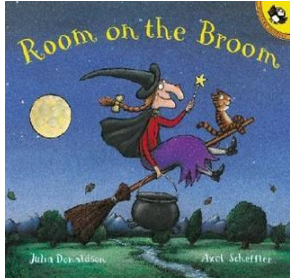


October 2025 Children's Museum Houston Reading List

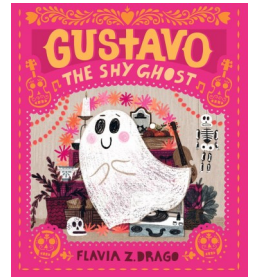


***Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson (2003) Ages: 2-5 years**

The witch and her cat couldn't be happier flying through the sky on their broomstick. That is, until the witch accidentally drops her hat, then her bow, then her wand! Luckily, three helpful animals find the missing items and bring them back to the witch. In return, all they want is a ride on the broomstick. But is there room on the broom for so many new friends? And when disaster strikes, will they be able to save the witch from the clutches of a hungry dragon?

***Gustavo, the Shy Ghost* by Flavia Z. Drago (2020) Ages: 2-6 years**

Gustavo is good at doing all sorts of ghostly things: walking through walls, making objects fly, and glowing in the dark. And he loves almost nothing more than playing beautiful music on his violin. But Gustavo is shy, and some things are harder for him to do, like getting in a line to buy eye scream or making friends with other monsters. Whenever he tries getting close to them, he realizes they just can't see him. Now that the Day of the Dead is fast approaching, what can he do to make them notice him and to share with them something he loves?

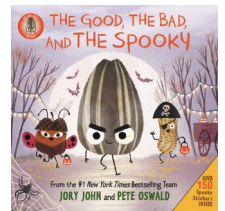


***Creepy Crayon!* by Aaron Reynolds (2022) Ages: 4-7 years**

Jasper Rabbit has a problem: he is NOT doing well in school. His spelling tests? Disasters. His math quizzes? Frightening to behold. But one day, he finds a crayon lying in the gutter. Purple. Pointy. Perfect. Somehow...it looked happy to see him. And it wants to help. At first, Jasper is excited. Everything is going great. His spelling is fantastic. His math is stupendous. And best of all, he doesn't have to do ANY work! But then the crayon starts acting weird. It's everywhere, and it wants to do everything. And Jasper must find a way to get rid of it before it takes over his life. The only problem? The creepy crayon will not leave.

***The Good, the Bad, and the Spooky* by Jory John (2021) Ages: 4-6 years**

Halloween is the Bad Seed's favorite holiday of the year. But what's a seed to do when he can't find a show-stopping costume for the big night? Postpone trick-or-treating for everyone, of course! Can he get a costume together in time? Or will this seed return to his baaaaaaaaaad ways?

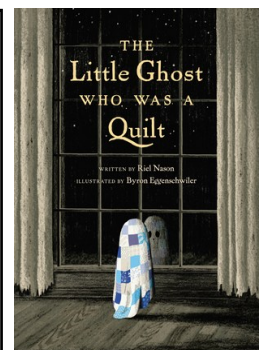


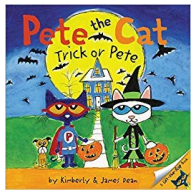
***Boo the Library Ghost* by Becky Paige (2024) Ages: 3-5 years**

The library is haunted! Beware of the ghost! Frightening children is what Boo loves doing most. The library is Poppy's favorite place to go but it's haunted by a ghost named Boo who loves to frighten visitors away. Boo casts eerie shadows, rips out pages, and knocks books off the shelves. However, brave Poppy refuses to leave—she just wants to read in peace! Poppy soon realizes why Boo is acting out and she knows just how to help him.

***The Little Ghost Who Was a Quilt* by Riel Nason (2023) Ages: 3-8 years**

Ghosts are supposed to be sheets, light as air and able to whirl and twirl and float and soar. But the little ghost who is a quilt can't whirl or twirl at all, and when he flies, he gets very hot. He doesn't know why he's a quilt. His parents are both sheets, and so are all of his friends. (His great-grandmother was a lace curtain, but that doesn't really help cheer him up.) He feels sad and left out when his friends are zooming around and he can't keep up. But one Halloween, everything changes. The little ghost who was a quilt has an experience that no other ghost could have, an experience that only happens because he's a quilt... and he realizes that it's OK to be different.





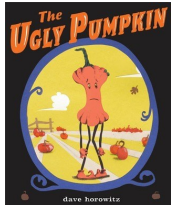
Pete the Cat: Trick or Pete by James Dean (2017) **Ages: 2-6 years**

Pumpkins, candy, and costumes! With flaps that reveal fun Halloween surprises, this Pete the Cat holiday story is sure to be a sweet treat for your little trick-or-treaters. Follow Pete as he goes trick-or-treating from house to house and discover what is waiting behind each door. Lift the flaps to reveal fun spooky surprises—this book is spooktacular!

Chicka Chicka Tricka Treat by Julien Chung (2025) **Ages: 4-8 years**

A told B, and B told C, "Let's sneak to the top of the creaky old tree."

The classic alphabet chant gets a Halloween twist as the letters sneak their way up the tree, all donning their spiffiest costumes. But when a witch swoops in, and the letters come tumbling down, will that be the end of their Halloween fun...or just the beginning?

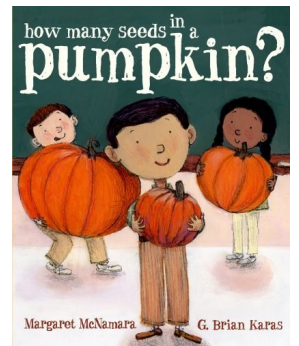


The Ugly Pumpkin by Dave Horowitz (2005) **Ages: 2-6 years**

The Ugly Pumpkin has waited all through October for someone to take him home, but no one wants him. He doesn't look like other pumpkins. So the lonely Ugly Pumpkin leaves the patch in search of a place where he'll fit in. By the time Thanksgiving arrives, he discovers the truth about who he is—but it's not what he expected!

How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin? by Margaret McNamara (2007) **Ages: 5-7 years**

"How many seeds are in a pumpkin?" Mr. Tiffin asks his class as they gather around the big, medium, and small pumpkins on his desk. Robert, the biggest kid, guesses that the largest one has a million seeds; Elinor, sounding like she knows what she's talking about, guesses the medium one has 500 seeds; and Anna, who likes even numbers better than odd ones, guesses that the little one has 22. Charlie, the smallest boy in the class, doesn't have a guess. Counting pumpkin seeds is messy business, but once the slimy job is done, to everyone's surprise, the smallest pumpkin has the most seeds! As Charlie happily exclaims, "Small things have a lot going on inside of them."

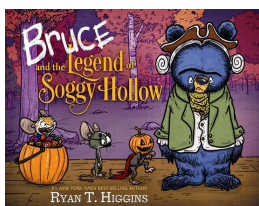
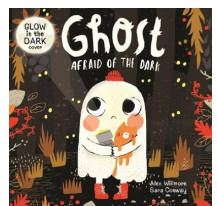


Trick or treat on Scary Street by Lance Bass (2024) **Ages: 3-8 years**

Come one. Come all. Come follow thirteen trick-or-treaters down Scary Street. Dare to stop at the vampire's lair? Tempted to take a bite of the witch's delight? How about a peek inside a ghostly haunt? Who will make it to the end . . . and what last trick (or treat) awaits? Celebrate the thrills and chills of the season with this unforgettable trip down Scary Street!

Ghost Afraid if the Dark by (2020) **Ages: 0-3 years**

Follow Boo the Ghost as he celebrates his first Halloween with all his Monster friends! He is a shy little ghost and quickly realizes he is afraid of many things. Read as Boo discovers to be brave in this adorable, spooky story! With charming illustrations and a glow-in-the-dark cover, makes this the perfect bedtime read.



Bruce and the Legend of Soggy Hollow by Ryan T. Higgins (2023) **Ages: 4-7 years**

Bruce is a bear who does not like holidays, and he really doesn't like Halloween. His family of mice and geese decides the only way to get Bruce excited about Halloween is to tell a scary story. But their campfire tale takes a turn when a ghostly visitor appears. Will Bruce get in the Halloween spirit? Or will the Halloween spirit get Bruce?

Celebrate the Day of the Day! by (2020) **Ages: 0-3 years**

Cristina is excited to celebrate Día de los Muertos with her brother, Carlos, and their family. Young readers can follow along as everyone gets ready to remember their loved ones who are no longer with them. Vibrant illustrations will express the festive, yet poignant, spirit of the celebration as everyone decorates their home, dresses up for a costume parade, decorates an altar, cooks tamales and sweet treats, and much more. At the end, there are additional facts about Día de los Muertos to reinforce the significance of all the traditions depicted in the book.

