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Helpful Hint – October
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Ah! October! I love this month! There is something about lessons I teach in October that really get me excited to come to school! LOL! I just really love spooky and scary things!

So with all the great activities in October, which ones are tried and true??? Well, here are a LONG list of great activities for this month for each grade level. I have tried all these with my kids and they are LOVED and APPROVE D! 😊

Primary:

**** In GamePlan 1:**

- Criss-Cross Apple Sauce
- Hippity Hop – great singing assessment
- Stirring My Brew – add a solo laugh as a B Section – kids love adding in their own laughs
- In the Hall of the Mountain King – I have a toy spider that sits on the kids' shoulders when it is their turn to be the leader and keep the beat
- What Will You Be? – great steady beat assessment if you have one kid keeping a beat, then as they come tell you what they will be another kid switches. It becomes a rotating activity – you can hear each kids' costume and assess each kid on a chord bordun
- The Very Busy Spider – we had hand drums and do the rhythm of the words and not the beat

**** In GamePlan 2:**

- My kids perform Skin and Bones every year – I record them and email the video home
- Trick or Treat – a favorite
- Scary Scary Halloween – fun story
- Who? – we dim the light and I have a little baby owl – one kid has the owl in their hands and every else pretends they do

**** In Strike It Rich:**

- The Dark House – we pick different things we will find in the box

**** In Highlighting the Holidays:**

- We are Scary Skeletons – a definitely favorite

****We put on one of those scary sound effect CDs and move like spooky creatures**

****This is a great time to teach the Wolf Game too!**

****We will read books like “There Was an Old Monster,” “Monster Mash,” and “The Spooky Wheels on the Bus.”**



Intermediate:

****I teach the Cup game in October and we do it to In the Hall of the Mountain King – the kids love how it speeds up**

****I do a big movement project with Purple People Eater – 5th graders have to create movement for the first verse and chorus to that song. Their movement must include a level change, a formation change, and two different movements happening at the same time during a part. They love this project!**