



TIPS FOR A *GREEN*
HALLOWEEN

DIAN FOSSEY GORILLA FUND INTERNATIONAL



1. CREATE A DO IT YOURSELF (DIY) COSTUME FROM MATERIALS AT YOUR HOUSE!

A. HAVE AN OLD LONG SLEEVE SHIRT OR SWEATSHIRT? TURN IT INTO AN OCTOPUS COSTUME! YOU'LL NEED SOME SCISSORS, MATCHING COLORED PANTS AND A LITTLE CREATIVITY. USE YOUR ARMS AND LEGS TO COUNT AS HALF OF THE OCTOPUS LIMBS AND THEN CUT 4 STRIPS OF EQUAL WIDTH INTO THE SHIRT/SWEATSHIRT TO USE AS THE REST OF THE LIMBS. GRAB SOME EXTRA BUBBLE WRAP LAYING THE HOUSE (IF YOU HAVE SOME) AND GLUE IT ONTO THE OCTOPUS' LEGS FOR SUCTION CUPS. IF YOU DON'T HAVE BUBBLE WRAP, USE WHITE PAPER; CUT OUT CIRCLES AND STICK THEM ONTO YOUR COSTUME! FOR FUN, YOU CAN DRAW OR GLUE EYES AND A SMILE ONTO YOUR COSTUME.

2. COSTUME SWAP WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

A. TIRED OF WEARING THE SAME COSTUME EVERY YEAR, BUT DON'T WANT TO SPEND ANY MONEY? TRADE COSTUMES WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY! IT'S A LOW WASTE AND LOW COST APPROACH TO GETTING A NEW COSTUME FOR THIS HALLOWEEN.

3. RENT A COSTUME!

A. SAVE THE PLANET! RENTING A COSTUME IS A GREAT WAY TO CELEBRATE AN ECO-FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN THIS YEAR! HALLOWEENCOSTUME.COM HAS 100S OF OPTIONS OF COSTUMES FOR ALL AGES.

4. NATURAL AND LOW COST DECORATIONS!

A. PUMPKINS ALWAYS MAKE GREAT FALL AND HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS! CARVE YOUR PUMPKINS OR LEAVE THEM UNTOUCHED; EITHER WAY THEY WILL LOOK GREAT! AND THE BEST THING ABOUT PUMPKINS IS USING THE SEEDS FOR A HEALTHY AND DELICIOUS SNACK! DON'T FORGET TO COMPOST THE PUMPKIN WHEN THE SEASON IS OVER!

B. GET CREATIVE AND COLLECT NATURE'S TREASURES (LEAVES, ROCKS, PINE CONES, TWIGS, FLOWERS, ETC.) FROM YOUR YARD TO BUILD A DECORATIVE TABLE PIECE OR FILL A VASE.

C. HAY BALES ARE RELATIVELY CHEAP AND THEY MAKE FOR FESTIVE DECORATIONS! OUTSIDE, YOU CAN USE THEM FOR SIDE TABLES OR SEATS. IF YOU ARE CRAFTY, USE SOME HAY IN A HOMEMADE WREATH. EXTRA HAY CAN ALSO BE USED FOR MULCH OR HELPING NEW GRASS GROW.

5. REUSABLE BAG FOR TRICK OR TREATING

A. THIS IS A REALLY EASY WAY TO CELEBRATE AN ECO-FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN! CARRY A REUSABLE GROCERY BAG OR REUSE A PLASTIC OR PAPER BAG. IN MY TRICK OR TREATING DAYS, I ALWAYS USED A PILLOWCASE. IT WAS STURDY, FLEXIBLE AND EASY TO THROW OVER MY SHOULDER WHILE I RAN TO THE NEXT HOUSE FOR CANDY; IT WAS PERFECT FOR LOTS OF TREATS!



6. HAND OUT TRINKETS INSTEAD OF CANDY!

A. THERE ARE SO MANY HOUSES THAT HAND OUT CANDY, WHY NOT BE DIFFERENT? REUSABLE OR COMPOSTABLE STRAWS, HALLOWEEN THEMED ERASERS, PENCILS AND COLORING SHEETS, FELT FINGER MONSTER PUPPETS, AND FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS ARE A FANTASTIC SUBSTITUTES FOR CANDY. BE SURE TO TRY TO AVOID PLASTIC IN THESE ITEMS! AMAZON HAS MANY GREAT OPTIONS!

7. PLASTIC FREE TREATS

A. MANY KIDS IDOLIZE HALLOWEEN FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING LOADS OF CANDY! IF YOU FEEL YOU OWE IT TO THE CANDY LOVING CHILDREN, THAT YOU ONCE WERE, THEN LOOK FOR CARDBOARD BOXED CANDY, INSTEAD OF CANDY WRAPPED IN PLASTIC. CARDBOARD BOXED ALTERNATIVES INCLUDE DOTS, MILK DUDS, NERDS, AND JUNIOR MINTS; EVEN SMARTIES AND M&M'S COME IN CARDBOARD WRAPPING. FOIL WRAPPED CHOCOLATES ARE AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY APPROACH TOO! CANNED SUGARY DRINKS SUCH AS SODA, LEMONADE, LA CROIX, ETC., ARE SUSTAINABLE CHOICES, TOO. A HEALTHIER OPTION WOULD BE TO PASS OUT FRUIT WITH PEELS, SUCH AS CLEMENTINES. MAKE THE FRUIT FESTIVE BY DRAWING SCARY FACES ON THEM!

8. DONATE EXTRA CANDY OR COSTUMES!

A. DONATE YOUR EXTRA CANDY TO A LOCAL SHELTER OR FOOD DRIVE. FIND YOUR LOCAL CHARITABLE NONPROFIT TO DONATE GENTLY USED COSTUMES TOO!

9. UPCYCLE ITEMS AROUND YOUR HOUSE FOR HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS!

A. DECORATE USED MILK JUGS AS JACK-O-LANTERNS! PAINT SPOOKY FACES ONTO TIN CANS DESIGN YOUR OWN WITCH'S BROOM! USE A STURDY BRANCH FOR THE BROOMSTICK AND LITTLE TWIGS, DRIED GRASS OR HAY FOR THE BRUSH. HAVE ANY EXTRA CARDBOARD PIECES AROUND THE HOUSE? TURN THE CARDBOARD PIECES INTO TOMBSTONES TO HAVE A CREEPY SETTING! FIND USED OJ AND MILK CARDBOARD JUGS TO BUILD A SPOOKY VILLAGE! GET CREATIVE AND MAKE HOMES THAT ARE HAUNTED WITH GHOSTS AND BUILDINGS THAT HAVE SPIDERS CRAWLING OUT EVERY WINDOW. LIGHT UP THE STRUCTURES WITH FLAMELESS TEA LIGHT CANDLES. THIS WILL FOR SURE MAKE A CHILLING AND EERIE DECORATION TO ADD YOUR DIY HALLOWEEN ACCESSORIES COLLECTION.

10. SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL AZA ACCREDITED ZOO!

A. MANY AZA ACCREDITED ZOOS HOST A HALLOWEEN EVENT DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER. IT'S A FUN WAY TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN AND LEARN THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVATION!

