

Mystery Monster Parts!

Things can seem spooky in the dark because they're hard to see – but you can still learn about them using your other senses! Your child can practice using his/her sense of touch to learn about some mystery monster parts.

Do

- Collect some food products or other household objects that you can imagine are monster parts. Use baby carrots for toes, grapes for eyeballs, cooked spaghetti for brains, Jell-O for “guts”, candy corn for teeth, etc.
- Hide the objects under an upside-down box or inside a bag.
- Invite your child to feel the objects and describe them – without looking!
- Ask your child what part of a monster they think each object could be.
- Have your child predict what the object really is, then lift the box to see if the guess was correct!

Ask

As your child explores, ask questions that encourage scientific thinking:

- **What shape (or size)** do you think the mystery part is?
- **What makes you think so?**
- **What else can you tell me** about what's in the box?

Read

Check your library for these books about Halloween, monsters, and mystery objects:

- *Brooms are for Flying* by Michael Rex, 2000. Follow along with the book's instructions for a Halloween dance party.
- *Go Away Big Green Monster!* by Ed Emberley, 2005. Read this book a few times to practice identifying colors and shapes.
- *Seven Blind Mice* by Ed Young, 2002. When the mice find a mysterious object in the forest, each thinks it is something different.