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Life Life - Food

# Don't fear Halloween entertaining

SPOOKY MENU SURE TO DELIGHT GUESTS' FEARSOME PARTY APPETITES

BY SHARON DOWELL  
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Slimy Lime Fruit Punch AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ORTHODONTISTS AND PARENT MAGAZINE

Doesn't it seem like Halloween decor and candies have been in stores for months? With just four more days until Halloween — and the clock ticking — it's time to make a decision what food to take to the neighborhood get-together, the church spooktacular, the family party after trick-or-treating or whatever you'll be doing.

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We turned to Land O'Lakes, the [American Association of Orthodontists](#), Wondertime magazine and even the beef experts to collect some creative recipes for Halloween gatherings.

No party is complete without a really great punch, and Slimy Lime Fruit Punch is perfect for the Halloween table. If dry ice is safe to use near the punch bowl, it will create an eery setting with plenty of "fog" enveloping the table and decor.

Youngsters can join in the fun when helping to prepare Halloween Chili Pizzas. They're made on pita bread and topped

with tomato sauce, ground beef and black beans. Let each child create a spooky face on his or her pizza with slices of cheese, sliced ripe olives, bits of bell pepper and chopped cilantro before the pizzas are baked.

Or create Fudgy Frankenstein Fingers for older kids, using a chocolate cookie dough shaped to resemble frightful fingers. Candy corn makes creepy-looking nails on these cookies. Even older kids will be grossed out with the green maraschino "eyes" and red decorator gel that's used to resemble "veins" in the eye.

Creepy spider cookies fashioned from soft chocolate cookies and colored rope licorice for the legs are sure to bring squeals of fright and delight from the children. These treats were created especially for anyone who needs braces-friendly Halloween treats. Or offer small cups of Mummy Mix and watch the reaction as you describe the yucky-sounding "ingredients."

Dietitian [Gloria Tsang](#), founder of [HealthCastle.com](#), suggests parents screen all Halloween treats from the trick-or-treat bag for safety and health, portion out the treats to share with others and put some of the treats aside for later. Happy Halloween!

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