



The Witch of Duncansbay

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Meg Watt was an old woman who lived at Duncansbay around 1700 and she was the best witch for miles around.

She could assume any shape she pleased, and her favourite shape was a cat—fearsome, big, black and ugly. Meg had friends in Orkney—but when she visited them she went in the guise of a very small crab and sailed over the Firth on the back of a larger crab. (*More Legends of the Pentland Firth* Retold by Henrietta Munro)

If you were a witch, what shape would your familiar be? Draw them in the box below.

Halloween Wordsearch

P F C F F R P Q U L Z U E Y W B L H L R
 X A R W X U Z J U E G L M W I Y O K T Y
 T O L U M A K D D B G M H C T E J M R D
 H Y X P E S W N B O U Z K R C O Q H M J
 F Y K E P V A F B M X Q W O H F T X S I
 Q I G B G A L L H A L L O W S E V E G H
 N E N T S H A P E S H I F T E R H Q N H
 Y K I W S Y S N E E W O L L A H A P I F
 C B S L O O P P C A R V I N G K U P L K
 B H I R A I H J I L U S S F U J N P L P
 O M U W N N K G Y R L W Z U X B T B E U
 K I G R T N T D T R I E F Q D P E F T Y
 P W U U D H R E W H M T P D T X D G E U
 G T X B D D F L R M V M I S E Z D N N C
 M L C M U K K M E N W Z B B S W E A U J
 P N U H X M Y O K U N C O O U U B G T X
 U U P F I F A Z B Q K F C I G A M E R F
 I H O V F Q O M H T S E F H U U E R O C
 K L G L L A L Z B G K M B S F L H O F R
 T R C N N G T Y W Y Q R R Q N W E F V C

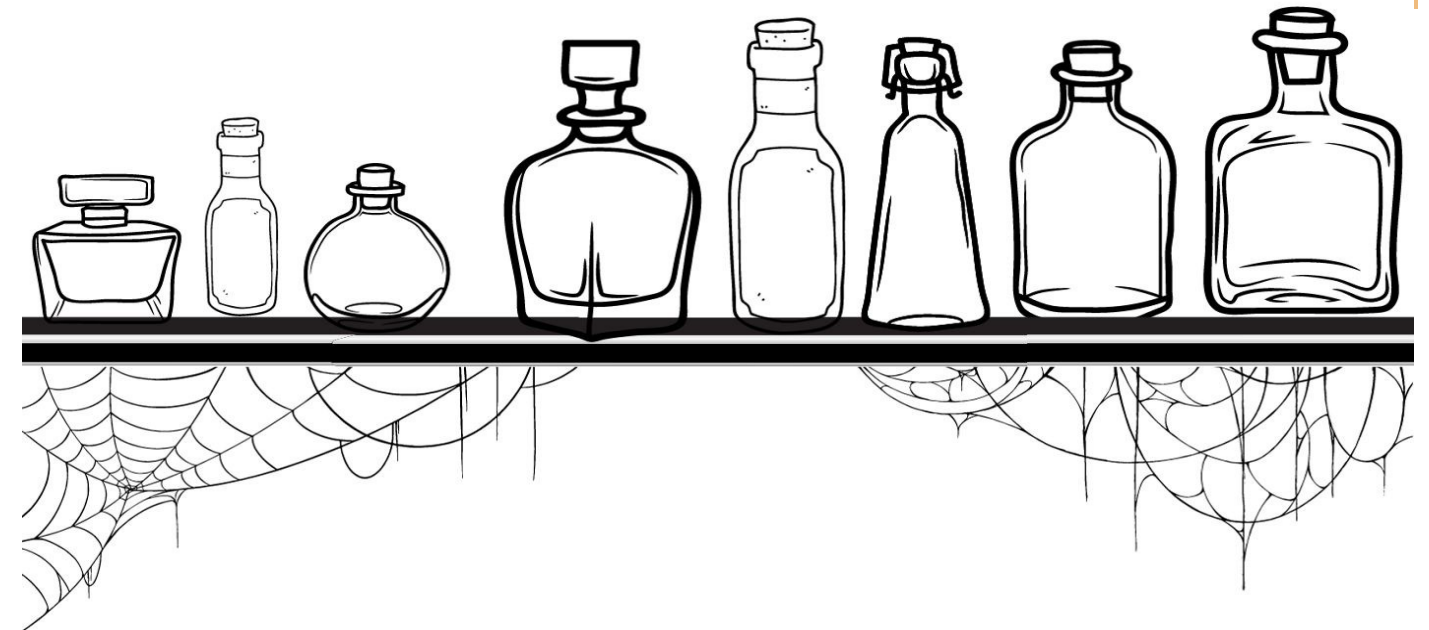
Can you find all of the words below? There are 20 in total.

FOREGANG	HALLOWEEN	BOGLE	GUISING
GHOST	MUMMY	ALL HALLOWS EVE	CAT
WITCH	HAUNTED	PUMPKIN	LANTERN
CARVING	FORTUNETELLING	TURNIP	GLUFF
MAGIC	SHAPESHIFTER	SPELL	SPIRIT



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Colouring In



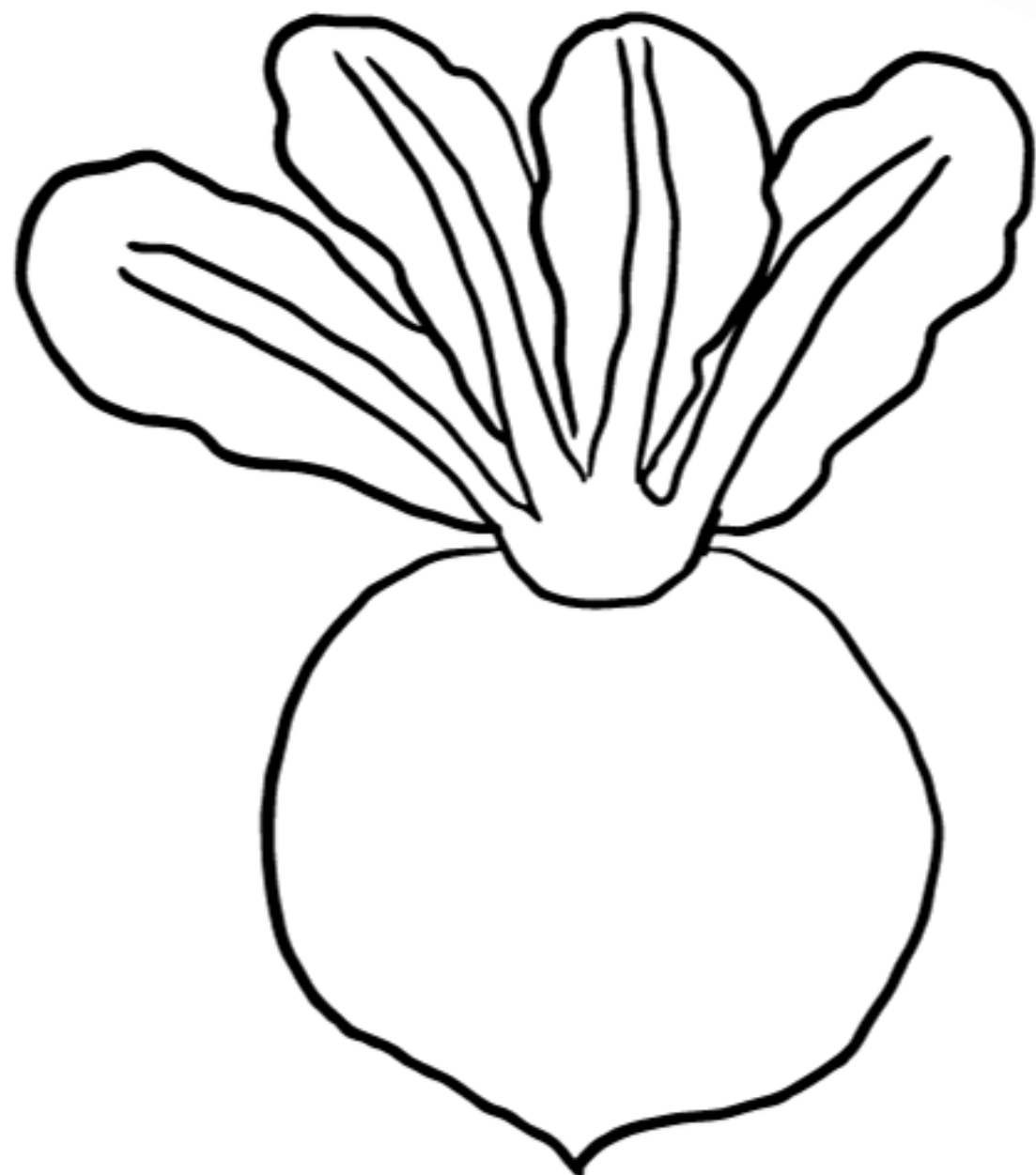
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Carving Neeps

Traditionally in Scotland, scary faces were carved into neeps or turnips at Halloween, the lanterns purpose was to scare off ghouls wandering in the witching hours. Nowadays, we use pumpkins which are much easier to carve.



Draw a face onto the turnip, then colour it in.



Colouring In



Did you know the Caithness Dialect has lots of unique names for things? We've made a potion using some words and phrases from Iain Sutherland's Caithness Dictionary and colloquial name lists (P/SUTH/2/5/2).

See if you can figure out what ingredients were used in this potion.

On a day among the dockens gather ae claucht o caller
waar an leep for 3 days. Take a flichter and graith an
mix egither, adding gowpens hainberries an gowans fae
boul't. Put a'thing ower a gowler and haup for a day.



- Caller = fresh

Gowpens = cupped handful

Laat = small amount of liquid

Steubue-wartag = boil

Boult = edge of a field

Claucht = lump/portion of

Leep = to soak, usually in warm water

Day among the dockens = stormy day
- Gowler=blazing fire

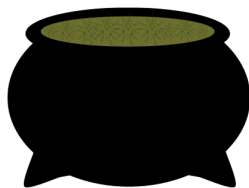
Rouse = to salt lightly

Haup = to cover

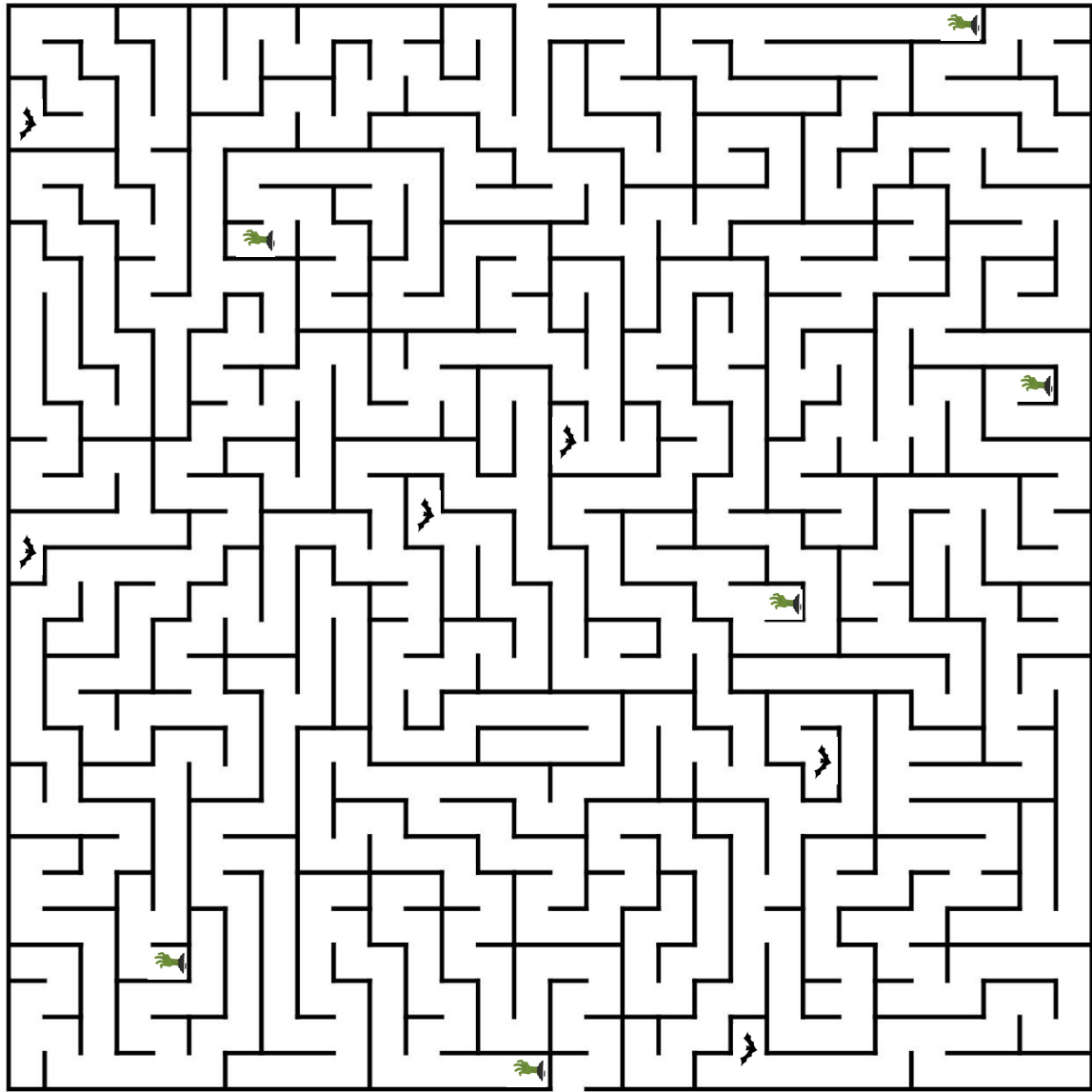
A'thing = everything

Stey = steep

Ae = 1



Halloween Maze



Halloween Spot the Difference



There are 7 differences, can you spot them all?

Do you recognise where the witches are flying?
Write down where you think it is.



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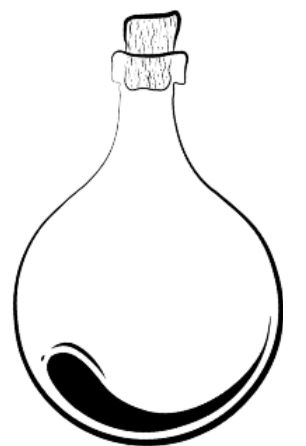
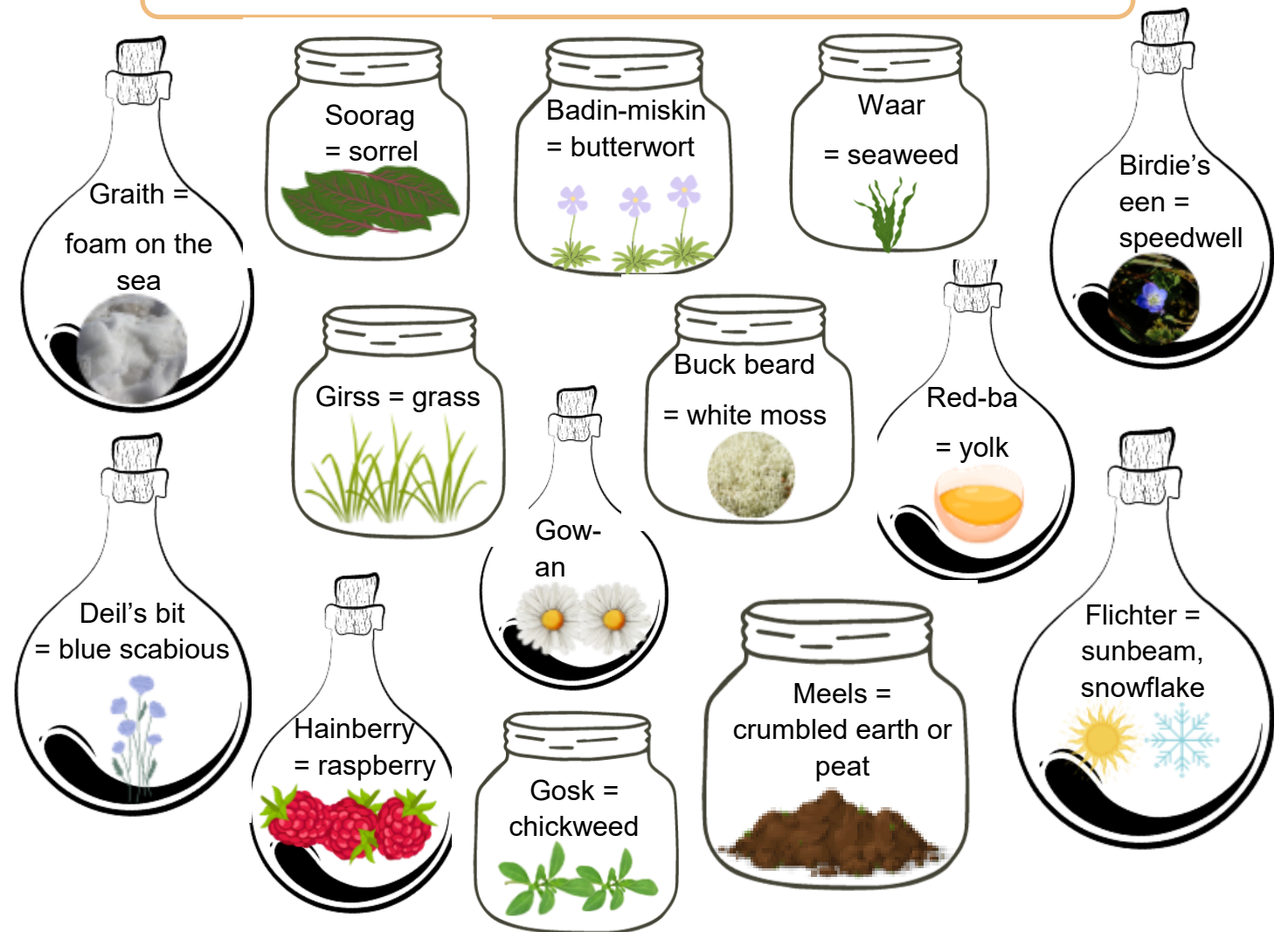


NUCLEUS

THE NUCLEAR AND CAITHNESS ARCHIVES

Caithness Potions

Using the ingredients below, make your own potion

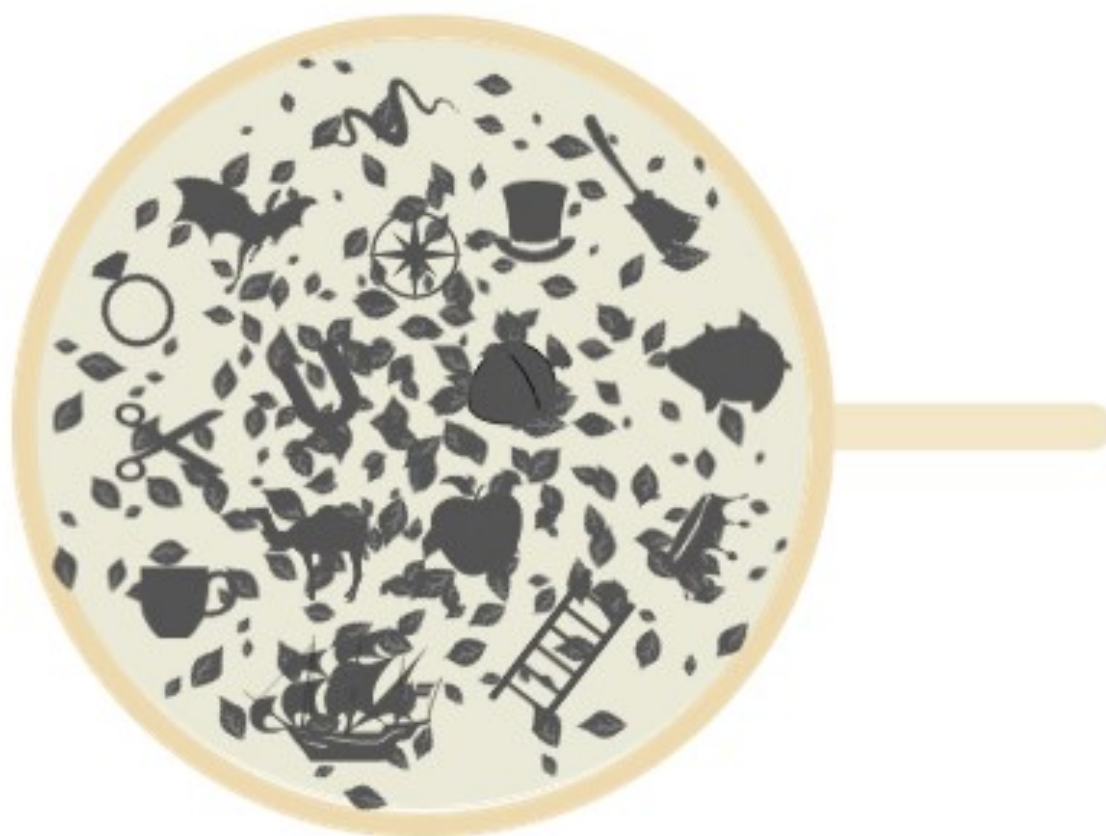


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Fortune Telling

Local historian Iain Sutherland speaks about a Spey Wife at Wick telling fortunes for his mother in an oral history recording (P/SUTH/5/58). The person seeking to have their fortune read would have to gather water from Cairndhuna Well without speaking a word and pour it into a glass bowl. The Spey Wife would then put the white of an egg into the water and tell the person's fortune.

Tasseomancy is when you read fortunes in Tea Leaves. Look at the cup, what symbols can you see amongst the tea leaves?



Symbols & Meanings



Acorn—good fortune



Apple—long life



Horse-shoe—a lucky journey



Cup—celebration



Crown—Success and honour



Ring—marriage



Ladder—a sign of travel



Snake—bad luck



Compass—sign of travelling as a profession



Hat—success in life



Pig—good and bad luck mixed



Scissors—quarrels



Ship—a successful journey



Broom—changes in life



Camel—a burden to be patiently borne



Dragon—Great and sudden changes

Halloween Spot the Difference Answers

The witches are
flying at
Duncansbay
Stacks



P	F	C	F	F	R	P	Q	U	L	Z	U	E	Y	W	B	L	H	L	R
X	A	R	W	X	U	Z	J	U	E	G	L	M	W	I	Y	O	K	T	Y
T	O	L	U	M	A	K	D	D	B	G	M	H	C	T	E	J	M	R	D
H	Y	X	P	E	S	W	N	B	O	U	Z	K	R	C	O	Q	H	M	J
F	Y	K	E	P	V	A	F	B	M	X	Q	W	O	H	F	T	X	S	I
Q	I	G	B	G	A	L	L	H	A	L	L	O	W	S	E	V	E	G	H
N	E	N	T	S	H	A	P	E	S	H	I	F	T	E	R	H	Q	N	H
Y	K	I	W	S	Y	S	N	E	E	W	O	L	L	A	H	A	P	I	F
C	B	S	L	O	O	P	R	C	A	R	V	I	N	G	K	U	P	L	K
B	H	I	R	A	I	H	J	I	L	U	S	S	F	U	J	N	P	L	P
O	M	U	W	N	N	K	G	Y	R	L	W	Z	U	X	B	T	B	E	U
K	I	G	R	T	N	T	D	T	R	I	E	F	Q	D	P	E	F	T	Y
P	W	U	U	D	H	R	E	W	H	M	T	R	D	T	X	D	G	E	U
G	T	X	B	D	D	F	L	R	M	V	M	I	S	E	Z	D	N	N	C
M	L	C	M	U	K	K	M	E	N	W	Z	B	B	S	W	E	A	U	J
P	N	U	H	X	M	Y	O	K	U	N	C	O	O	U	U	B	G	T	X
U	U	P	F	I	F	A	Z	B	Q	K	F	C	I	G	A	M	E	R	F
I	H	O	V	F	Q	O	M	H	T	S	E	F	H	U	U	E	R	O	C
K	L	G	L	L	A	L	Z	B	G	K	M	B	S	F	L	H	O	F	R
T	R	C	N	N	G	T	Y	W	Y	Q	R	R	Q	N	W	E	F	V	C

Halloween Maze

