

LOVE THAT MAX BLOG

Saturday, October 22, 2011

- A few tips on trick-or-treating with kids who have autism or other sensitivity issues, from The ELIJA foundation, a nonprofit serving parents and professionals who work with kids with autism spectrum disorders (if you're in Long Island, NY, they're having a Halloween Spooktacular fundraiser at the Carltun in Eisenhower Park on October 28, from 7:00 to 11:00 pm):

Prepare kids early on to help them get comfortable with Halloween. Take them to a Halloween store and let them dress up, or create a picture story and read it together to help feel them out for what's on their mind.

- * Practice dressing up and trick-or-treating around the house. Act out scenarios, like if someone asks "What are you dressed up as?"

- * Do a dress rehearsal. Walk around the neighborhood and choose the homes you are going to visit; tell neighbor what to expect and approach your child. Give a wide berth to homes with too-spooky decorations or blinking lights.

Word: Try not be disappointed if your child refuses to dress up, **as I learned one year**. *Whatever* makes Halloween fun for your child is a good Halloween.

