



## BETTER BEGINNINGS OFFERS SPOOKTACULAR TRICK-OR-TREAT SAFETY TIPS



No tricks here! Better Beginnings offers families tips to keep children safe this Halloween.

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark.** (September 27, 2022) – <u>Better Beginnings</u>, a program of the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education focusing on giving children the best quality care, knows safety is a top priority of families, especially while trick-or-treating. Safety is also a priority for Better Beginnings no matter where children are.

"Keeping young children safe is a full-time job," said Better Beginnings Program Administrator Kelli Hilburn. "These tips can help minimize the stress that comes with all Halloween activities."

Safety doesn't have to get in the way of fun. Better Beginnings offers four safety tips to keep in mind while trick-or-treating this Halloween.

- **Dress children in bright or reflective clothing.** It's important that drivers be able to see children so consider bright colored costumes this year. If your child's costume isn't

- bright, consider having them wear a reflective safety vest.
- **Check the candy before children eat it.** Throw out any candy that is not packaged or in an unsealed package.
- **Accompany children when they visit a home.** Walk children to the front door of a home to ensure they don't trip over anything on the property and that they don't enter the home.
- **Consider using face paint or make-up instead of masks.** Mask can obscure children's vision and make it difficult for them to see obstacles or cars while walking.

Hilburn says these tips will help parents as they prepare for Halloween and the activities that occur around the holiday.

"Trick-or-treating is always a big event and a high point of childhood," Hilburn said. "Having a safety plan in place ahead of time can help parents enjoy this time with their children and ensure children are having fun."

Parents can find more Halloween safety tips from the <u>American Academy of Pediatricians</u> and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For additional tips on safety and more, follow Better Beginnings on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u>, or visit <u>arbetterbeginnings.com</u>.

###

## **About Arkansas Better Beginnings:**

<u>Better Beginnings</u> is Arkansas's tiered quality rating and improvement system for child care, early education and school-age programs that have gone above and beyond the state minimum requirements. Better Beginnings is administered by the <u>Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education</u>. Better Beginnings connects Arkansas families with the information and care that helps children experience a safe, happy and healthy childhood.