ella the Elephant and her magical red hat!

Journey to an island of adventures where the magic of friendship has never been so much fun! Join Ella and her kindhearted friends in this all-new animated series featuring eight charming episodes. Elephant Island is home to many curiosities but Ella and her friends' appetite for fun lands them in some tricky, often hilarious situations. It's up to Ella's imagination and her magic red hat to save the day! It's a must-own collection of delightful stories centered on highlighting teamwork, lessons and adventure for the whole family to enjoy.

Available from Warner Bros. Home Entertainment (WBHE). Ella the Elephant is based on the popular children's book series. Kids will be captivated by Ella and her friends Frankie, Belinda, Tiki, Ada and Ida, as they embark on a series of playful adventures on Elephant Island. Ella the Elephant Season 1 Volume 1: The Magic of Friendship will retail for \$14.98 SRP. Visit WBShop.com and WB Ultra for more information or to purchase.



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NEW ADVENTURES! HOLIDAY FUN!

Scooby-Doo and those "meddling kids," Shaggy, Fred, Daphne and Velma are back!

Join the Mystery Incorporated gang as they set out for their next exciting adventure in *Scooby-Doo! Frankencreepy*, the latest original Scooby-Doo animated film, available from Warner Bros. Home Entertainment (WBHE).

In this spooky adventure, Velma discovers she's inherited her great-great-uncle Dr. Von Dinkenstein's cursed castle in the terrifying town of Transylvania...Pennsylvania, that is. Just when the Gang persuades Velma to claim her inheritance, the ghost of Dinkenstein Castle blows up the Mystery Machine as a warning to the group that each of them will lose what is most dear to them if they continue to pursue the mystery of the castle. Now the gang must spring into action to solve the mystery while also dealing with the threats from Dinkenstein's ghost. Can Fred work without his precious Mystery Machine? What happens to Daphne when she loses her good looks? And how will Scooby and Shaggy ever work without their appetites? More importantly, what family secret has Velma been hiding all along?

Scooby-Doo! Frankencreepy is sold in a Blu-ray® combo pack, which retails for \$24.98 SRP and on standard DVD, which retails for \$19.98 SRP. Visit WBShop.com and WB Ultra for more information or to purchase.



Everyone's favorite cat and mouse duo is back!

Tom and Jerry: The Lost Dragon, the brand-new, full-length animated film, from Warner Bros. Home Entertainment (WBHE) is available and perfect for a holiday gift. Join Tom and Jerry on a captivating adventure.

The adventure begins when Tom and Jerry happen upon a mysterious glowing egg. Little do they know, this egg was stolen from a very large, fire-breathing dragon! In short time, baby Puffy hatches from his egg and takes Tom as his mommy. The angry dragon mom wants her baby back, but she's not the only one...a powerful witch named Drizelda captures the baby dragon for her own wicked plans! With the help of powerful allies and animal friends, Tom and Jerry must fight tooth and claw to stop the witch and get the baby dragon back to its mother. The action takes flight in a climactic ending filled with might, magic and cartoon mayhem of course. Can Tom and Jerry help this tale end happily ever after? Find out with this rip-roaring escapade for the whole family!

Tom and Jerry: The Lost Dragon is sold in standard DVD and Digital HD, retailing for \$19.98 SRP. Visit WBShop.com and WB Ultra for more information or to purchase.



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The Pumpkin Farm celebrates its 40th year

The farm is open every day in October to the general public and offers organized field trips to school children and youth groups throughout the greater Sacramento area and neighboring counties.

Kids can search for pumpkins, enjoy a hayride, visit the Haunted Barn, filled with scary monsters, goblins, mummies and specially handcrafted scenes, ride on the 8 car train, visit the farm zoo, or check out the views from the top of a 30 foot lookout tower and take the fast way down on one of the slippery slides. Experience acres of corn mazes, sunflowers, antique equipment, straw bale pyramids, a huge jump castle and many more fun things for the whole family.

The Pumpkin Farm is located at 7736 Old Auburn Road at Mariposa in Citrus Heights, 95610. The Farm opens Friday, October 3 through October 31. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For more information (including school and youth group inquiries), call (916) 726-1137.



Advertorial

The Flower Farm in Loomis

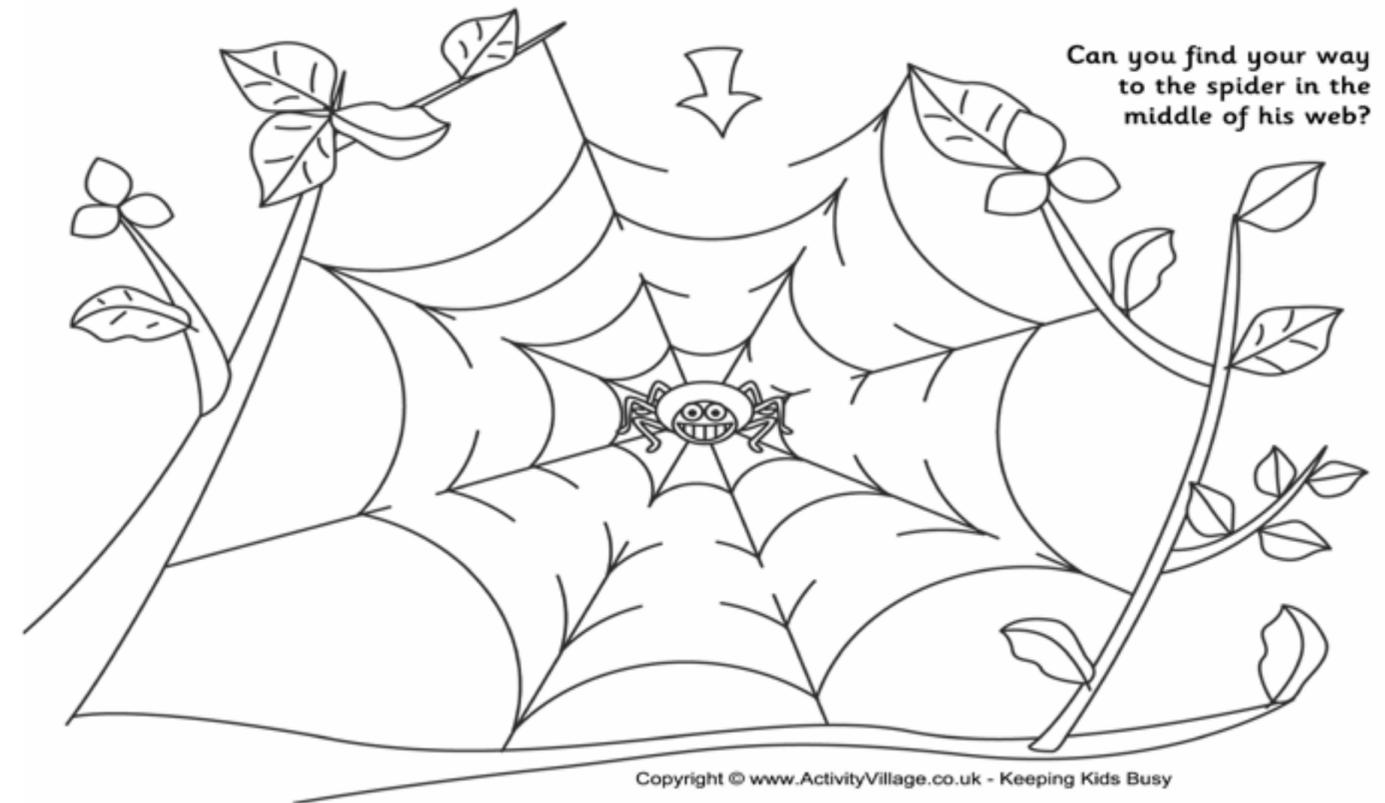
Flower Farm visitors will find hundreds of pumpkins to choose from and are invited to tour the charming pumpkin people dressed up as classic children's story characters. Kids can climb a haystack pyramid, get their faces painted, ride red pushcarts through winding garden pathways, wander through the bean tunnel, or make a Halloween craft. Each weekend in October a children's story time will be featured, Saturdays, 11 a.m., noon, and 1 p.m., and pumpkin decorating contests Sundays, 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The pumpkin patch will also feature appearances from a variety of animal friends including pigs, alpacas, horses, and silkie chickens. Come and explore the nursery gift shop and find unique gifts designed by local artists, and plenty of Halloween décor. The nursery will offer fall plants, winter vegetables for your gardening needs, and when you're ready for a bite to eat, visit the café for a delicious breakfast or lunch, or taste wine at the Casque Wines tasting room. A special Octoberfest Day on Sunday, October 19, will offer free yoga for families, live music, and harvest-inspired foods in the café.



Beginning Saturday, October 4 through October 31 hours of operation are Thursday through Monday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., closed Tuesday. The Flower Farm is located at 9280 Horseshoe Bar Road, Loomis. For more information, call 916-652-5650 or visit www.facebook.com/flowerfarmnurseryandgifts

Advertorial

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Trick? or Treat? Children's staggering Sugar Consumption Unmasked in Time for Halloween

A message brought to you by First 5 Sacramento

This Halloween parents of preschoolers should be spooked that their child is eating 60 percent more than their body weight in sugar.

According to a study in the Journal of Pediatrics, the average 4- to 5-year-old consumes 17 teaspoons of added sugar a day, which amounts to approximately 64.6 pounds of added sugar a year. The majority of a child's added sugar intake comes from fruit drinks, high-fat desserts, soft drinks and candy.

Excessive sugar intake plays a role in escalating childhood obesity rates. Currently, one in three children in California is overweight or at risk of becoming overweight, regardless of age, race or gender. If left unchecked, obesity can lead to serious health problems, including type 2 diabetes, heart disease, stroke and cancer.

This Halloween, First 5 Sacramento provides the following tips to help parents and caregivers make healthier choices for their children:

- Set limits. Only allow children a certain amount of sweets per day.
- Offer healthier snacks to trick-or-treaters. Or consider alternatives to candy, such as passing out stickers.
- Limit juice and soda. Even fruit juices have hidden sugars. Serve your children water and milk.
- Create new holiday traditions. Do activities together that don't include sweets.

Don't get spooked this Halloween, get healthy together as a family! Check out Sugar Bites at www.cutsugarydrinks.org for a sugar calculator and tips to reduce your child's daily sugar consumption.

About First 5 Sacramento Research shows that a child's brain develops most



dramatically in the first five years and what parents and caregivers do during these years to support their child's growth will have a meaningful impact throughout life. Based on this research, California voters passed Proposition 10 in 1998, adding a 50 cents-per-pack tax on tobacco products to support programs for expectant parents and children ages zero to five. In the last year, First 5

Sacramento distributed approximately \$14 million a year in Prop 10 revenues to programs and services that meet local needs. Each county has a First 5 Children and Families Commission providing unique local services for that county. Surrounding First 5's include: First 5 Yolo: 530-669-2475; First 5 Placer: 530-745-1304; and First 5 El Dorado: 530-672-8298.



Free festival at Sacramento State

Get ready to be inspired by exciting sights and sounds from around the world during the 7th annual SacWorldFest, Sunday, October 5 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at Sacramento State. The festival will be featuring multiple stages showcasing vibrant music and dance, a hip-hop dance off, ethnic crafts and fine art vendors, and a Global Village filled with cooking demonstrations and tastings from around the world, storytelling, interactive art opportunities and more family-friendly activities. As a grand finale to the festival, a high energy Hip Hop Dance-Off competition will delight the crowd on at 4 p.m. The winners will be chosen based on crowd reaction via the level of applause. Guests are encouraged to explore the Global Village and watch theater performances presented by and for children, participate in hands-on activities, watch "Around the World" cooking demonstrations and visit booths with innovative and interactive educational opportunities to learn about different cultures.



Photo courtesy Alison Toon

Don't miss the unique opportunity to experience, enjoy and celebrate the region's rich and remarkable cultural diversity at SacWorldFest 2014! Sacramento State University is located at 6000 J Street, 95819. For more information, call (916) 549-2749 or visit www.SacWorldFest.org.

Maidu Museum and Historic Site Activities

Campfire: Friday, October 17, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Don't miss this last campfire of the season. Sit under the stars at the outdoor amphitheater to enjoy native stories around the campfire. The staff will provide roasting sticks and marshmallows for a sweet program's end. Museum doors open at 7 p.m. \$5 per person, \$16 family of four, under 2 are FREE.

Examining Archaeology: Looking In, Looking Back, and Looking Under Saturday, October 18, from 1 to 5 p.m. The Sacramento Archeological Society and the Maidu Museum & Historic Site present "Examining Archaeology: Looking In, Looking Back, and Looking Under". Petroglyph tour, film and discussions by distinguished Archeology Speakers: John Berg, Gerrit Fenega, and John Foster. FREE event. www.sacarcheology.org

Night Out at the Museum: Saturday, October 18, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for a FREE Night Out at the Museum, part of the 3rd Saturday Art Walk. Art Reception for the new exhibit "Fixing the Earth: NOW!" This exhibition of artwork shows the traditional tribal practice of healing the Earth through World Renewal Ceremony practices. Museum doors open at 6:30 pm. Program starts at 7 p.m. Light refreshments will be available.

The Maidu Museum is open: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3rd Saturdays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Guided Tours Saturdays at 10a.m. Self-guided tours on weekdays. Admission Fees: \$4.50 Adults, \$4 Senior/Child, \$16/Family of Four, \$2 after 2 p.m. The Museum is located at 1970 Johnson Ranch Drive, Roseville. For more information, call (916) 774-5934 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum.

Safe Haven Horse Rescue Annual Fall Playday!



Families are invited to the Safe Haven Horse Rescue's Annual Fall Playday, Saturday, October 18, 9 a.m. at Bobby Jones Arena, 3917 Main Street, Cottonwood, CA 96022. The playday is open to horse lovers and riders of all experience to compete for fun and prizes. The event will feature riding, family activities, food, lots of fun and raffles. Not only will this be a fun experience for people of all ages, but the proceeds all are dedicated to giving abused and neglected horses a second chance. All proceeds will be going to the Safe Haven, a non-profit, all volunteer organization committed to the cause.

For more information, call (530) 347-4941 or go to www.safehavenhorserescue.org.

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Calendar of Events

Arts & Crafts

October 14, Crafty Kids Club, 4 p.m., 891 Watt Avenue, Sacramento. Join the staff at the Arcade-Dimick Library once a month for loom bracelets, origami and having a blast. Bring your projects, start new ones, share your work, get creative and make new friends. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

October 18, Halloween Craft, 2 p.m., 2112 22nd Street, Sacramento. Get ready for Halloween by making your won spooky creature. You will use lollipops to make ghost, spider and vampire decorations, or to enjoy for an early halloween treat. All ages are welcome at the McClatchy Library. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

October 22, Paper Bag Luminary, 4 p.m., 2443 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento. Children ages 6 to 12 are invited to the Arcade Library for a craft with ArtBeast. Kids will be instructed to make a paper bag luminary. After sharing a fall themed story, participants will get to make their own paper bag luminary complete with a battery operated candle. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

Critter Events

October 12, Going Batty, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way,

Carmichael. Come to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Ancil Hoffman Park and explore the mysteries of bats and get eye t eye with some bat biofacts. discover why these beneficial mammals have been so misunderstood. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

October 18, Birding for Families, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Bring the family to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for a birding and nature walk led by a Naturalist and special guests guides from the Sacramento Audubon Society. Birdwatchers of all levels welcome. Make sure to bring your binoculars, or the staff can loan you a pair. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

October 19, Hunters of the Night, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Come to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center located in Ancil Hoffman Park and take an eye-opening look at these amazing nocturnal hunters. Find out when owls are most active, what an owl pellet is, and meet a resident owl up close. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

Nature Events

October 4, Fall Frolic, 10:30 a.m. 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Acorns and leaves surround us. Find out how our oak woodland changes with the Fall season and how wildlife is preparing for winter. This program will be held at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

October 11, Nature Detectives, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Put your detective skill to use as you explore many of the different signs animals leave behind at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. Go on a tracking adventure and examine pelts, tracks, teeth, and bones from a variety of animals to determine what has been visiting our trails. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

October 26, Hike, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. The annual migration of Chinook salmon have arrived. Bring the family to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and join a naturalist and hike to the river to catch a glimpse of these impressive fish as they swish and swirl in the shallows. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

Special Events

October 5, Nature Fest, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., California Avenue and Tarshes Drive, Carmichael. Bring the family to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for live animals shows, kids activities, guided nature hikes, birds of prey, family-friendly food and much more. Admission is \$5 per adult, kids 12 and under are free. Free parking all day. For more information, call (916) 489-4918 or visit www.SacNatureCenter.net.

October 14, Bricktastic Block Party, 4 p.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Join the staff at the Belle Coolege Library for a monthly block party and make a mess creatively with an amazing selection of Legos, Duplos and Megablocks. This program is for children ages 6 to 12. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

October 14, Pumpkin Carving Contest, 3:30 p.m., 2112 22nd Street, Sacramento. Want to get ready for Halloween and show off your artistic skill? Join the staff at the McClatchy Library for an afternoon of pumpkin carving. This program is best suited for ages 6

to 12. There will be judging at the end of the hour for a chance to win prizes. All pumpkins will be provided and you will be able to take yours home. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

October 15, Master Gardener Program, 9 a.m. to noon, 11549 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks. Get pruning tips for renovating plants. Learn how to protect citrus from frost. Discover more about seed saving and soil amendments. This is a free program. For more information, call (916) 875-6913.

October 18, Horse Rescue Event, 9 a.m., 3917 Main Street, Cottonwood. Families are invited to the Safe Haven Horse Rescue's Annual Fall Playday at Bobby Jones Arena. The day is open to horse lovers and riders of all experience to compete for fun and prizes. The event will feature ridig, family activities, food, lots of fun and raffles. For more information call (530) 347-4941 or visit www.safehavenhorserescue.org.

October 18, Plant Clinic, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 10071 Grant Line Road, Elk Grove. What is on my plants? Is it a good bug or a bad bug? What is the reason my plant looks different this year? How can I garden with limited water? Bring samples of your problem plants or insects to a free UC Master Gardener plant clinic. For more information, call (916) 875-6913.

October 25, Farmer's Market Fall Festival, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., 4th and C Streets, Davis. The festival features local food, farmers and the harvest season. Visitors can select fall produce, meats, cheese, wine, baked goods, flowers, plants and crazy-good eats for breakfast, brunch or lunch. Pet baby piglets, pick a pumpkin at the pumpkin patch, keep little hands busy with free kids craft booth, plus pony rides, petting zoo and a 14-ft tall black cat. The festival will be held at Central Park, Davis.

October 25, Harvest Festival, 11 a.m., 9845 Folsom Boulevard, Folsom. Join the staff at the

Rancho Cordova Library for a fun time with many games and events in the library Garden. Face painting by Glitter the Clown, a bevy of animals, pumpkin painting, games, food demos, live jug band music, apple juice and cookies. For all ages. Free program. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

To October 29, Wednesday, Picnic in the Park, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., 4th and C Streets, Davis. Bring the family to the Farmers Market in Central Park. Enjoy the International Food Faire, kids activities, and live music. For more information, visit www.davisfarmersmarket.org.

November 21 to 23, Harvest Festival, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Cal Expo, Sacramento. This festival is one of the largest indoor arts and crafts shows on the West Coast, featuring hundreds of vendors, entertainment, food and prizes. For more information, call (800) 346-1212 or visit www.harvestfestival.com. Admission is: Adults \$9, Seniors (62+) \$7; 13-17 \$4, and kids 12 and under are free.

Storytime & Puppet Events

October 25, Spooky Story Time, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Gear up for Halloween at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center with some spooky stories told by the Sacramento Storytellers Guild. Stories guaranteed not to cause nightmares. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

October 25, Puppet Show, 2 p.m., 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael. Children, ages 6 to 12 are invited to the Carmichael Library for "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" with the Puppet Company. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.



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SPOOKY HALLOWEEN RECIPES

Witches' Digits

www.shockinglydelicious.com

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Lightly grease a baking sheet and set aside.

You will need:

- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1 1/4 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 egg
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 teaspoons almond extract
- 2 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Red decorating gel
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds



Using an electric mixer, cream butter and sugar. Beat in the egg and extracts. Gradually add flour, baking powder and salt to the creamed mixture, mixing well. Divide dough into fourths; cover and refrigerate for 30-60 minutes, or until easy to handle. (If dough is too warm and soft, it will be difficult to shape properly.)

Remove one piece of dough from refrigerator at a time, roll quickly into 1-inch balls (15 balls per quarter portion of dough), and then shape balls quickly into 3-inch by 1/2-inch fingers, tapering the finger tips very slightly. Using the flat tip of a table knife, make an indentation on the finger tip for a fingernail. With the unsharp edge of a knife, make two sets of three slashes on each finger for knuckle areas (consult your own finger for accuracy!). Using knife held vertically, score bottom end of finger, to create ragged "torn off" look.

Place fingers 2 inches apart on prepared baking sheets. They will not spread out. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool for 5-10 minutes, and then squeeze a small amount of red gel on nail bed, outlining edge of nail bed. Press a sliced almond over gel for nail, allowing gel to ooze around nail. (Choose well-shaped almonds and turn them so the whitest side is facing up.) For maximum gross-out effect, squeeze a bit more red gel to decorate the bloody stump end of the finger. Remove cookies to wire racks to cool completely.

Source: Adapted from Taste of Home magazine.

Spider Cupcakes for the Very Brave!

This is an easy baking project for any age. Fun to have the younger ones help with the decorating.

All you need is:

- Store bought package of your favorite cake mix.
- Store bought container of your favorite frosting.
- Black licorice whips and tiny red hots or small red candies for the eyes.
- Chocolate sprinkles for the top of the body.



You need to:

- Bake cupcakes following box directions, cool and then frost and sprinkle with the chocolate sprinkles.
- Cut licorice whips about 3" long.
- Add to each cupcake by bending the licorice to form legs and carefully poking them down.
- Add two red candies for eyes.
- NOW ENJOY! YUM!**

Deviled Egg Spiders!!! ECK!

This is so easy and makes a big hit with everyone. Just boil your eggs, shell them, slice in half and remove yolks in a separate bowl. Chop/dice yolks fine and add mayonaise and some salt to taste, and about one-fourth teaspoon of yellow mustard. Mix well. Make them the texture you like, creamy! Then fill each egg-half with a scoop of yolk mixture. Sprinkle lightly with paprika when done.

Take a few black olives and cut in half, then take one half and cut 4 legs from that side. You may only need about nine or 10 olives. Depends on how many spiders you want.

To make spider just place the half as the body and the thin slices as the legs, 4 on each side! ECK! LOOK OUT! A SPIDER!
If you want to be more creative you can add a tiny dot using pimentos for red eyes.



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Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles party

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Cowabunga Dudes! Leonardo - Blue, Raphael - Red, Donatello - Purple, Michelangelo - Orange

Icebreaker Games - TMNT Guessing Game

This is a fun ice breaker game that is played at the start of the birthday party while the guests are arriving. Before the party begins count and fill a large glass or clear plastic jar with green candy, such as green gumballs, and place on the lid. Write down the amount so you don't forget. As the kids are arriving ask them how many candies they think are in the jar. Write down their name and their guess on a piece of paper. The party guest who guesses the number closest to the actual number of candies in the jar wins. Give the jar of green candy as the prize to the winner or give them small toy or treat.

Ninja Secret Sticker Game - before the party purchase

TMNT stickers so that every person will have a sheet with 8 to 12 stickers. When guests are arriving for the birthday party give them a sheet of stickers. The object of the game is to get rid of all their stickers by placing them on other party guests

without the guest knowing or getting caught. If they are caught placing a sticker on another guest they have to take all the stickers off the party guest who caught them and try and place them on other kids. Only one sticker at a time. The first child who gets rid of all their stickers wins.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Party Games

Pizza Box Relay - Teams compete against each other by racing, one team member at a time, from the starting point around a designated cone and back to the starting point, while holding a pizza box above their head with one hand. First team who has all their team members complete the course wins.

Make it more fun by adding one or more of these fun game variations:

- After each round make the race harder by adding pizza boxes - 1st round 1 box, 2nd round 3 boxes, 3rd round 5 boxes and so forth.
- Instead of carrying the pizza box above their head with one hand they have to balance the box on their head.
- Carry the pizza box with both hands while balancing a marble on top of the box. If the marble falls off they have to go back to the start and begin again.

• Have players do Ninja moves on their way to and from the turn around point such as: Karate kicks or ground rolls.

• **TMNT Sword Relay** - Played like a relay race between two teams. Each team has a sword and they must balance a foil wrapped chocolate coin (or anything round and flat like a checker) on the flat part of the sword from the starting point, around a cone (or other object) and then back to the starting point where they hand the sword off to another player. To make this more of a challenge for older children or to make each round more difficult add coins to the sword. If there are different ages at the party each player must carry 1 coin per year - 8 year old would try to carry 8 coins.

• **TMNT Bo Staff Race** - Divide players into two teams. Each team will need 2 foam pool noodles and a ping pong ball. One at a time the players will hold the ping pong ball between the two pool noodles at one end while holding on to the other end of the noodles and race from the starting point, around a cone and then back to the starting point where they will hand the noodles and the ball off to the next player in line. If they drop the ball then they have to go back to the starting line and try again. The longer

the pool noodles are they harder the game will be.

• **Nunchakus Race** - Make a pair of nunchakus for each guest / player from paper towel tubes (paint them black if you want to) and a piece of string 10 inches long. Attach the paper towel tubes together at one end with the string so that there is about 8 inches of string between the tubes. Divide

players into teams and have each team line up in a long line from one side of the playing field to the other. At one end of the line set a bowl of marbles ... at the other end of each line place an empty bowl. On go the first player in line will take a marble and put it in one of his nunchakus and roll it down the middle of the tube and then transfer it to the other paper towel tube. Then they will transfer the marble to the next player in line and they will transfer the marble between their tubes and pass it to the next player. The goal is to get the most marbles transferred to the end bowl. Set a time limit of 5 or 10 minutes. If a marble is dropped during the transfer it can not be put back into play.

• **Ninja Chop** - Players use only chopsticks to move a marble from one bowl to another bowl as fast as they can. Give each guest a pair of chopsticks and place the same number and size marbles in a paper bowl. Give them an-

other paper bowl to transfer the marbles into. For older kids and for more of a challenge have them play this game blindfolded or make it a team game by having two players work together, each one having one chopstick, to move the marbles.

• **Ninja Star Skill Test** - Decorate pizza boxes with different point amounts - 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 points. Line the boxes up so that the 10 point box is the closest and easiest for the kids to reach. Give players plastic ninja stars (or use green bean bags or frisbees) and let them each have 5 turns to get as many points as possible by throwing the stars into the boxes. Once they have done a round move them back a few feet so it becomes harder.

**Variation: Hang hula hoops from string from trees and have the players throw frisbees (manhole covers) through the hoops for points.

• **Mutant Ninja Obstacle Course** - Set up an obstacle course in the backyard that the TMNT players will have to complete. Compete as teams or individually using a stop watch. Set up obstacles such as tunnels to crawl through, walls to jump over, boxes that are stacked so they have to be knocked down with a sword, backyard slide (sewer tunnel), etc.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Activities

To begin the party give each guest a TMNT costume. A large green t-shirt will work well for boys and girls. Make belts from t-shirt material, felt or fleece by simply cutting strips of fabric. They might also like to tie some on their arms. Make an easy TMNT mask from t-shirt, felt or fleece (these fabrics won't fray) ... cut the eye holes out before the party. Make sure to have several choices for each party guest so they can choose the turtle color they like the best. You can also make some headbands for the guests who don't like to wear masks.

Masquerade Party Ideas

www.birthdaypartyideas4kids.com

Masquerade Invitation Ideas - Send out blank masks with the party details attached. Tell guests on the invitation to decorate the masks with feathers, glitter and paint and wear the masks when they arrive at the party. Give them the option of buying or making their own mask and tell them there will be a contest to see which guest is not recognized for the longest time during the party.

- Give out prizes for the best or most elaborate masquerade masks.
- Buy or make pretty invitations from pretty scrapbook paper that has a mask pattern.

Masquerade Party Decoration Ideas

- Decorate the Masquerade party with vivid colors highlighted with black or silver.
- Decorate with gold candles, candelabras and serving trays.
- Hang strings of white lights around the ceiling and walls and intertwined around the decorations on the tables. Place small topiary's on the tables and decorate with small colorful masks. Hang mask cut outs from the ceiling with fishing line or curling ribbon.

Activities for a Masquerade Party

- Decorate Masks
- Set up a table with plain masks and let the party guests decorate their own mask. Give them choices of different colors of sequins, rhinestones, feathers and lace.
- Mystery Dinner - Serve a mystery dinner where guests don't know what they have ordered until it is brought to them. A really fun game and dinner ideas all in one.

Masquerade Party Games

Guess Who - If guests come to the Masquerade birthday party with their masks take

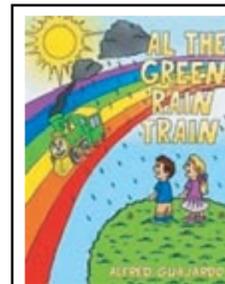
pictures as they enter and then have a guessing game to see who can guess the identity of the most party guests.

- **Celebrity Who's Who** - Before the birthday party select several pictures of celebrities from magazines. Make small masquerade style masks for them from scrapbook or construction paper and glue to their faces. Give guests paper and pencils and ask them how many of the celebrities they can identify. This can also be played as an icebreaker game when guests are arriving.
- **Masquerade Ball** - Create a designated dancing area for the kids and decorate it with a disco ball, strings of lights and/or lots of blown up balloons that are placed on the floor for party guests to dance through. Let the kids freestyle dance or teach them some new dances like line dancing



or some old fashioned ball room dancing.

Masquerade Party Favors: Masks, items with feathers such as pencils or jewelry, colorful wrapped candies **Masquerade themed Goody Bag Ideas:** Place party favors in a large champagne glass, mask printed fabric or bandana, staple masks onto colorful paper sacks



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