

# Halloween/Fall Activities for Kindergarteners

## Games

1. **Balloon Jack-O-Lanterns:** blow up an orange balloon for each Ss. Out of construction paper make face pieces to create a jack-o-lantern. Glue the face pieces to the balloon.
2. **Halloween Walk:** Form line on one side of room. Cross room in following ways: 1) Fly like a bat; 2) gallop like a cowboy on a horse; 3) hop like a bunny; 4) roll like a pumpkin; 5) dance like a princess; 6) creep like a cat; 7) walk like a skeleton; 8) float like a ghost; 9) stomp like a monster.
3. **I Went Into a Haunted House:** Students sit in a circle. Student A says "I went into the haunted house and saw a witch". Student B continues: "I went into the haunted house and saw a witch and a black cat". Continue around the circle
4. **Pin The Tail on the Black Cat:** This is a take on 'pin the tail on the donkey'. Put a picture of a tailless black cat on the wall, blindfold the students, spin them around and see if they can pin the tail in the right place. The nearest wins a prize/points.
5. **Paper Pumpkin:** Have the students stuff plain brown paper lunch bags with crumpled newspaper, then have them paint the bags with orange paint, and then tie the bags with thick green yarn to make them into a pumpkin decorations.

## Snacks

1. **Dirty Worms** - Fill paper cups with crushed up oreo cookies (or chocolate pudding) and place a few gummy worms in each cup.
2. **Halloween Party Treat** - Mix together peanuts, candy corn, raisins, chocolate chips, and other fun finger snacks to make a Halloween party treat mix!

3. **Owl's Eyes Recipe** - 1 (11 ounce) package Hershey's Hugs chocolates 1 (16 ounce) package M&M's plain chocolate candy 1 (16 ounce) bag pretzel rings  
Directions: **1.** Preheat oven to 200 degrees **2.** Unwrap Hugs and place them on a cookie sheet. **3.** Line it with waxed or parchment paper for best results. **4.** Place a pretzel around the hug. **5.** Don't worry if it doesn't drop to the base of the hug. **6.** Bake for approximately three and a half minutes. **7.** Immediately place an M&M in the center of the Hug and press down slightly to flatten. **8.** Cool. **9.** I also place them in refrigerator to speed the set up process
4. **Popcorn Snack Mix** - 5 cups air popped popcorn 3/4 cup raisins 3/4 cup dried apricot, diced 3/4 cup Nutri-Grain cereal 3/4 cup dried papaya mixed together.
5. **Pumpkin Cookies** - Sugar cookies shaped as pumpkins. Let the kiddos decorate each cookie with orange and green frosting.

# Halloween/Fall Activities for 1<sup>st</sup> Graders

## Games

1. **Handprint Ghosts:** Have the children paint their hands white and press onto black construction paper. When they dry have the children turn them upside down and add faces.
2. **Haunted House Classroom:** You can have a lot of fun turning your classroom into a Haunted House. Rearrange the furniture, turn out all the lights, hide volunteers in strategic places around the room to scare your students, then lead the students in (one or two at a time) and listen to the screams! Eerie music is essential, as is a very dark room. If you can get some glow-in-the-dark stars and arrows to illuminate a path around the room, and to mark the edges of tables, chairs, and any other dangerous areas.
3. **Mummy Dress up:** Let the children wrap each other in toilet paper and pretend to be a mummy
4. **What's in the Box?:** Paint a cardboard box black with a hole cut out to put hands into. All sorts of things can be placed in the box and the students have to put their hands in the box and try to guess what the object is. Great fun
5. **Pin The Tail on the Black Cat:** This is a take on 'pin the tail on the donkey'. Put a picture of a tailless-less black cat on the wall, blindfold the students, spin them around and see if they can pin the tail in the right place. The nearest wins a prize/points.

## Snacks

1. **Ants on a Log** - Ingredients: Celery Stick, Peanut Butter, Raisins  
Preparation: A very simple snack idea! Fill the center of the celery stick with peanut butter. Place a few raisins on top to be your ants. Eat and enjoy!  
  
If you do not like raisins, try tiny chocolate chips.

2. **Strawberry Ghosts** - Dip strawberries in white almond bark, let dry, and make "spooky" ghost faces with black icing.
3. **Moose Munch** - 1 (12 ounce) package milk chocolate chips or 1 (12 ounce) package semi-sweet chocolate chips 1 teaspoon crisco vegetable shortening 1 (16 ounce) box caramel popped popcorn, toffee popcorn such as Crunch and Munch Directions: **1.** Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper. Set aside. **2.** In a microwave safe bowl, add chocolate chips and Crisco. **3.** Microwave until chips look shiny about 2 minutes. **4.** Remove and stir until melted. **5.** Quickly stir in popcorn. Spread onto the prepared cookie sheet. **6.** Cool completely and break into pieces.
4. **Witches' Hats Recipe** - 32 Hershey's® Kisses® brand milk chocolates, unwrapped 1 package (11 1/2 ounces) fudge-striped shortbread cookies (32) 1 tube (4.25 ounces) orange or red decorating icing. Attach 1 chocolate candy to chocolate bottom of each cookie, using decorating icing. Pipe decorating icing around base of milk chocolate candy.
5. **Graham Cracker Ghosts** - Give each child a graham cracker, spread with vanilla frosting, decorate with chocolate chips for the face.

## Halloween/Fall Activities for 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Guess the Pumpkin Weight:** after carving the pumpkin have students try and guess the weight - use scales. students can weigh other things first to help their guess.
2. **Haunted House Classroom:** You can have a lot of fun turning your classroom into a Haunted House. Rearrange the furniture, turn out all the lights, hide volunteers in strategic places around the room to scare your students, then lead the students in (one or two at a time) and listen to the screams! Eerie music is essential, as is a very dark room. If you can get some glow-in-the-dark stars and arrows to illuminate a path around the room, and to mark the edges of tables, chairs, and any other dangerous areas.
3. **Melt the Witch Game:** Materials: A moveable chalkboard, colored chalk, sponges, bucket of water. Directions: Draw a witch's head , or whole body on the chalkboard. Fill the bucket with water and sponges. Have children stand close enough to the board to be able to hit it accurately with a wet sponge. Place water bucket and sponges near this spot. Tell the children to take turns throwing wet sponges at the witch to try and "melt" her away. As the witch becomes wet and water drips down the board, it will appear as if she is melting. Be sure the children are squeezing out to the sponges before throwing
4. **Spelling Banner:** Prepare two banners that say whatever you want them to say, i.e. Happy Halloween, Trick or Treat, etc. Also prepare a set of letters for the same words cut out in two different colors hidden randomly around the room. Divide the class into 2 teams with two captains--the captains sit and wait for their teammates to bring the letters for their banner. If a student is on the "red" team and sees a letter for the "green" team he/she just leaves it alone. The first team to cover their banner letters wins.
5. **Spooky Finger:** Only do this with older kids as it is quite scary! Make a small hole in the bottom of a small cottage cheese container - any similar container will do - and put some cotton in the bottom. Stick your middle

finger through the hole and bend it inward. Let the rest of your fingers grip the container naturally. Arrange the cotton around your finger to hide the hole. Cover the container and ask one of your unsuspecting students to remove the lid. When s/he does, move the finger up and down.

## Snacks

1. **White Chocolate Ghosts** - Yield: 6 ghosts  
 6 Twinkies 1/4 cup heavy cream  
 12-oz package white chocolate chips 16 Raisinettes or raisins  
**1.** Cut off bottom quarter of each Twinkie and stand them up on a plate. Bring cream to a boil in a saucepan. Add chips, reduce heat to low, and stir until chips are melted and mixture is smooth. **2.** Spoon the cream mixture over each Twinkie, covering the cake and letting some pool at the bottom to form a base. Keep the mixture warm and stir regularly as you go. Add Raisinettes or raisins for spooky eyes.
2. **Ogre-Eye Cookies** - 1 stick (1/4 lb.) unsalted butter, at room temperature  
 1/2 cup sugar, 1 egg yolk, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, 1 1/4 cups flour, 1/2 teaspoon salt, Green sugar, 5 long strands black licorice, cut into 1-inch lengths, 36 white-chocolate chips, 36 brown mini M&Ms  
**Preparation:**  
 Preheat oven to 350°F. Cream butter and sugar in a mixer. Mix in yolk and vanilla, then flour and salt, well. Roll into balls (size of a large marble). Coat in green sugar. Bake on 2 baking sheets for 12 minutes; rotate pans halfway through. Remove from oven. Lightly indent centers. Push licorice "eyelashes" into cookies; bake for 2 minutes. Push tip of white chocolate chips into centers. Bake for 3 minutes. Immediately press a mini M&M in center of each chip. Cool.
3. **Monster Mouths** - Cut apples into 8 slices, insert slivered almonds into each slice to represent teeth.
4. **Pretzel Spiders** - Ingredients: round crackers, peanut butter, small pretzel sticks, raisins. How to make: make a sandwich of the crackers filled with peanut butter. Insert 8 pretzel "legs" into the filling. With a dab of peanut butter, stick two raisin eyes on top.

5. **Worm Burgers** - Ingredients: vanilla wafers, chocolate frosting, gummy worms. How to make: Put chocolate frosting on a vanilla wafer, place a gummy worm in the middle, top with another wafer cookie.

## Halloween/Fall Activities for 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Halloween Freeze Dance** - Play Halloween party music or creepy sound effects and tell the children to dance. When you turn off the music, they all need to freeze. Whoever is caught moving during the freeze is out of the game. The last person dancing, wins. For a fun variation on this game, tell the children they will need to pose in the Halloween shape you will have called out during the previous freeze. Some fun shapes could be: black cat; pumpkin; broomstick; mummy; bat; etc.
2. **Make the Zombies Laugh** - Tell all the children to lie still on the floor like a zombie. Select one child to be "it". That child's job is to make the other children laugh. "It" can make funny faces, dance, act silly, whatever inspires him or her. Once a "zombie" laughs, he or she can join "it" in attempting to make the group laugh. Whoever holds out the longest without laughing is the winner.
3. **Trick-or-Treat Memory Game** - In turn each child begins by saying "I went trick or treating and I collected...", and then in alphabetical order each child adds to the list. Naturally, each subsequent child needs to add to the list and repeat the letters prior to his or her turn. For example, the third child might say, "I collected C - a cat; B - a Bat; A an apple. Friends can help with this game, otherwise it wouldn't be fair to the last person.
4. **Tragic Sam** - This is a classic identification game that is organized around Tragic Sam, a fictional character. The back story can be as simple or elaborate as the storyteller wishes, but the bottom line is that Tragic Sam's body parts have been recovered, and it is up to the players to determine what the items really are. Different food items are placed in containers, and each player is asked to feel the "body parts" without peeking and make their guesses. Use your imagination to find different foods that can be used for body parts. For example Sam's brains can be cold spaghetti noodles or cauliflower, eyeballs might be peeled grapes, teeth can be uncooked popcorn kernels and poor Sam's heart might turn out to be a peeled tomato.

5. **Pumpkin Seed Toss** - Number and line up 5 small baskets or crates; then have the children stand 3 feet in front of the first crate and toss seeds into the crates in sequence. Small prizes can be given for each of the crates they get their seeds in.

### Snacks

1. **Ghostly Goodies** - 8 large marshmallows 6 pretzel sticks 1 cup white-chocolate chips 1 Tbs vegetable shortening 12 cinnamon Red Hots Black decorating gel  
  1. For each ghost, push three marshmallows onto end of skewer; set aside.
  2. Microwave white-chocolate and shortening in a microwave-safe dish on medium-high for 1 minute. Stir. Microwave in 10-second intervals until smooth.
  3. Holding the skewer, spoon the melted mixture over marshmallows until covered; place on wax-paper-lined cookie sheet. Use two Red Hots for eyes and decorating gel for a mouth.
  4. Refrigerate until chocolate has hardened; serve.
2. **Witchy Cookies** - Ingredients: 1 (18 oz.) roll refrigerated sugar-cookie dough, Green food coloring, 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder, 1 tube brown icing 20 mini green M&M's. How to make: Divide dough in half. Color one half with green food coloring, knead until desired shade, place in plastic wrap and roll into a 2-inch cylinder; freeze until cold, about 1 1/2 hours. Knead other half with cocoa, flatten into a disc, wrap in plastic and chill thoroughly. Unwrap green dough and slice into 1/8 -inch-thick rounds. Space well apart on 2 cookie sheets. Roll chocolate dough between plastic wrap to 1/8 -inch thickness. Using a knife, cut triangles for hats (freeze for a few minutes if dough is too soft). Force chocolate scraps through a garlic press to make hair; place strands on sides of each green face. Put a triangle on top for hat. Freeze until very chilled, 15 minutes. Preheat oven to 350°F. Bake cookies right out of freezer, rotating sheets halfway through baking, until done, about 10 minutes. Cool on sheets. Pipe on brown icing eyes. Dab on an icing dot and stick candy to it for a nose.
3. **Jack o' Lantern Oranges** - This healthy treat is so easy to make, and looks so pretty! Carve jack-o'-lantern faces into oranges and place on a platter. The kids will love it. And they can help, too, without ever having to pick up a knife. Have them simply draw the faces on with a black marker, and carve them

yourself. Or don't worry about carving them-- they look just as good with faces drawn on. As a variation of this fun Halloween party snack, I like to hollow out an orange with a Jack o' Lantern face and fill it with fruit salad. Healthy, easy and quick!

4. **Easy Bugs in the Bone Yard** - This is such a fun Halloween snack for the kiddos. All you have to do? Sprinkle raisins into a bowl full of white-chocolate covered pretzels. (You could also use chocolate covered raisins.) Kids will eat them up once they learn the name of this snack. Or they'd eat it up anyway, since this mix tastes divine.

5. **Slimy Halloween Jigglers** - You know those Jello jigglers molds? They work great for Halloween! Either use whatever you have lying around the house, or go out and pick up a brain or a heart-shaped Jello mold. Make up a batch of orange, black, purple, or flesh-colored Jello and pour into your mold(s). Or make a flat pan of Jello and cut out shapes with Halloween cookie cutters instead.

## Halloween/Fall Activities for 4<sup>th</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Left and Right Pumpkin Story** - Create a Halloween story that repeatedly uses the words "left" and "right". For example, "On Halloween night, Susie left for trick or treating. Right away she ran into her friend Billy as she made a right turn at the corner. He was holding his trick or treat bag in his right hand." At your party, have the children sit in a circle and give one of them a pumpkin. As you read the story, they need to pass the pumpkin to the person seated next to them as the words left or right are spoken. Read the story quickly and watch them giggle as they try to keep up with the directions.
2.  **eyeball Relay Race** - Divide children into teams. Give the first child on each team a spoon and a ping pong ball. Set up the course to where they have to carry the "EYE" on the spoon to the end of the course and come back. Hand off to the next child and continue until all children have played on the team. First team done wins!
3. **Creepy Crawly Pop** - For each pop, you'll need 2 black pipe cleaners, 2 wiggly eyes, 1 Tootsie Pop™, and a 4"X4" piece of black foil or black tissue. Wrap the black foil around the sucker, leaving the existing wrapper in place. Cut the black pipe cleaners in half, then center them at the base of the pop and wrap them around the stick, so that there are four legs on each side. Bend the pipe cleaners to resemble legs, then glue wiggly eyes in place. Fun craft, take home party favor in one!
4. **Which Witch Will Win?** - Divide the guests into two equal teams. Create two starting lines with masking tape, and place two pumpkins about 10-15 yards away. Line the teams up with the "witch's wardrobe" at the starting line. At the signal to begin, the first player on each team quickly dresses up, runs the course, and then returns the wardrobe to the next player. The first team to complete the course wins. A witch's cape, black hat, broomstick, and fake wart will lead to some bone shakin' fun.

5. **Witch's Brew** - Cut ten pieces of paper in Halloween related shapes, such as ghosts, bats, pumpkins, or spiders. The shapes need to be about the size of a Ritz™ cracker. Place the shapes in a pile beside a small bowl or witch's cauldron. Have straws available for each player, along with a stopwatch, or a watch with a second hand. Using the straw as a vacuum, each contestant tries to pick up the shapes and drop them into the cauldron. The player with the fastest time wins.

## Snacks

1. **Witch on a Stick** - 1. Cut off the tops of pretzel rods and set aside. 2. Melt 1 cup white-chocolate chips, 1 Tbs shortening, and a few drops of green food coloring; stir until smooth. 3. Dip the cut end of the pretzels into the chocolate, covering the top 2 inches. Place on wax paper and sprinkle the sides of each with coconut flakes to form hair. 4. Top each with a Hershey's Kiss and refrigerate until the chocolate has hardened. Draw on eyes, nose, and mouth with black decorating icing; finish by covering the Kiss, too.
2. **Ghost Cereal Bars** - Prepare a batch of the Rice Krispies marshmallow treats recipe on the back of the cereal box. When the mixture has set up, cut out shapes with ghost shaped cookie cutter. Pour warm white frosting or melted white chocolate over the shapes to cover. Add M&M eyes and mouth. A delicious and easy Halloween party snack.
3. **Green Gelatin Intestines** - This is one of the grosser looking Halloween party snacks. Make lime gelatin and add pineapple bits, chopped marshmallows, sliced bananas and mandarin oranges. Pour gelatin mixture into an angel food cake pan and let set up. Invert pan to remove gelatin mold. Slice the mold horizontally into about 5 layers. Slice the layers in half and arrange on a platter in semi-circles to look like intestines. Gross!
4. **Monster Crackers** - Color some white vegetable spread or cream cheese with green food coloring and spread on your favorite crackers. Arrange small bits of green and red bell peppers to make a green-eyed, red-mouthed cracker monster. Use small amounts of broccoli sprouts to make the monster hair. A sneaky way to get kids eating their veggies.

5. **Boo Cups** - Ingredients: chocolate pudding, oreo cookies, whipped topping, chocolate chips. How to make: Put crushed oreos on the bottom of a plastic cup, fill about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way up with chocolate pudding, top with whipped topping to look like a little ghost, place chocolate chips on whipped topping to look like eyes.

## Halloween/Fall Activities for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Pumpkin Golf** - Carve out a pumpkin making the mouth extra-large. Build a cardboard ramp about 1-2 feet aside from the ground to the bottom of the pumpkin's mouth. You will probably need some support under the cardboard. Tape the ramp to the floor for stability. Mark the starting point a few feet from the start of the ramp. The older the kids, the farther away.
2. **Boogey Man** - The children should be old enough to be able to wink in order to play this game. Have the children sit in a circle. Make them close their eyes and you will tap "it" on the shoulder. When the children open their eyes, "it" will need to wink at different kids in the circle without anyone but the selected child seeing the wink. When a child has been winked at, he or she can make a big effect of dying. The object of the game is for the other children to guess who the "boogey man" is. Whoever guesses, or is the last person not dead becomes the next "boogey man".
3. **Ghost Waiter** - Supplies needed: Balloon for each team, paper plate for each team. Divide children into teams. Set up a course for them to race on. The child has to balance a balloon on a paper plate while walking it down the course and back to their team.
4. **Chain Ghost Story** - Have everyone sit in a circle. Have the first participant make up a few lines of a scary ghost tale, and then "pass" the story along to the next person. The next person adds a few lines, and then passes the story along, until all guests have participated. You might want to start this one yourself, give some examples ("It was a dark, blustery night. The moon was hidden behind some threatening storm clouds. The only sound you could hear was the wind howling through the trees."), or choose the most confident child to start. The kids will warm up quickly to the idea and surprise you with their creativity. Without the participants knowing, tape the telling of the story and then play it back for them right away. They'll laugh even harder and enjoy it more the second time around. For older children, provide a flashlight; turn off the lights, and have the storyteller shine the flashlight

under his/her face as they tell their portion of the ghost story. Spine tingling fun!

5. **Mummy Wrap** - Divide guests into teams of two and give each team a roll of toilet paper. Signal the start of the game, and have one person wrap the other with the toilet paper. The team that finishes wrapping the mummy first wins, but remember that the entire roll must be used!

## Snacks

1. **Slimy Snacks** - 1. Prepare a package of lime or apple Jell-O as directed and divide among 8-ounce mason jars or clear bowls, filling only halfway; refrigerate them until firm. 2. Prepare another Jell-O flavor, such as cherry, berry-blue, or grape. While Jell-O is cooking, place three gummy worms on top of set gelatin and let another hang over the lip. Pour second flavor over the worms, filling to the top; refrigerate.
2. **Ghost Crackers** - Take chocolate wafer cookies (or any circular cookie/cracker), spread vanilla frosting on to look like a ghost, use chocolate chips or raisins to make the eyes.
3. **Spooky Healthy Eyeballs** - This Halloween party snack is both easy and healthy. Wash a bunch of green grapes. Insert a raisin into the stem end of the grapes and freeze them all until ready to serve.
4. **Witch Hats** - Make rice krispy treats (a simple recipe is usually on the back of any rice krispy cereal box), cut diagonally into triangles, use chocolate frosting to stick onto any store bought chocolate cookie, frost with chocolate frosting and decorate with red icing.
5. **Bite-Size Honey Popcorn Balls** - Ingredients: 20 cup(s) (from 2/3 to 1 cup kernels) air-popped popcorn 1 3/4 cup(s) butter, cut into chunks, plus more for your hands, 1 3/4 cup(s) honey, 3/4 teaspoon(s) salt, 2 teaspoon(s) vanilla extract. Directions: 1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Put popcorn in a large roasting pan. Line a large baking sheet with waxed paper. 2. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, use a heatproof spatula or wooden spoon to stir together 1 1/4 cups butter, the honey, and salt until butter is melted. Increase heat and boil honey mixture gently 1 minute, stirring constantly.

Stir in vanilla. **3.** Carefully pour honey mixture over popcorn in roasting pan and stir gently to coat. Bake popcorn, stirring every 5 minutes, until deep golden all over, about 25 minutes. **4.** Let popcorn stand 5 minutes, or just until cool enough to handle. Working quickly with lightly buttered hands, press small handfuls of the mixture into 1 1/2-in. balls, occasionally loosening popcorn from bottom of pan with a spatula. If mixture cools too much to be malleable, return it to oven for about 45 seconds to soften. **5.** Put popcorn balls on prepared baking sheet and let cool completely. Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 2 weeks.

# Valentine's Activities for Kindergarteners

## Games

1. **Pin The Heart On Cupid** - Supplies: Big picture of Cupid, A red heart for each child with adhesive on back and their name on the front, Blindfold. How To Play: Blindfold the player, spin 'em around and let them try to stick the heart where it's supposed to go. Give a prize for the player that gets the closest.
2. **Heart Letter Match** - Cut out several heart shapes from assorted paper. Decorate with a capital letter and its corresponding lower case letter on opposite sides of each heart. Then cut each heart down the middle in a different way so that the student can match the right pieces together!
3. **Heart pricks** - A large heart made of some red flannel or craft foam pinned to a sheet which may be stretched and hung on a wall or door. In the center of the large red heart is a small white heart (sewed or pinned on). Each guest is given an arrow of white cloth or craft foam with a pin on one end. Blind fold each student one at a time and proceed like pin the tail on the donkey.
4. **Steal My Heart** - You will need a bowl of candy hearts and tongs for each team. Divide the students into 2-3 teams. Place the bowl of candy hearts in front of each team and set a timer for 5 min. Each person on the team takes turns taking a candy heart from the bowl and placing it into an empty container. The team with the most hearts transferred into the empty container wins.
5. **Make a Pet a Valentine** - Have the kids make valentines for their favorite pet. If they don't have a pet have them make one for an imaginary pet or friend.

## Snacks

1. **Valentine's Wreath** - Coat bottom of bundt pan with non-stick spray, sprinkle candy hearts all over the bottom of bundt pan. Follow recipe for mixing Rice Krispy Treats, except add a little red food coloring to butter

mixture to make it pink and mix and press into bundt pan. Flip out and you have a beautiful wreath with hearts on it.

2. **Friendship Salad** - Introduce a friendship theme to coincide with Valentine's Day. We make Friendship Salad (It's really ambrosia): Fruit Cocktail Marshmallows Coconut (optional) Let the kids help you pour the ingredients into a large bowl. Pass the bowl around and let everyone have a turn to stir it. The kids love this activity! It makes them feel as if they have really made something with their friends and it's delicious!
3. **Heart Tarts** - Cut out heart shapes with frozen pie crusts using cookie cutters, curl up the edges, put jelly or jam inside (not too much), bake at 350 for about 10 minutes or until golden brown.
4. **Edible Valentine's** - Graham Crackers , Frosting, Candy Hearts with messages
5. **Red Jello** - You can make the traditional version or sugar free and if time is short, purchase Jello that is prepackaged in snack sized containers. Whipped cream optional!

## Valentine's Activities for 1<sup>st</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Heart Hunt** - Create a heart hunt by cutting heart shapes out of several pieces of paper. Take each heart and cut it down the middle using a different pattern for each one. Scatter the heart pieces all over the classroom and have your students select a half a heart. The object of the game is to see who can find the person who has the matching half of the heart. The first two players to find a match win a prize.
2. **How Many Kisses?** - Fill a clear glass jar with chocolate kisses. Let each student have a piece of paper to write her name and her guess as to how many kisses are in the jar. The student who comes closest to the correct number of kisses wins the jar of candy to take home. Other candy you can put in the jar includes conversation hearts and red hot cinnamon candies.
3. **Valentine's Cake Walk** - Children stand in a circle and walk around the numbers while you play the music. Stop the music and draw a number. The child who is standing on that number wins a cupcake. Let the child who wins sit down so that others will have a chance to win as you play a few rounds of the game.
4. **Find your heart-mate** - Cut construction paper hearts in half either in different angles or with decorative scissors. Hand out the hearts and set a timer have the students find their matching other half and stand together until the timer is up or until everyone has a mate.
5. **Heart hop** - You will need two heart shaped pillows for this game. Divide the students into two teams. Have one child from each team place the pillow between their knees and hop over to the opposite end of the room and back. They sit down and the next person does the same until all members of the team have gone. The team and finishes first wins.

### Snacks

1. **Valentine Cookie Graham** - You need: a Graham cracker pink frosting (put red food coloring into white frosting) Alpha Bits cereal small candy hearts  
Directions: 1- Frost Graham cracker with pink frosting. 2- "Write" your message (I Love You or your name, etc.) using the Alpha Bits and placing them on the middle of the frosted cracker. 3- Decorate the border with candy hearts. Enjoy

2. **Valentine's Pizza** - Take premade sugar cookie dough, slice about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick and place on cookie sheet to form a heart, press the edges together until it's one big heart, bake until golden brown (approx.. 15-20 minutes), cool and frost, decorate with Valentine's candy.
3. **Heart Shaped Biscuits with Pink Butter** - Biscuits: Use store bought biscuits, mold into heart shapes and bake as directed. Pink Butter: Pour heavy cream into clean, disinfected baby food jars (one for each child). Add a couple drops of red food coloring. Secure the jar with the lids. Have the children shake, shake, shake, shake, shake their jars until the cream turns into butter. Enjoy the pink butter on your yummy biscuits!
4. **Valentine Popcorn Snack Mix** - Ingredients: 8 cups caramel corn, 1/2 cup sweetened dried cherries, 1/2 cup chocolate chips, 1/2 cup vanilla chips, 1/2 cup miniature marshmallows. Mix together and enjoy!
5. **Cupid's Sundae Bar** - Vanilla and Strawberry Ice Cream, Chocolate and strawberry sauce, Red and white sprinkles , red hot cinnamon heart candies , regular or pink whipped cream

## Valentine's Activities for 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Musical Chairs** - Traditional rules apply only be sure to use age-appropriate love/valentine's day music!
2. **Valentine's I Spy** - Kids walk around looking for the Valentine object. The child who spys the Valentine object must first sit in his desk and then call, 'I Spy!' Play several rounds. No prizes are necessary, but give a small treat if you like.
3. **Lost my heart** - You will need several pairs of matching candy hearts (just have the words match not the color) and balloons. Put one candy heart inside each balloon. For the game release the balloons in the classroom and have the kids sit on them to pop them and find the candy. After the candy has been released the kids need to find the person with the heart that matches theirs.
4. **Heart beat** - You will need a heart for each child with instructions written on one side and a heart shaped chocolate on the other side. The instructions should be an action for the student to perform (I.e. walk like a crab, hop like a bunny, skip, walk backwards, etc.) Have the student divided into two teams and place a collection of hearts at the opposite end of the room. On your mark have one person from each team go up, grab a heart and perform the action back to their team. When they get to their team they have to give the next player a high five and that player runs to grab the next heart. Continue this until all of the people in one team have gone. The first team to get through all of the players wins. Everyone gets to eat their chocolate heart at the end of the game.
5. **Steal my heart** - You will need a handful of candy hearts for each person, an empty container for each person, a pair of chopsticks for each person, and a timer. Set the timer for 2 minutes everyone needs to use their chopsticks to get as many candy hearts transferred to their empty container as they can. The person with the most hearts at the end of the two minutes wins. Continue with additional rounds if there is a tie.

### Snacks

1. **Fruity Hearts** - Simple, red, and reasonably healthy: "Draw" the outline of a heart shape on a paper plate for each child. Then place a bowl (or some bowls, depending on how many children you have) of red/pink fruit pieces

(raspberries, strawberries, cherries-no pits) on the table(s) and let children make a heart by placing red fruit onto their whipped cream heart outline.

2. **Valentine's Fruit Pie** - Take a graham cracker crust, empty 1 can of strawberry pie filling in it. Top with Cool Whip. Use the little conversation heart to decorate the top. Set in the refrigerator about 2 hours. Presto, a Valentine Pie.
3. **Rice Krispy Kisses** - Make a batch of rice krispy treats following the directions on the box. Before they cool, press them into a small funnel to make a Hershey's kiss shape. (They pop in and out of funnel easily and quickly.) When cool, wrap each in aluminum foil.
4. **Heart Healthy Snacks** - Make a platter featuring only red vegetables, such as sliced red bell pepper, grape tomatoes and radishes. Add fruits such as red grapes and strawberries, if desired. Place a bowl of ranch dressing tinted pink with red food coloring in the center of the platter.
5. **Chocolate Lovers** - Chocolate-covered fruit pieces make a sweet yet nutritional [Valentine's Day](#) snack. Dip strawberries, bananas and raspberries in melted chocolate, then place them on wax paper in the refrigerator to set. You can also dip other snacks like pretzels, peanuts and raisins.

## Valentine's Activities for 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Pink and Red Tic Tac Toe** - Make pink 'X' cut outs and red "O" cut outs. Explain how an X can stand for a kiss and an O can stand for a hug. Regular Tic Tac Toe rules apply!
2. **Valentine Puzzles** - Take approximately 6 popsicle sticks or tongue depressors and lay flat on a surface to form a square. Then paint a festive Valentines Day scene with hearts, fun phrases, cupid, etc. Then mix up the pieces for students to piece together!
3. **Stop In the Name of Love** - Same rules as hot potato apply, using a heart shaped bean bag in lieu of a potato. This time, the song, "Stop In the Name of Love" should be played and stopped at random intervals. The student holding the heart when the music stops is out. The last student standing wins!
4. **Who's Valentine?** - Write up a collection of pretend love letters from one fairy tale character to another. Divide the class up into teams. Each team gets a chance to read one of the letters to their teammates and the team tries to guess who the letter is written to. If the team cannot guess the opposite team gets one chance. The team with the most correct guesses at the end wins. Here is an example letter "Dear valentine, I think you are beautiful even when covered in ashes and soot. I dream of taking your away from your evil stepmother. When you come to my castle you will ride in royal carriages instead of pumpkins. I will buy you anything you want in life whether it's glass slippers or to be able to stay out later than midnight. Love, your secret admirer (from Prince Charming to Cinderella)"
5. **Don't Break My Heart** - You will need a cd or mp3 of the song "achy, breaky heart", a dozen eggs dyed red, two spoons, and two plastic tarps. Have the kids divide into two teams. Give each team six eggs. Each team member has to carry an egg in a spoon across the room and place it into the egg carton. If the egg breaks have them go back to their team and get another one of their other eggs. While this is going on play "achy breaky heart" the team with the most eggs in the carton a the end of the song wins.

### Snacks

1. **Valentine's Pretzels** - Melt vanilla or chocolate almond bark. Dip pretzel sticks in chocolate and set on wax paper. Sprinkle pretzel sticks with Valentine jimmies or any kind of Valentine icing decorations.
2. **Loveable Cookies** - Directions: Prepare sugar cookies according to directions on the package for rolled cookies. Cut hearts in dough using a cookie cutter. Use knife or smaller cookie cutter to cut out a heart in the center of half the cookies. Place cookies on un-greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 7-9 minutes. You can bake the baby hearts, too for 5 minutes only. Let cool. Spread each big solid cookie with frosting and top with a cutout cookie. Sprinkle with powdered sugar.
3. **Valentine Roll-ups** - Have the children spread cream cheese and strawberry jam onto a tortilla. Have the children roll the tortilla up like a log. Let the children use their plastic knives that they used to spread the cream cheese and jam to cut the rolled up tortilla into sections.
4. **Pink Painted Toast** - mix together a small amount of milk with a few drops of red food coloring, paint each side of a slice of bread, toast, serve with butter, cinnamon and sugar, red sprinkles, jam, etc.
5. **Valentine Party Mix** - Combine lightly salted popcorn, peanuts or soy nuts, [pretzel](#) loops and dried cherries in a bowl. Serve the mix in small paper cups.

## Valentine's Activities for 4<sup>th</sup> Graders

### Games

1. **Love Bugs!** - Supplies: painted toilet paper rolls, assorted paper, pipe cleaners, stickers, glitter, googly eyes. Let the toilet paper roll serve as the body of a bug and let kids decorate their love bugs. Ideas: Antenna, legs, heart-shaped spots
2. **Edible Friendship Bracelets** - Using thin strings of licorice, lace them with fruit loop or apple jack cereal. Then tie on the wrist of a friend or valentine!
3. **Paper Heart Lei** - Supplies: Red paper heart cutouts with a hole punched in the middle of each, string or yarn, and straws cut into 2" segments. Have each student write something nice on each heart and distribute among their classmates. To assemble: String a heart then a straw piece, then repeat until a lei is formed. Tie together.
4. **Cupid BINGO** - Call the game using the balls from the Bingo game you bought. Don't forget to substitute the CUPID letters for the BINGO ones. You'll get the hang of it quickly! Children use Valentine conversation heart candy to mark their cards. When a child fills a row, he yells, 'Cupid!' Play several games and give prizes to the winners.
5. **Sticky situation** - You will need clear packing tape or duct tape, and red hot candy. Have each person roll up a piece of tape. Dump out the red hots on the floor. Set the timer for five seconds each person has to see how many red hots they can get stuck to their tape by the end of the five seconds. The person with the most candies wins.

### Snacks

1. **Heart Cupcakes** - This is so easy! just mix your cupcakes and pour them into a muffin pan as usual (be sure to use paper liners). then put a marble between the paper and the tin before you bake them. bake and ice as usual (don't forget, the marbles will be HOT!)...this makes a great and easy heart-shaped cupcake.

2. **Sweethearts** - refrigerator biscuits, sugar and cinnamon mixture, melted butter 1) Separate biscuits and cut with heart shape cookie cutter or mold into heart shape. 2) Roll in butter, then in sugar and cinnamon mixture. 3) Bake according to directions on package
3. **Strawberry Mice** - Ingredients: Fresh strawberries, Mini chocolate chips, Black decorators' icing, Almond slivers, Toothpick, Red lace licorice Cheese (Your choice) 1. For each mouse, slice a small section from the side of a strawberry so it sits flat. 2. Press a mini chocolate chip into the tip for a nose, using a small dab of icing to secure it in place, if needed. 3. Add icing eyes and stick 2 almond slivers into the top of the berry for ears. 4. For a tail, use a toothpick to carve a small hole in the back of the berry and push the end of a piece of licorice lace into the hole.
4. **Sweet Tortillas** - Using small fun shaped cookie cutters (in this case hearts for Valentine's Day) cut shapes out of a flour tortilla. Place on non stick cookie sheet and lightly brush with a little melted butter.  
Lightly sprinkle (you only need a little) with a mixture of 1 part cinnamon and 3 parts brown sugar. Bake in a moderately hot oven for 10 minutes for a sweet and crispy treat.
5. **Pretzel Hugs and Kisses** - Ingredients: 3 (10 ounce) bags checkerboard, windowpane or round shaped pretzels 1 (large pound size) bag M&Ms plain chocolate candies. Use Red and Pink for Valentine and other colors to match other holidays and seasons. Hershey's Hugs chocolates, Hershey's chocolate kisses Preheat oven to 170 degrees. Place pretzels on a parchment or waxed paper-lined cookie sheets in a single layer. DO ONLY ONE TYPE OF CANDY PER SHEET because the Hugs melt faster than the kisses. Unwrap Hugs or Kisses, place one on each pretzel, repeat for an entire cookie sheet. Place cookie sheets in the preheated oven, bake 4 MINUTES FOR THE SHEET OF pretzels and HUGS, 5-6 minutes for the pretzels and KISSES. Remove from oven and immediately put a M&M on top of each pretzel/chocolate, pressing down gently. When pressing down you may need to wiggle the chocolate around a little to fill in any gaps between the chocolate and the pretzel. This will help the chocolate stick to the pretzel.

## Valentine's Activities for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

\*\*\*Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders usually go bowling for their Valentine's Day activity. Here are some ideas for games and snacks just in case (for some reason) this tradition changes.\*\*\*

### Games

1. **Sweetheart Picture Frames** - Supplies: Heart shaped candy or foam, picture frame, glue. How To Assemble: Glue candy or foam cutouts all around picture frame.
2. **Heart Stack** - give each student a handful of candy hearts. See who can stack the most candies in 30 seconds, a minute, or a minute and a half.
3. **Guess Who Loves You** - Player one sits blindfolded in a chair in the middle of the class. Quietly point to another child, who goes to the blindfolded child and says 'I love you' in a disguised or silly voice. The player tries to guess who 'loves' him. Give them three chances. If the player guesses who 'loves' her, that person becomes the next blindfolded player.
4. **Valentine's Create-a-Word** - Give each child a game sheet and pencil. (I like to give each child a sharpened Valentine pencil to keep for this game.) At 'Go', children write as many words as possible from the letters in Valentine's Day. Time the kids for 3-5 minutes and then call, 'Stop.' The child with the most correct words wins a small Valentine prize.
5. **Valentine Pictionary** - You will need a timer and some common Valentine's Day sayings on some slips of paper. Have the students divide into two teams. The teams take turns choosing a piece of paper and going to the white board to illustrate the saying in hopes that their team will guess what was on their paper. Set the timer for two minutes. If the team does not guess the opposing team has five seconds to try and guess what was on the slip. Whoever guesses gets a point for their team. The team with the most points at the end of the game wins.

## Snacks

1. **Crispy Kisses** - What you need: 8 12-inch squares of aluminum foil, funnel, cooking spray, Markers, Paper, Scissors. Make one recipe of rice krispies adding 3 Tbs. of cocoa powder to the melted margarine or butter. Do not press into pan or allow to cool! Spray the inside of the funnel. Press the mixture into the funnel. Gently remove the cereal "kiss" and place it flat side down on a piece of foil. Pull the corners of the foil up and around the kiss. Insert a paper strip so half the strip sticks out the top of the kiss. Twist the foil ends at the top. It should look like a giant chocolate kiss!
2. **Love Potion** - Expect your students to giggle at blush at the thought of drinking a love potion. Combine three 48 ounce cans of pineapple juice, a 2 liter bottle of lemon-lime soda and one .16 ounce packet of strawberry- or cherry-flavored drink powder in a punch bowl. Add ice and serve.
3. **Lovely Fruit** - 1 container strawberry yogurt combined with 2 cups strawberry or plain Cool Whip. We also threaded the cut-up fruit onto long wooden skewers and put them on the platter with the dip. (cut the sharp end off the skewer with scissors before serving)
4. **Really Easy Valentine's Cookies** - 1. Preheat oven to 200 degrees. 2. Place vanilla wafer cookies 1-inch apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. 3. Set a Hershey's Chocolate Kiss (and/or Hugs) on the center of each cookie. 4. Bake at 200 degrees for 5 minutes. (Or until Chocolate Kiss is very soft) If you are also using 'Hugs candy--keep in oven a minute or two less. The Hugs melt much more quickly than the Chocolate Kiss. Remove from oven and gently press an M&M candy or a candy heart into the center of the softened Hershey's Kiss or Hug. Put cookies in refrigerator and allow them to cool completely to let the chocolate harden again.
5. **Valentine's Love Chow** - 5 cups Chex® cereal  
 1/2 cup white vanilla baking chips plus 2 Tablespoons chips  
 1/3 cup peanut butter  
 2 1/2 tablespoons butter or margarine  
 1/3 cup powdered sugar plus 2 Tablespoons  
 1/2 cup red, white and pink candy-coated chocolate candies (M&Ms)  
 Additionally candy can be tossed in as desired. 1. Place cereal in large bowl.  
 2. In small microwavable bowl, melt vanilla chips, peanut butter and butter

uncovered on High 1 minute (or until melted and smooth) It's important to keep watching as not to overcook mixture.

3. Pour peanut butter/white chocolate/butter mixture over cereal, folding over gently until evenly coated.

4. Add M&M candy--and optional red/white/pink candy corn.

5. If bowl is large enough, add powdered sugar and gently fold it into the cereal mixture. If bowl is not large enough, place cereal in a paper bag with the powdered sugar and gently shake until cereal is covered.

6. Add optional sprinkles at this time. Place mixture on waxed paper or foil; cool and set about 15 minutes. Store in airtight container.