



# Halloween!

Do you celebrate it? If so, how?  
And why?

# What we do...

Dress up in costumes

Go trick-or-treating

Have parties

Bob for apples

Carve jack-o'-lanterns

Go to haunted houses

Tell scary stories



# Why do we do it?

Most people don't know (without looking it up first!) and because it is so much fun, most people don't even ask!

The name comes from the Scottish *All-Hallows-Even*

The different rituals formed over time and originate from several different places, including Ireland, Scotland, Rome and England  
Many can be traced to pagan rituals  
or ways of honoring the dead



# The Yellow Ribbon

- Classic "scary" story
- Told in most elementary schools



Jane wore a yellow ribbon around her neck everyday. And I mean everyday, rain or shine, whether it matched her outfit or not. It annoyed her best friend Johnny after awhile.

“Why do you wear that yellow ribbon around your neck, Jane?” he’d ask her every day. But she wouldn’t tell him.

Eventually, Johnny and Jane started dating, but he still didn’t know why she wore the yellow ribbon around her neck. So he asked her about it yet again, and yet again she did not tell him. “Maybe someday I’ll tell you about it,” she’d reply. Someday! That answer annoyed Johnny.

Well, time went by, and one day Johnny proposed to Jane and she accepted. They planned a big wedding, and Jane hinted that she might tell him about the yellow ribbon around her neck on their wedding day. But when the wedding and reception were over and he remembered to ask, she got a bit teary-eyed, and said: “We are so happy together, what difference does it make?” And Johnny decided she was right.

Johnny and Jane raised a family of four, with the usual ups and downs, laughter and tears. When their 25th wedding anniversary rolled around, Johnny once again asked Jane about the yellow ribbon around her neck. It was the first time he’d brought it up since their wedding. Whenever their children asked him about it, he’d always hushed them, and none of the kids had dared ask their mother. Jane gave Johnny a sad look and said: “Johnny, you’ve waited this long. You can wait awhile longer.”

And Johnny agreed. It was not until Jane was on her death bed that Johnny, seeing his last chance slip away, asked Jane one last time about the yellow ribbon she wore around her neck. She shook her head a bit at his persistence, and then said with a sad smile: “Okay Johnny, you can go ahead and untie it.”

With shaking hands, Johnny fumbled for the knot and untied the yellow ribbon around his wife’s neck. And Jane’s head fell off.

What was Johnny's relation to Jane?

Did they have any children?

How long were they married?

Did Jane ever take off her ribbon?

Did she ever tell Johnny why she wore the ribbon?

Why did she finally decide to let Johnny untie it?

Why did she wear the ribbon?