



# Generation to Generation Interview

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Halloween has been celebrated for over a hundred years in America. A tradition since 1950, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF has given purpose to Halloween, empowering generations of children to make a difference in their world. How the first Trick-or-Treaters of 1950 celebrated Halloween looks very different than children today, but what hasn't changed is the fact that Halloween brings communities together.

With this activity, encourage your students to interact with older members of their community, like grandparents, faculty or friends. Lead a conversation that starts off by sharing Halloween traditions and becomes an opportunity for students to learn more about the past -- what was the same, and what's different for kids today?

## The following activity can be done in two different ways:

### 1 Interview an older member of your community (Two options for settings)

- a. In school and/or in a classroom
  - i. Invite an older person(s) (we suggest students' grandparents) to visit your students during class or set a time to meet them through video chat platform like Google Hangouts or Skype.
  - ii. Prior to the interview, designate different students who will welcome and/or introduce the interviewees, ask questions, record answers and thank the interviewees afterwards.
  - iii. Make sure to take videos of the interaction to share with us at schools @unicefkidpower.org or post and tag us on social media! (Instagram: @UNICEFKidPower, Facebook: UNICEFKidPower, Twitter: @UNICEFKidPower)
- iv. Be sure to debrief and reflect on questions like:
  1. What did you learn?
  2. What commonalities did you have with your interviewee(s)?
  3. What differences did you have with your interviewee(s)?
  4. How can your class be better interviewers? What did you do well? Was there room for improvement?

- b. At a senior citizen community, activity centers and/or community centers, or connect with your local library.
    - i. Place a call or write an outreach letter highlighting what your students would like to do.
    - ii. Set a time to visit.
    - iii. Designate different students who will welcome the interviewees, ask questions, record answers and thank the interviewees as well as the organizers and staff members at the end of the visit.
    - iv. Be sure to debrief and reflect on questions like:
      - 1. What did you learn?
      - 2. What commonalities did you have with your interviewee(s)?
      - 3. What differences did you have with your interviewee(s)?
      - 4. How can your class be better interviewers? What did you do well? Was there room for improvement?
- 2** If it is not possible for students to interview an older person, write Halloween letters!
- a. Find a senior citizen community, an activity center and/or community center you can send your letters to, or connect with your local library.
  - b. Have students complete their Halloween letters.
  - c. Mail or drop off your letters to the senior citizen community and/or activity center of your choice. You can also allow students to take them home and share with their grandparents or other older people in their lives.

# Generation to Generation Interview: Halloween

To briefly introduce myself, my name is \_\_\_\_\_, (YOUR NAME)  
and I am in \_\_\_\_\_ grade at \_\_\_\_\_ School.  
(YOUR GRADE) (YOUR SCHOOL NAME)  
My class loves to \_\_\_\_\_, and these days we are  
(YOUR FAVORITE CLASS ACTIVITY)  
learning about \_\_\_\_\_. We're also getting  
(WHAT ARE YOU LEARNING ABOUT?)  
ready for Halloween! Since Halloween is full of traditions that have continued from generation to  
generation, this Halloween, my class decided that we wanted to interview you! We're excited to talk  
to you because \_\_\_\_\_.  
(WHY DID YOU CHOSE THIS PERSON)  
Thank you for taking the time to talk to us!

**What's your name?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Where were you born?**

\_\_\_\_\_

As a child...

**What were some popular  
Halloween traditions?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

As a child...

**What was your favorite thing  
about Halloween?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**This Halloween,  
I want to dress up as...**

DRAW YOUR COSTUME HERE

**Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF** is one way kids celebrate Halloween! Since 1950, kids have been going door-to-door on Halloween with orange donation boxes. The money that is donated goes towards providing children around the world with clean water, nutrition, medicine, and educational resources. Around \$177 million has been collected through Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF!

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
(RECIPIENT NAME)

At school these days, we're getting ready for Halloween! This Halloween, my classmate will celebrate by \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(HOW IS YOUR CLASS CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN)

What are some ways you celebrated Halloween when you were little? Maybe someday I can interview you about what life was like when you were my age. I also wrote a Halloween song below.

I hope it makes you smile! Have a \_\_\_\_\_ Halloween!  
(POSITIVE ADJECTIVE)

Love, \_\_\_\_\_  
(YOUR NAME)



*Halloween is really \_\_\_\_\_ , you can \_\_\_\_\_  
(POSITIVE ADJECTIVE) (VERB)*

*with your feet. And you can go door to door, get some \_\_\_\_\_ , but there's more!  
(WHAT DO YOU GET DOOR TO DOOR?)*

*Just as our parents always did, back in the days when they were kids. Trick-or-Treat is not enough, so **Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF!** And be the change... to change \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP CHANGE ABOUT THE WORLD)*

*You can help us with your change, and help the world's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(WHO/WHAT DO YOU WANT TO HELP) (WHO/WHAT DO YOU WANT TO HELP)*