

PUMPKIN EYE

K-3

**Written and Illustrated by
Denise Fleming**

Published by Henry Holt and Company

Story Summary

It's Halloween, and trick-or-treaters are participating in a spooky and scary celebration. Denise Fleming describes their adventures in rhyme and colorful language as they use their imagination to dress up and roam the streets. After viewing and listening to this video, you will have an enhanced enjoyment for repeating these phrases and creating your own Halloween story.

Objectives

1. To develop rhyming skills.
2. To develop the use of descriptive language.
3. To develop expressive skills by interpreting illustrations.

Before viewing the video

Ask the children to talk about their last Halloween. What did you like about it? What will you do next Halloween? Tell the children that the author of this book, Denise Fleming, loved Halloween when she was a little girl. It was a special night because she was allowed to stay out after dark, she could be anybody or anything she wanted to be, and she was allowed to ask for candy and eat it too! She decided to write this book that explores many of the sights, sounds and smells of Halloween.

Questions to ask after viewing the video

1. What are some of the beautiful colors you see in Denise Fleming's illustrations and how are they used? What is yellow? What is orange? What is purple? What is black?
2. Try to remember some of the rhymes you heard. What are some of them?
3. Look at the jack-o-lanterns that line the street. What are the expressions on their faces saying to you?
4. Which of the trick-or-treaters are scary? What is scary about them?
5. There are some new words in this book. What do these words mean: wicks, pounding, spirits, eerie, swooping, tattered. What are some other words that are new to you?

Activities

1. Have a drawing activity to develop expressive skills without using verbal language. Have the children draw pumpkins and create eyes that express an emotion.
2. Follow-up your drawing exercise by developing a bank of descriptive words that express varied emotions.
3. Develop rhyming skills by finding all of the rhyming words in the story. After the words from the book have been organized into different rhyming families, add words not found in the book to your lists.
4. Have the children talk about their favorite trick-or-treater in the book. What do you like about that character?