

# NO TRICKS, ONLY TREATS! MAKING HALLOWEEN INCLUSIVE



Whether you're greeting trick-or-treaters or hosting a fall event, a few thoughtful choices can make Halloween feel safer, more joyful, and more welcoming for every child.



**Meet children where they are.** Consider setting up at the end of your driveway or near the sidewalk to welcome children who use mobility devices or those who might feel shy or unsure about approaching the door.



**Offer non-food treats.** A selection of allergy-friendly goodies like stickers, glow sticks, bubbles, or pencils provides more children with a way to participate safely.



**Label your offerings.** Use signs or simple labels to help children and caregivers navigate choices with ease. Keep items separate for clarity and to avoid cross-contamination.



**Check your decorations.** Avoid cultural stereotypes or costumes that could be insensitive. Choose inclusive, kid-friendly themes instead.



**Dial down the spooky factor.** What's fun for one child might be overwhelming to another. Silly, seasonal, and playful options are great choices for light-hearted and festive decor.



**Mind your furry friends.** Even the sweetest pets can be overwhelming for some children. Consider keeping dogs inside or leashed away from the action.



**Participation, not performance.** Some children may need a moment, and not all may say "trick or treat" or "thank you" out loud. Smiles, waves, or simply showing up are all meaningful ways to join in. We can release the expectation of transaction to make room for connection.

Halloween feels most magical when everyone feels welcome. When we plan with empathy and stay open to different needs, we create moments where every child can feel safe, seen, and part of the fun.

## BECKER'S