What Gives You Goosebumps?

Bring Halloween to life in your classroom with these spooky lessons and activities!



- Scare up some ghostly static electricity experiments
- Explore the hair-raising science of goosebumps
- Turn treats into tricks with creepy chemical reactions
- Spark your knowledge of the Tesla coil with an electrifying activity

Goosebumps 2 Haunted Halloween

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What Gives You Goosebumps?

Get into the Halloween spirit with these STEM-based lessons and corresponding activities.

TEACHERS: Download the scientific method poster to help guide your students through the activities. Encourage them to think like a scientist and find evidence-based answers to questions they come up with during these creepy lessons.

LESSON 1

Spooky Static Electricity



In Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween, kids are spooked by flying bedsheet ghosts. Have your students create their own

flying ghosts with the help of static electricity and three fun challenges.

MATERIALS

Balloons, thread, tape, rulers, tissue paper or facial tissue, card stock, markers, scissors, Activity Sheet 1

STEPS

- 1) Introduce the concept of static electricity—the buildup of an electrical charge on the surface of an object. Rubbing a balloon on your hair will cause the balloon to have a negative charge. Since opposites attract, the balloon will be attracted to things that have a positive charge (stick the balloon to your clothing).
- 2) Download the activity sheet and distribute it with the materials to pairs or small groups of students. Ask students to cut flat, single-ply ghost shapes from the tissue and use markers to draw faces on the ghosts.
- 3) Ask students to follow instructions, experiment, and complete the challenges.
- 4) Conclude the activity with a class discussion. Ask: Did your balloon attract or repel the ghosts? Why? After a while, the balloon stops working to move the ghosts. Why? What do you need to do to charge the balloon again?



LESSON 2

The Science of Goosebumps



Author R.L. Stine has written countless scary stories in the *Goosebumps* series. Why do we enjoy stories that frighten us? And what exactly

causes us to get goosebumps when things get downright creepy?

MATERIALS Activity Sheet 2

STEPS

- 1) Download and distribute the activity sheet; work as a class to read the article aloud.
- 2) Stop to check for understanding and to help with new vocabulary as necessary.
- 3) Have students work in pairs to answer the questions at the bottom of the page.
- 4) On a separate sheet of paper, ask students to design their own ideas for human survival in the present day.
- 5) Have students share their ideas with the class or in small groups. What makes their ideas helpful or useful for human survival? Can students make suggestions to build on one another's ideas?

LESSON 3

Attack of the Gummy Bears!



Gummy bears are not as sweet as they seem when they come to life and go on the attack. Amaze your students with gummy bears that grow,

shrink, and dissolve in your classroom!

MATERIALS

Gummy bears, water, salt, white vinegar, clear cups, spoons, masking tape, markers, other liquid or solution of students' choice (such as soda, juice, vegetable oil, baking soda dissolved in water, etc.), Activity Sheet 3

STEPS

- 1) Introduce the scientific method (download the poster) as a way to find evidence-based answers to questions. Download and distribute the activity sheets. Ask: What happens to gummy bears that are submerged in different liquids overnight?
- 2) Have students create a hypothesis for each liquid.
- 3) Distribute materials and ask students to label cups (water, salt water, vinegar, liquid of students' choice) and then fill them halfway with liquids.
- 4) Students should set aside one gummy bear as their control and drop one gummy bear into each cup.
- 5) Ask students to observe the gummy bears. Do they notice any changes right away? Let the gummy bears stay submerged overnight.
- 6) The following day, have students observe what they can see, feel, smell, measure, or weigh. Remind students not to taste the gummy bears as they are not safe to eat.
- 7) Ask students to create a set of results

comparing their observations with the control gummy bear. How did the results compare with their hypotheses?

8) Conclude the activity with a class discussion and questions like: Why do you think some liquids caused the gummy bear to grow and some liquids caused the gummy bear to shrink? Why do you think some liquids caused the gummy bear to break down or change in texture? How do you think this experiment might work with other candy, like a peppermint or a mini chocolate bar? What other types of questions could we find the answers to using the scientific method?

LESSON 4

Light It Up!



In Goosebumps
2: Haunted
Halloween, Sonny
"lights up" the
town with his
science project,
the Tesla Tower,
an invention
capable of

producing impressive electrical arcs that glow and flash like lightning bolts. Find out how the Tesla coil works in your classroom!

MATERIALS

Activity Sheet 4

STEPS

- 1) Source and show a short video of a Tesla coil creating electrical arcs.
- 2) Explain that the Tesla coil is named after its creator, Nikola Tesla, an inventor who was especially interested in mechanical and electrical engineering.
- 3) Download and distribute the activity sheet to students and ask them to investigate how the coil works. Support your students as they work on the activity, walking them through the key question: How does the Tesla coil create giant, electrical arcs?
 - 1. A power source is attached to the primary coil.

- 2. The capacitor "soaks up" the electricity like a sponge.
- 3. Once the capacitor is full, the electric current streams back into the primary coil and toward the spark gap.
- 4. The current flows through the spark gap into the secondary coil.
- 5. Electric current flows back and forth between the coils.
- 6. The transformer boosts the voltage of the current as it flows back and forth.
- 4) Once the activity is complete, ask your students to guess why Nikola Tesla would have created such an invention. What is its purpose? Do your students have any wild or wacky ideas?

Help to facilitate a class discussion using the following points:

- The Tesla coil doesn't have a practical application in today's society besides demonstrating awesome electrical arcs for amazed onlookers.
- Around 100 years ago, however, Tesla was attempting to demonstrate that electrical energy could be transmitted wirelessly, i.e., he could use his Tesla coil to light a light bulb without it being screwed into a lamp or plugged into a wall socket!
- Powering things wirelessly didn't take off beyond the proof of concept, but Tesla contributed to the development of other emerging technologies of the day, including the X-ray machine, the radio, and the telegraph.
- 5) Are your students interested in learning more? Source videos of the Tesla coil lighting a light bulb wirelessly and investigate how this happens. Or, generate a list together as a class featuring the other inventions and advancements that Nikola Tesla has contributed to the world!

Answer Key

- 1) power; 2) sponge; 3) spark;
- 4) secondary; 5) between;
- 6) boosts

FAMILY TAKE-HOME ACTIVITY

Creepy Chemical Reactions



Are your students eager for even more spooky science? Introduce these creepy chemical reaction activities and invite students to

experiment together with their families at home!

Ask students to share pictures, videos, or accounts of their at-home activities with the class.

MONSTERS ALIVE

When baking soda and vinegar come into contact, a new acid is created. Almost right away, the acid begins to break down into two parts: water and gas. The balloon monster grows as it fills with the gas that is created from the chemical reaction.

DINE ON SLIME

Gelatin is made from long strings of acids that are bonded to one another. When you add heat, these strings break apart, become liquid, and mix with the water in the recipe. As you let the mixture cool, the amino acids bond with the water, creating a new, slimy substance.

Watch the trailer and other custom videos

at scholastic.com/goosebumps2.



NAME _____

Spooky Static Electricity

Use tissues and markers to design some friendly, scary, or mischievous ghosts. Work with your classmates to complete these three static electricity challenges.



CHALLENGE #1

Flying Ghosts

- Rub your balloon on your shirt to create a static charge.
 - 2. Slowly lower your balloon over your ghosts, causing them to rise toward the balloon and "fly" upward.
 - 3. Try taping the tail of a ghost to your desk to watch it rise but not "fly."



Tricky Ghosts

- 1. Tie a length of thread around a ruler.
- Fasten a ghost to the dangling end of the thread with tape and suspend the ruler between two desks.
 - 3. Rub your balloon on your shirt to create a static charge.
 - 4. Move your balloon around the dangling ghost to see what tricks you can make it perform.

CHALLENGE #3

Capture the Manuscript

In *Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween*, an unfinished version of one of R.L. Stine's manuscripts is key to the adventure. Can your ghosts capture the manuscript?

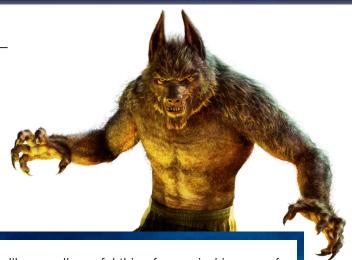
- 1. Cut a tiny booklet from card stock to represent the manuscript.
- 2. Use static electricity (same as above) to move your ghost to the manuscript.
- 3. Take turns with a friend guiding the ghost and placing the manuscript in tricky places.

Describe one of the chall	enges and solutions you
and your friend created:	

NAME _

The Science of Goosebumps

Have you ever had goosebumps? It's when your hair stands on end and your skin looks like a chicken without any feathers. Have you ever wondered *why* we get them? Think like a scientist and let's find out!



hen we become chilled, excited, or frightened, our bodies produce a hormone called adrenaline. It makes our heart beat faster, prepares our lungs to take in more oxygen, and causes our pupils to dilate. It also causes tiny muscles beneath our skin to contract, tugging at the roots of the hairs that cover our bodies. This is when our hair stands on end and gives us "goosebumps."

Scientists believe that our bodies react to fear and excitement in this way as a means of survival. Back many thousands of years, if a human heard a strange sound in the forest or was afraid of an attack by an animal, adrenaline would prepare the human body to run from danger or to stay put and defend itself.

Having bumps on your skin doesn't seem

like a really useful thing for survival in case of cold or an attack. But scientists believe that a very long time ago, when the human body was covered in a thicker coat of hair, having a "hair-raising experience" served two main purposes. First, your puffed-up hair could trap a layer of air next to your skin, which would insulate you against the cold. Second, having all of your hair stand up would give you the appearance of being larger and scarier in case of an attack!

Because humans aren't covered in hair like they used to be, goosebumps don't seem to have a purpose, other than to signal to us that we're chilly, excited, or creeped out. But you may have seen goosebumps plus a coat of fur in action if you've ever seen a dog's fur bristling when it hears a strange noise, or a cat that puffed up after being startled!



"Hair-Raising"Questions

On the back of this paper, answer the following:

- 1. What causes goosebumps to form?
- 2. Explain two reasons scientists believe humans get goosebumps.
- 3. Have *you* ever had goosebumps? If so, what do you think caused yours?



Attack of the Gummy Bears!

Use the scientific method to experiment with these chewy critters. First, know your purpose and pose your question: What happens when gummy bears are soaked in different liquids overnight?

Your Hypotheses What do you think will happen to the gummy bears?					
In water	In salt water	In vinegar	In(choose a liquid)		

Gummy Bear Observations Record what you can see, feel, smell, measure, or weigh after a night's soaking.

In water

In salt water

In vinegar

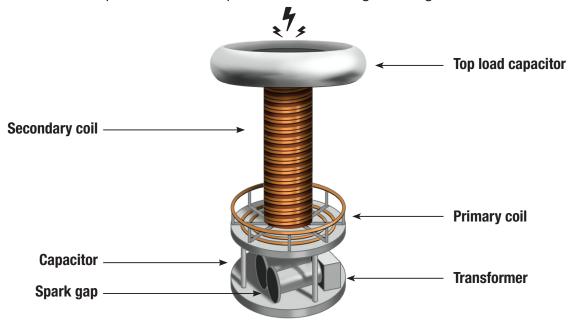
In ______

Gummy Bear Conclusions How did your results compare with your hypotheses?

NAME _____

Light It Up!

In Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween, Sonny's science project is a Tesla coil. With the help of Slappy, it electrifies his town! Investigate the parts that make up the Tesla coil using this diagram.



The Tesla coil creates awesome sparks. Learn more about how it works by filling in the blanks in the sentences below.

boosts between sponge
power spark secondary

1. A _____ source is attached to the primary coil.

2. The capacitor "soaks up" the electricity like a ______.

3. Once the capacitor is full, the electric current streams back into the primary coil and toward the _____ gap.

4. The current flows through that gap into the coil.

5. Electric current flows back and forth _____ the coils.

To increase the power, the transformer ______ the voltage of the current as it flows back and forth.