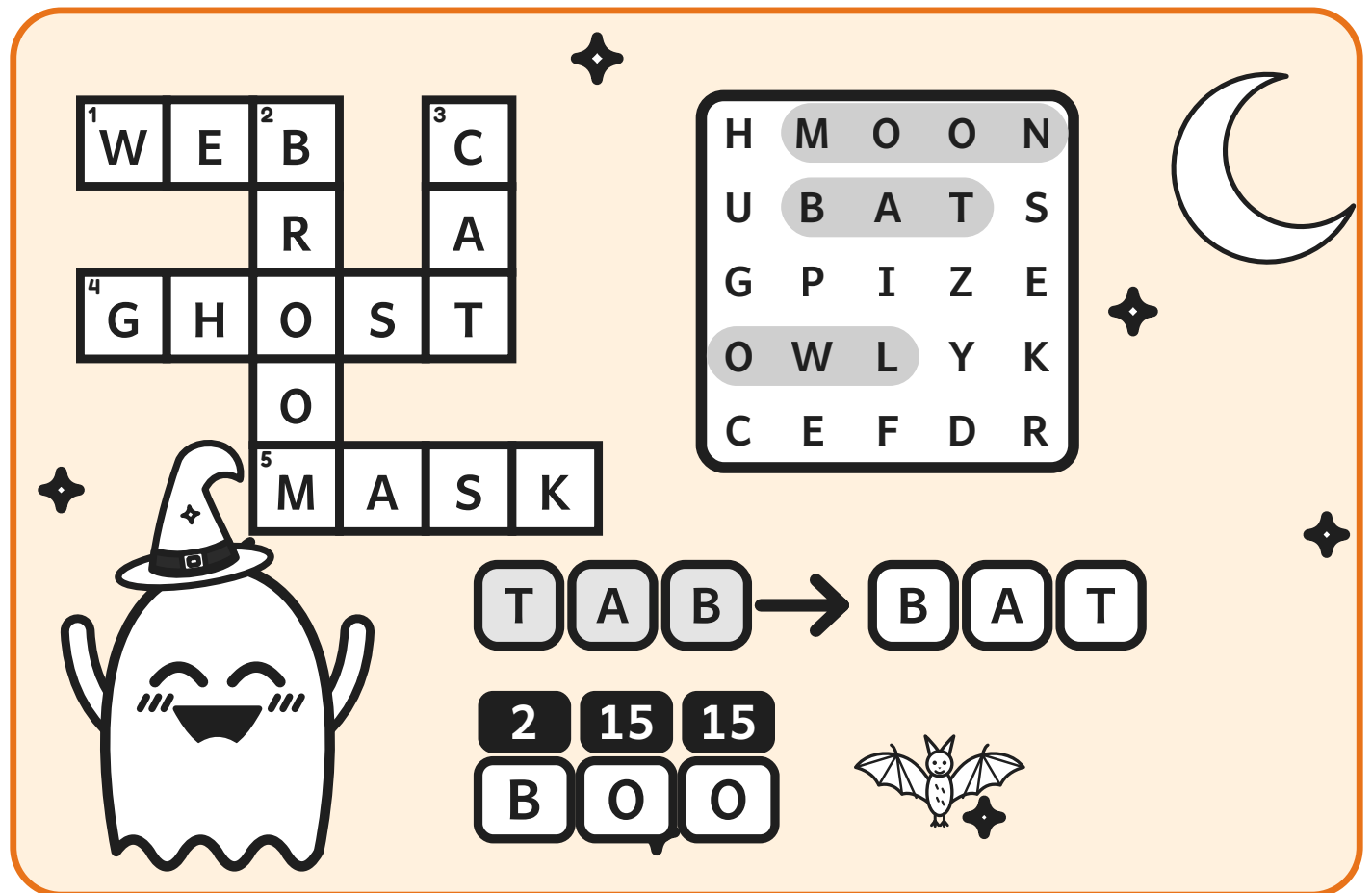


Halloween

Crosswords and Word Puzzles

Five gentle, not-scary word puzzles, each with three levels. Teacher notes and answer keys are included.



- 1 Moonlit Picture Crossword
Picture clues and a word bank
- 2 Pip's Clue Crossword
Written clues and letter counts
- 3 Bat Cave Word Search
Find the hidden words
- 4 Witch's Broom Scramble
Unscramble the letters
- 5 Secret Code Jokes
Crack the code, read the joke
- 6 Teacher notes and answer key
Standards, tips and answers

Teacher and parent notes

Halloween Crosswords and Word Puzzles · Ages 6–8 · Grades 1–2

Hello, and happy Halloween! These five worksheets are word games: two crosswords, a word search, a word scramble and secret code jokes. Everything is gentle, with friendly ghosts, sleepy bats and moonlit nights, and no candy or treats. Each worksheet has three levels, so one pack suits a mixed-ability class or a family with children of different ages. Pencils ready, word detectives!

With magic, Karyn

What is in the pack

#	Worksheet	☆☆☆ Starter	★★☆ Medium	★★★ Challenge
1	Moonlit Picture Crossword	5 picture clues and a word bank.	7 picture clues and a word bank.	9 picture clues, no word bank.
2	Pip's Clue Crossword	5 short clues, letter counts and a word bank.	7 clues with a word bank.	9 longer clues, no word bank.
3	Bat Cave Word Search	6 words that go across or down, with pictures.	8 words that also slant, with pictures.	10 words in any direction, plus a bonus riddle.
4	Witch's Broom Scramble	Picture, tiles and the first letter given. 3 to 4 letters.	Picture and tiles. 4 to 6 letters.	Longer words (6 to 8 letters), two with a clue only.
5	Secret Code Jokes	Numbers: A is 1, B is 2 and so on.	Letters one step ahead.	Letters three steps ahead.

Choosing a level

Starter has five or six words, big letters and a word bank, and the scramble gives the first letter. Medium has seven or eight words and slanting words in the word search. Challenge has nine or ten words, no word bank in the crosswords, words that can face any way, and longer words to unscramble. Print the level each child needs, or let them try the next star up when they are ready.

Tips for using the worksheets

- **Start together.** Do the first clue with the child: say the word slowly, count its letters, then write it in.
- **Crosswords.** Picture clues can have two names (a hat might be a cap), so use the squares, the crossing letters and the word bank. Gray squares are blocks: nothing goes in them.
- **Word searches.** Scan one row at a time, or hunt for the first letter of a word. Some words may cross and share a letter.
- **Scrambles.** Cross off each tile as it is used. At Challenge, two words have only a clue.
- **The jokes are puns.** Some answers are spelled in a silly way on purpose. Read each answer out loud and enjoy the groan.
- **Pip's tips show a method, not an answer.** Pip, a little ghost, uses a different example from the page.
- **Time:** most children finish a worksheet in about 10 to 20 minutes.

Printing and accessibility

Print at 100% ("Actual size", not "Fit to page") on US Letter paper. Black and white is fine. Each worksheet fits on one page, so print just the levels you need. A sharp pencil and an eraser help. The letters are set in Andika, a typeface designed for beginning readers.

Curriculum links

A guide to where each worksheet fits. Each level covers a selection of these skills.

#	Worksheet	US Common Core	England National Curriculum (paraphrased)
1	Moonlit Picture Crossword	L.1.2.d, L.1.2.e, L.2.2.d Decoding: RF.1.3, RF.2.3	Year 1: spell words using the phonemes taught so far, and common exception words. Year 2: spell by breaking spoken words into phonemes and choosing the letters that stand for them.
2	Pip's Clue Crossword	L.1.4.a, L.2.4.a, L.1.5.b Spelling: L.1.2.d, L.2.2.d	Years 1 and 2: discuss the meanings of words and link new meanings to words that children already know. Spelling as for the picture crossword.
3	Bat Cave Word Search	RF.1.3, RF.2.3 Letter patterns: L.1.2.d	Year 1: use phonic knowledge to decode words and read common exception words. Year 2: read words of two or more syllables accurately.
4	Witch's Broom Scramble	L.1.2.d, L.1.2.e, L.2.2.d, L.2.2.e Decoding: RF.1.3, RF.2.3	Year 1: name the letters of the alphabet in order, and spell words using the sounds taught. Year 2: spell by breaking spoken words into sounds, and learn new ways to spell sounds already known.
5	Secret Code Jokes	RF.1.3, L.1.2.d, L.2.2.d Counting on through the alphabet: 1.OA.C.5	Year 1: name the letters of the alphabet in order. Years 1 and 2: read and spell the decoded words accurately.

US codes are Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, grades 1 and 2 (L = Language, RF = Reading: Foundational Skills), plus one math code (OA = Operations and Algebraic Thinking). Some states use their own standards, so check yours. The England column paraphrases the Year 1 and Year 2 national curriculum for English (ages 5 to 7); please check the exact wording on gov.uk before quoting it in a plan.

Supporting and stretching

To support

- Work as a pair. One child reads the clue and the other writes the word.
- Use the Starter word bank, and let children cross off each word as they use it.
- For a word search, cover most of the grid with a sheet of paper and slide it down one row at a time.

To stretch

- Ask children to write their own clue for one answer, then swap with a partner.
- Ask children to make a scramble or a code for a friend, for example by moving every letter two steps ahead.
- Find the longest and the shortest answers on a page. What do you notice?

Ideas for talking about the words

- Which picture was the hardest to name? What made it tricky?
- Which Halloween word would you like to use in a story? Say a sentence with it.

More from Karyn

Find more free learning resources and our free online kids' book club at [changetheworldwithkaryn.com](https://www.changetheworldwithkaryn.com). Watch the read-aloud stories on YouTube at [@StoryTimeWithKaryn](https://www.youtube.com/@StoryTimeWithKaryn) and the lessons at [@LearnWithKaryn](https://www.youtube.com/@LearnWithKaryn).

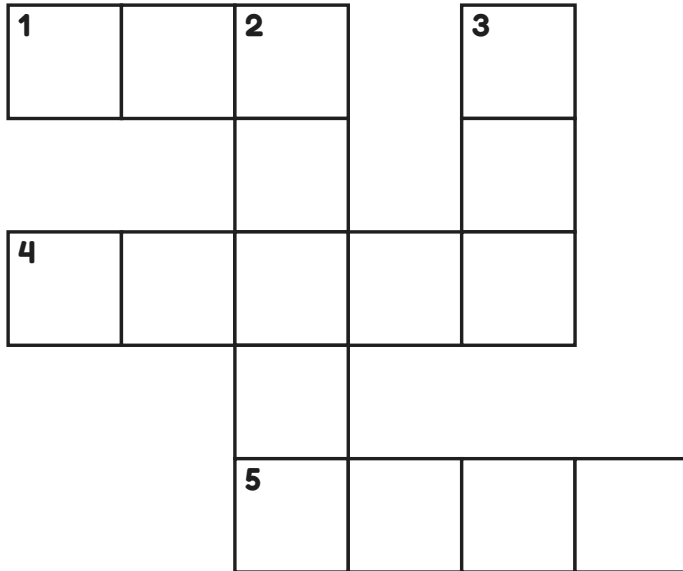
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Moonlit Picture Crossword

Name _____ Date _____

Look at each picture. Write its name in the squares. Use the word bank to help you.



Word bank

BROOM

CAT

GHOST

MASK

WEB

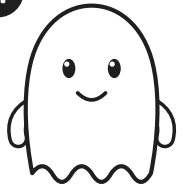
Across →

1



3 letters

4



5 letters

5



4 letters

Down ↓

2



5 letters

3



3 letters



PIP'S TIP

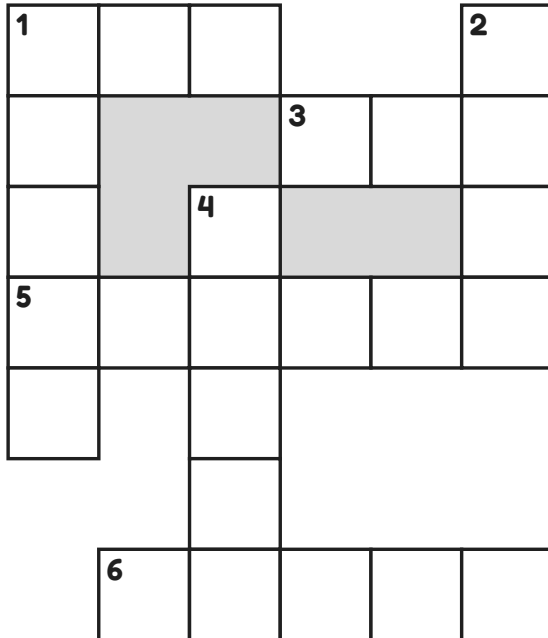
Pick a word from the word bank. Count its letters. Do they fit the squares? Then write it in.



Moonlit Picture Crossword

Name _____ Date _____

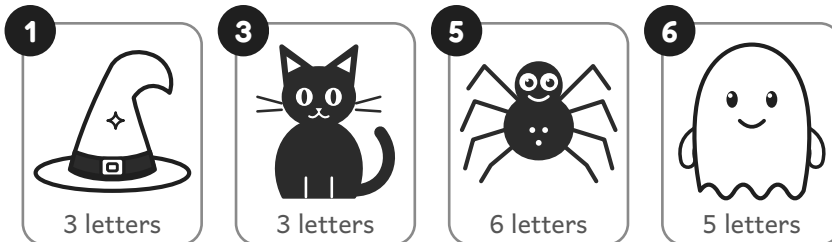
Look at each picture. Write its name in the squares. Use the word bank to help you.



Word bank

CAT
GHOST
HAT
HOUSE
SPIDER
STAR
WITCH

Across →



Down ↓



PIP'S TIP

Squares where two words cross hold one letter that belongs to both words. Use them to check your answers.

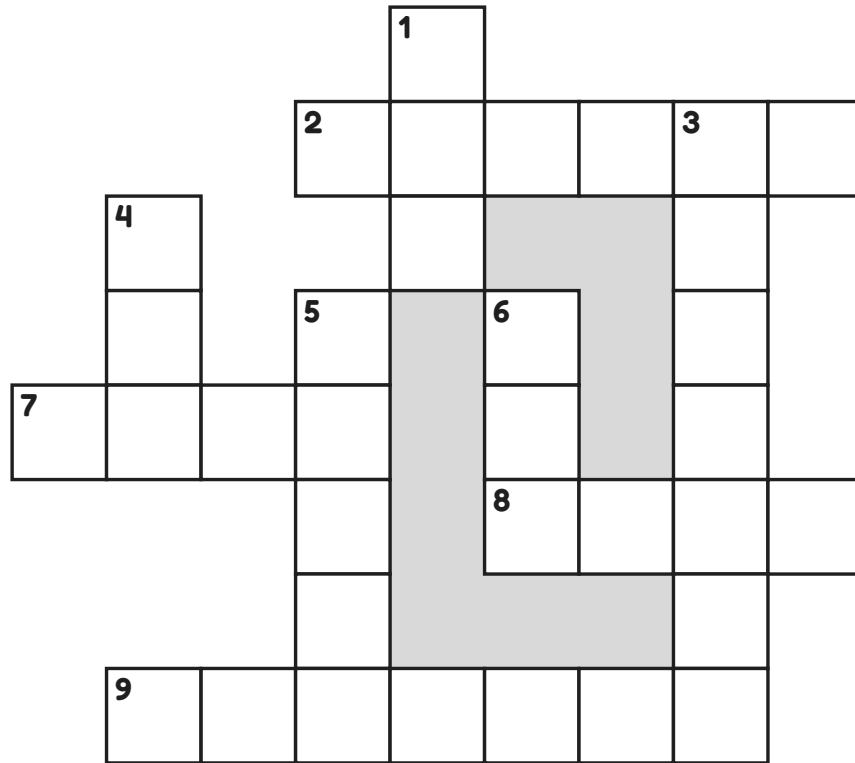


Moonlit Picture Crossword

Name _____

Date _____

Look at each picture. Write its name in the squares. Count the squares to check!



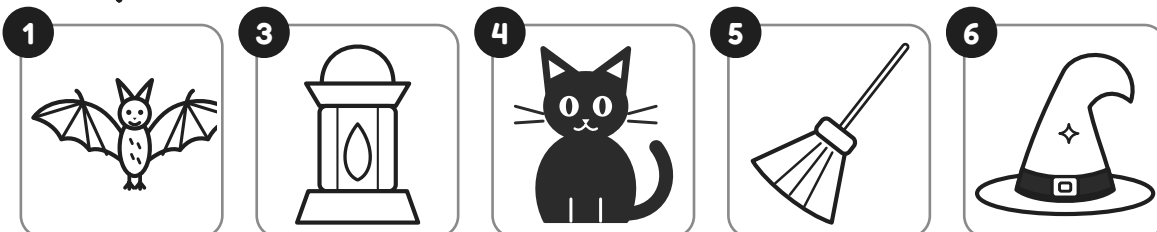
PIP'S TIP

No word bank this time!
Write in the word you are
surest about first. Its letters
can help you with the words
that cross it.

Across →



Down ↓





Pip's Clue Crossword

Name _____ Date _____

Read each clue. Write the answer in the squares. Use the word bank to help you.

1				2
3				
4				

Word bank

BAT
HIDE
LAUGH
WAND
WEB

Across →

- 1 What you do out loud when something is very funny. (5)
- 3 A magic stick that you wave. (4)
- 4 A flying animal that sleeps upside down. (3)

Down ↓

- 2 To go somewhere so that nobody can find you. (4)
- 3 A sticky net that a spider spins. (3)



PIP'S TIP

Read the clue slowly. The number in brackets tells you how many letters the word has. Cross each word off the bank when you use it.

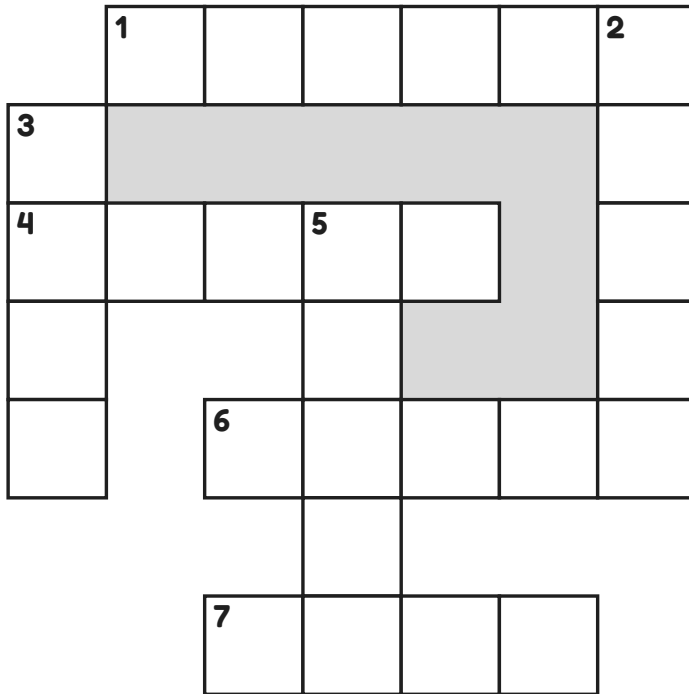


Pip's Clue Crossword

Name _____

Date _____

Read each clue. Write the answer in the squares. Use the word bank to help you.



Word bank

DANCE
FRIEND
GHOST
GLOW
HOUSE
LAUGH
STAR

Across →

- 1 Someone you like to play with. (6)
- 4 What you do out loud when something is very funny. (5)
- 6 A building where people live. (5)
- 7 A tiny, twinkling light far away in the night sky. (4)

Down ↓

- 2 Move your body to music. (5)
- 3 To shine with a soft light. (4)
- 5 A floaty spirit. Pip is one. (5)



PIP'S TIP

Look for the word that fits the meaning and the number of letters. If two words could fit, check the squares that cross.

Pip's Clue Crossword

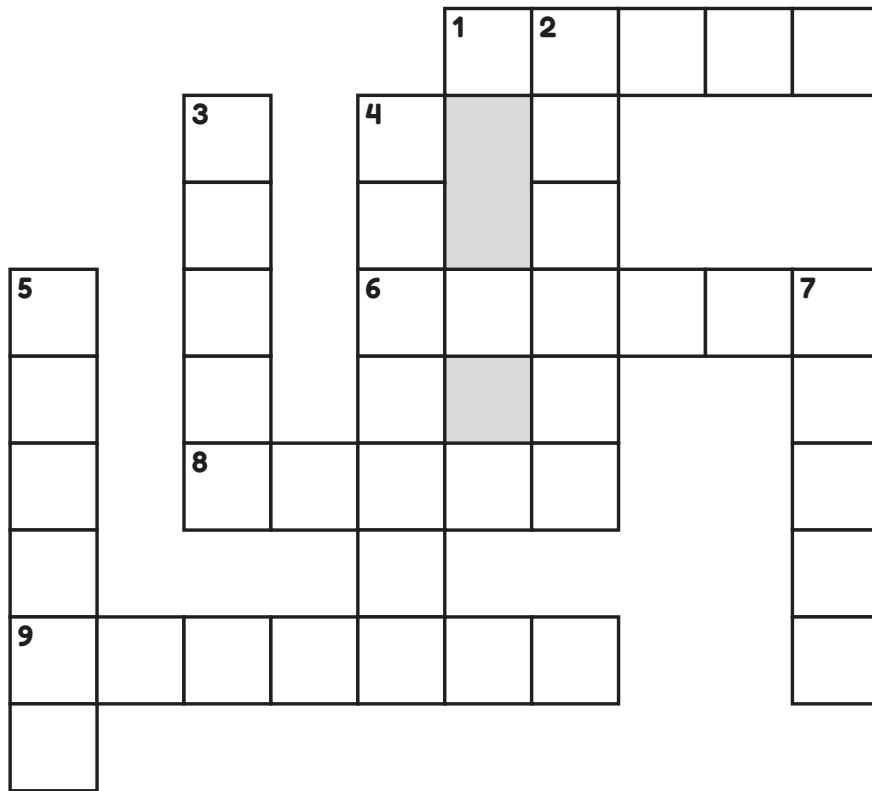


★★★ Challenge

Name _____

Date _____

Read each clue. Write the answer in the squares.



PIP'S TIP

The number in brackets is the number of letters. Try the short words first. Their letters help with the words that cross them.

Across →

- 1 Magic words that make something happen. (5)
- 6 You make it on the ground when you block the sun. (6)
- 8 Your family lives in one. It has walls, a roof, windows and a door. (5)
- 9 A light inside glass or paper that you can hang up. (7)

Down ↓

- 2 People walk or ride in a happy line through the town. (6)
- 3 To make a “ha ha” sound. (5)
- 4 You wear it to look like a pirate or a robot. (7)
- 5 It has a wick. When you light it, it gives a soft glow. (6)
- 7 A storybook character who rides a broom and wears a pointy hat. (5)



Bat Cave Word Search

Name _____ Date _____

Find the 6 words. They go across or down. Circle each word, then tick its box.

E	L	T	O	W	L	D	B
M	G	H	A	T	C	E	O
E	M	O	O	N	U	B	I
A	R	G	P	A	L	A	O
W	E	F	D	T	W	T	Y
E	O	T	O	A	I	R	B
B	E	U	P	O	I	M	T
N	M	T	T	R	E	E	I


☐ BAT

☐ OWL

☐ WEB

☐ MOON

☐ HAT

☐ TREE

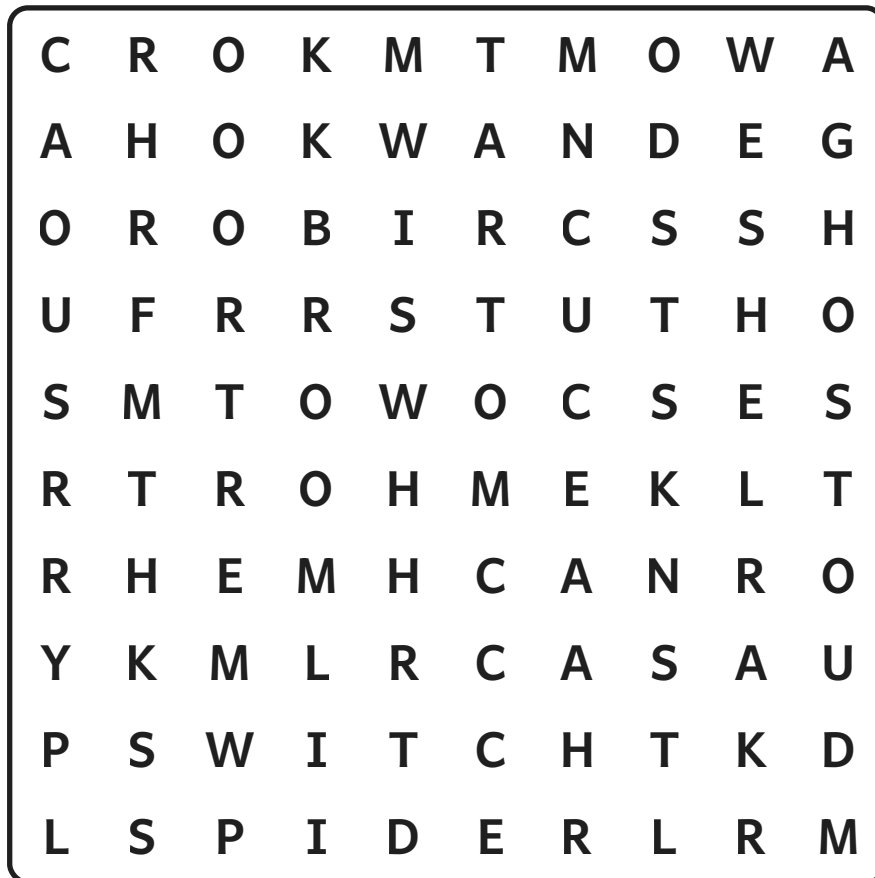

PIP'S TIP

Run your finger along each row, then down each column. When you see the first letter of a word, check the letters after it.



Bat Cave Word Search

Name _____ Date _____

Find the 8 words. They can slant, too! Circle each word, then tick its box.☐ GHOST☐ WITCH☐ BROOM☐ SPIDER☐ WAND☐ CAT☐ MASK☐ HOUSE**PIP'S TIP**

Words can slant, too! Look for the first letter of a word, then check the letters next to it in every direction.



Bat Cave Word Search

Name _____ Date _____

Find the 10 words. They go **any way**, even backward! Circle each and tick its box.



- ☐ PUMPKIN ☐ LANTERN ☐ SPIDER ☐ CANDLE ☐ COSTUME
☐ SHADOW ☐ GHOST ☐ WITCH ☐ BROOM ☐ PARADE

Bonus riddle: A bird that says “hoo” and stays awake at night.



PIP'S TIP

Words can face any way, even backward. Read the bonus riddle, too. Its answer is hidden in the puzzle, but it is not on the list!



Witch's Broom Scramble

Name _____ Date _____

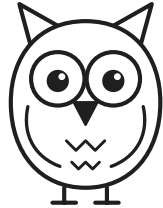
Unscramble the letters to spell each word. The first letter is done for you.

1 

	B	E
W		

2 

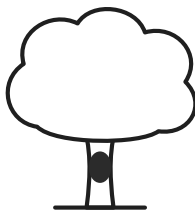
	T	A
H		

3 

	L	W
O		

4 

	T	A
C		

5 

	E	E	R
T			

6 

	T	A
B		



PIP'S TIP

Look at the picture first and say its name in your head. Then check that the letters on the tiles match.

Witch's Broom Scramble



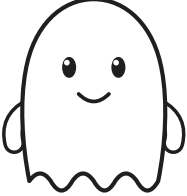
★★☆☆ Medium

Name _____

Date _____

Unscramble the letters to spell the word in each picture. Write it in the boxes.

1



G	T	H	O	S

2



O	B	O	M	R

3



C	H	I	W	T

4



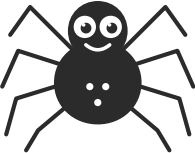
E	U	H	S	O

5



K	M	S	A

6



E	I	P	S	D	R


PIP'S TIP

Say the name of the picture out loud.
Cross off each tile as you use it.



Witch's Broom Scramble

Name _____ Date _____

Unscramble each word. Use the pictures and clues to help. Write it in the boxes.

Part A · Picture words

1		E	L	R	N	A	T	N
2		N	P	K	I	U	P	M
3		A	E	L	C	D	N	
4		E	D	P	R	I	S	

Part B · Clue words

5	T	C	O	S	U	E	M	Special clothes you wear to dress up.
6	O	D	S	A	H	W	A dark shape that follows you when light shines on you.	



PIP'S TIP

Start with the pictures. Then use each clue and the letters to work out the word. Cross off each tile as you use it.



Secret Code Jokes

Name _____ Date _____

Crack the code! Find each number on the strip. Write the letter below it.

Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Letter	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

Number	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Letter	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

1 What do ghosts wear on their feet?

2	15	15	20	19

2 What is a black cat's favorite color?

16	21	18	18	16	12	5

3 What is a witch's favorite subject at school?

19	16	5	12	12	9	14	7



PIP'S TIP

Do one letter at a time. Find the number on the dark row, then look at the letter just below it. Go slowly and check each one.



Secret Code Jokes

Name _____ Date _____

Crack the code! Each code letter is one step ahead. Write the real letters.

Code letter	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Real letter	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L

Code letter	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Real letter	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y

1 What is a ghost's favorite day of the week?

C	P	P	T	E	B	Z

2 Why was the witch's broom late?

J	U	P	W	F	S	T	X	F	Q	U

3 What is a bat's favorite game?

I	J	E	F	B	O	E	T	R	V	F	B	L

**PIP'S TIP**

Find the code letter on the dark row. The real letter is just below it. Do one word at a time.



Secret Code Jokes

Name _____ Date _____

Crack the code! Every letter moved three steps ahead. Write the real letters.

Code letter	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Real letter	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J

Code letter	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Real letter	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W

1 How do you make a witch itch?

W	D	N	H	D	Z	D	B	W	K	H	Z

2 What do you use to fix a broken pumpkin?

D	S	X	P	S	N	L	Q	S	D	W	F	K

3 What do spiders do on a computer?

V	X	U	I	W	K	H	Z	H	E

**PIP'S TIP**

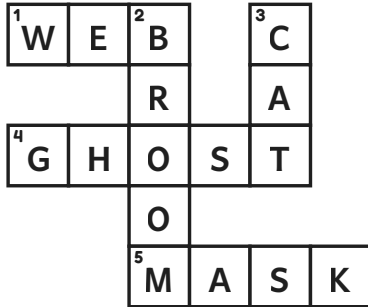
Find the code letter on the dark row. The real letter is just below it. Read your answer out loud to check that it makes sense!

Answer key

For teachers and parents. Crossword and word-search answers are shown on the grids. The jokes are puns, so some answers are spelled in a silly way on purpose.

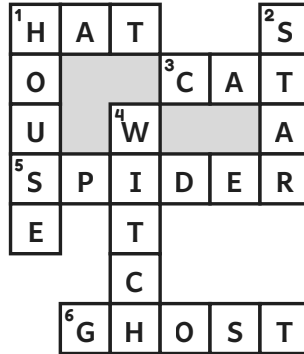
Worksheet 1 • Moonlit Picture Crossword

☆☆☆ Starter



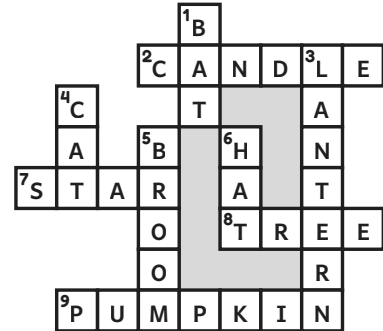
Across: 1 WEB 4 GHOST 5 MASK
Down: 2 BROOM 3 CAT

☆☆☆ Medium



Across: 1 HAT 3 CAT 5 SPIDER
6 GHOST
Down: 1 HOUSE 2 STAR 4 WITCH

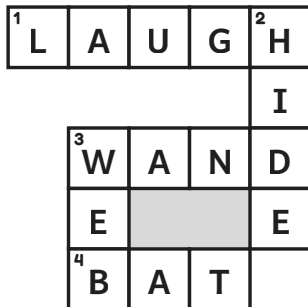
☆☆☆ Challenge



Across: 2 CANDLE 7 STAR 8 TREE
9 PUMPKIN
Down: 1 BAT 3 LANTERN 4 CAT
5 BROOM 6 HAT

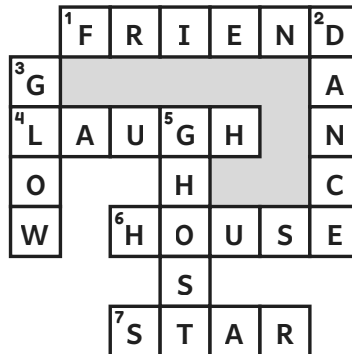
Worksheet 2 • Pip's Clue Crossword

☆☆☆ Starter



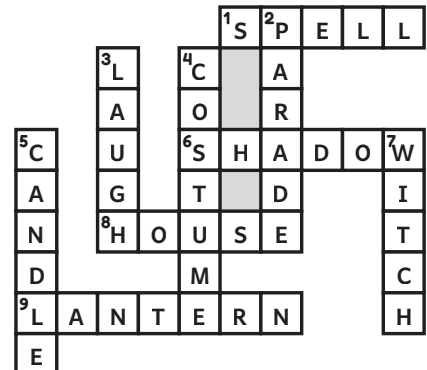
Across: 1 LAUGH 3 WAND 4 BAT
Down: 2 HIDE 3 WEB

☆☆☆ Medium



Across: 1 FRIEND 4 LAUGH
6 HOUSE 7 STAR
Down: 2 DANCE 3 GLOW 5 GHOST

☆☆☆ Challenge



Across: 1 SPELL 6 SHADOW
8 HOUSE 9 LANTERN
Down: 2 PARADE 3 LAUGH
4 COSTUME 5 CANDLE 7 WITCH

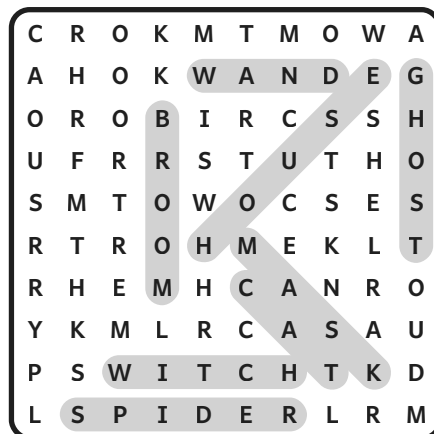
Worksheet 3 • Bat Cave Word Search

☆☆☆ Starter



BAT OWL WEB MOON HAT
TREE

☆☆☆ Medium



GHOST WITCH BROOM SPIDER
WAND CAT MASK HOUSE

☆☆☆ Challenge



PUMPKIN LANTERN SPIDER
CANDLE COSTUME SHADOW
GHOST WITCH BROOM PARADE
Bonus riddle: **OWL** (dashed outline)

Worksheet 4 • Witch's Broom Scramble

☆☆☆ Starter Picture words with the first letter given

1. WEB 2. HAT 3. OWL 4. CAT 5. TREE 6. BAT

☆☆☆ Medium Picture words

1. GHOST 2. BROOM 3. WITCH 4. HOUSE 5. MASK 6. SPIDER

☆☆☆ Challenge Picture words and clue words

Part A 1. LANTERN 2. PUMPKIN 3. CANDLE 4. SPIDER

Part B 5. COSTUME 6. SHADOW

Worksheet 5 • Secret Code Jokes

☆☆☆ Starter Number code (A = 1 ... Z = 26)

1. What do ghosts wear on their feet? **BOOTS**
2. What is a black cat's favorite color? **PURPLE**
3. What is a witch's favorite subject at school? **SPELLING**

☆☆☆ Medium Letters one step ahead

1. What is a ghost's favorite day of the week? **BOOS DAY**
2. Why was the witch's broom late? **IT OVERSWEPT**
3. What is a bat's favorite game? **HIDE AND SQUEAK**

☆☆☆ Challenge Letters three steps ahead

1. How do you make a witch itch? **TAKE AWAY THE W**
2. What do you use to fix a broken pumpkin? **A PUMPKIN PATCH**
3. What do spiders do on a computer? **SURF THE WEB**