

Name _____

Spooky Superstitions Answer Key

1. Cultural Belief - Originates from old European folklore linking black cats to witches.
2. Fiction - There's no scientific proof; it's an ancient Roman superstition.
3. Fact - Studies show the full moon can slightly affect sleep cycles.
4. Cultural Belief - A legend from Eastern Europe connected garlic with protection from evil.
5. Cultural Belief - A myth from witchcraft folklore, not real.
6. Fiction - A rhyme-based superstition, not factual.
7. Fact - Rooted in real Irish tradition using turnips before pumpkins.
8. Cultural Belief - Fear of 13 (triskaidekaphobia) appears in Western culture, not science.
9. Fiction - Bats are just nocturnal animals, not linked to ghosts.
10. Cultural Belief - Symbolism varies; some cultures view owls as wise, others as omens.

Teacher's Guide

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - For younger or developing readers, define "superstition" and provide examples before starting.
 - Challenge advanced students to research the origin of one superstition and share it with the class.
- **Engagement Ideas:**
 - Create a "Superstition Debate" where students defend whether one belief could be fact, fiction, or cultural.
 - Use dramatic storytelling-read each superstition aloud by candlelight to set the spooky tone.
- **Extension Idea:** Encourage creative writing: "Invent your own Halloween superstition and explain its origin."