**How to Write a Scary Story**

*Kids will learn that the secret to creating a great scary story lies in using foreshadowing and good descriptive vocabulary. Storytellers will expand their writing repertoire, exercise creativity, and strengthen analytical skills*.

Foreshadowing: when an author hints at something that will happen later on in the story.

Descriptive language: descriptive language is all about the use of rich adjectives which work the use of the senses:

* **sight**: including colors, sizes and shapes, such as round, green, large
* **sound**: including types and volume, such as quiet, grating, and banging
* **smell**: including scents and strengths, such as flowery, foul, strong
* **taste**: including flavors and strengths, such as tart, spicy, weak
* **touch**: including textures and temperatures, such as silky, damp, hot

Using some of that juicy figurative language.

1. List ten different sights, sounds, smells and objects that we associate with Halloween.

Some examples might be: "gooey eyeballs," or "flowing, groaning ghost," or even" cheerful candlelit pumpkin head."

1. Now list ten creepy names that a person or animal might have.
2. Now it's time for some story starters to get those creative juices flowing. CHOOSE ONE! And begin a short story.

“One dark, stormy night, I walked down the street and I saw.....”

“One Halloween I night I was trick-or-treating with my brother. We knocked on Old Mr. Payne’s door and...”

“I was riding my skateboard home from school when I took a short cut through the cemetery.”

"Just as the moon was coming up, I went around the dark corner by the school. There in the shadows I saw..."

“In the daytime, Mrs. Scratch's basement didn't look like anything much. But that night, something happened...”