

A Canine Club Halloween

Reader's Theater

By Shelli Abel

- Narrator: It was the night before Halloween
A time the canine club was dreading,
Whispers of witches and ghosts
The talk of fear was spreading.
- Clancy: This is so very scary
When all the spooks take flight,
Maybe I should stay home
But I want my treat tonight!
- Maggie: It's the eerie glow that scares me
The beams darting from the moon
The bewitching smiles of pumpkins
The wind's howling a lonely tune.
- Blue: The spooks are just dead leaves
Dancing through the air,
The moon shines bright in the sky
And the wind whistles without a care.
- Minna: The canine club stands unafraid
Halloween is a time for great fun,
Running through the neighborhood
Collecting treats before the night is done.

Model Fluent and Expressive Reading

- Begin by reading the play aloud to students while they follow along using their own copy. The play is written as a poem using 2/4 rhyming and will have a certain rhythm.
- Model *reading with expression*, and *speaking with a loud voice*, and reading at a *pace that is easy to understand*. Then model reading too fast without expression or volume so students can hear the difference.
- Model following the directions given to the reader inside (parentheses) so students understand not to read it, but to do it.

