IN BRIEF



The Witch of Lok Island is a fabulous fairy tale from the French region of Brittany. It inspired this pack, which is full of fun activities about witches. Pupils will mix up sums in a cauldron, decorate Halloween cupcakes and use a dice to create their own witch story!

1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- This month's issue of ***Storytime*** has lots of new and enchanting words and phrases that your pupils might not know... yet! Encourage them to look up definitions in the **Storytime Glossary**. Finding out what things words in a reference source is an important skill. Ask children to use the new words they learn in sentences!

- Witches can be found in many stories from around the world. In fact, they are one of the character types that appear most often in fairy tales! The **Class Discussion Sheet** has questions about witches – what do your students know about them, and are they always 'wicked'? Pupils should answer the questions at the bottom of the page to create an imaginary pet for a witch.

- The **Reading Comprehension Sheet** asks students to find an *alliteration* and a *simile* in an extract from 'The Witch of Lok Island'. There is also an activity where they have to choose adjectives to create their own amazing alliterations!

- The story of Houarn and Bella has been jumbled up on the **Story Sequencing Sheet**! Can your pupils work out the order the sections should go in and number them from 1-11? This exercise could be tricky, as the story is quite long. Children should be encouraged to check the story to make sure they get things right.

- The **Storyboard** pages give pupils a chance to retell the tale of 'The Witch of Lok Island' in their own words. The pictures on the sheets will remind them of key events that they have to include.

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1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS CONTINUED

- Witches are cool characters, and the **Create a Witch's Tale!** sheet will help pupils to create a witch *and* a story for her to star in! They will need a dice, a pencil and a sheet of paper. There are six questions on the page, and five of them can be answered by rolling a dice and checking the result on a table. Children should note down what answer they get for each question.

  When your pupils have their results, it's time to turn them into a proper story, which should be written out on the **A Witch's Tale** sheet. Students can add creative details to explain how the randomly selected things in their story fit together.

- Adjectives are words that are used to describe things, and the **Witchy Adjectives** sheet challenges students to find ones to go with the Halloween-themed nouns listed on the page. There is a list of adjectives they could use, but for an extra challenge, can pupils come up with *alliterative* adjectives?

- **Witches of the World** has profiles of six of the most famous fictional witches from around the world. We encourage pupils to pick their favourite and then find a story about them in the school library!

2. GEOGRAPHY LESSON IDEA

- 'The Witch of Lok Island' is set in Brittany, a peninsula in north-western France. The **Welcome to Brittany!** sheet has a map showing this region and several questions for pupils to answer about its geographical location. There are also seven fascinating facts about Brittany – can your students find any fun information about it online? Why would *they* want to visit?

Continued on page 3...

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3. MATHS LESSON IDEA

- Mixing up witchy potions can make maths fun! The **Magical Multiplication!** sheet has recipes for turning things yellow, removing warts or transforming people and animals into toads, as well as questions about how much you would need of each ingredient to do certain things. Encourage pupils to come up with their own questions for the rest of the class to solve!

4. DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY LESSON IDEA

- Sweet treats are one of the best things about Halloween, and the **Wonderful Witch Whips** page has ideas about how to turn ordinary muffins or cupcakes into unforgettable seasonal treats. The class will need some plain cakes to decorate, as well as various icings, sprinkles and other ingredients. Can your pupils sketch and then create their own themed treats, too?

5. ART LESSON IDEA

- A hat is an essential fashion item for a witch, and there is a picture of one to colour in and decorate on the **Decorate a Witch Hat** sheet. Pupils can add their own symbols, badges, brooches and other decorations before colouring it in. They can also add some extra pizazz with stickers or use glued-on fabric to create a collage!

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STORYTIME GLOSSARY

1 OF 2

Check out what words from this month's stories mean in this section!

Trick or Treat (Page 6)

- **Chilly:** a little bit cold
- **Crescent moon:** moon that looks like a thin curve
- **Cottage:** small, cosy house
- **Prowling:** moving sneakily, like a hunter
- **Gobbled:** ate quickly and noisily
- **Terrifying:** very scary
- **Scaly:** covered with scales
- **Earthling:** person or creature from Earth
- **Vorpalized:** made-up word meaning 'zapped' or 'blasted'
- **Duvet:** thick blanket with soft filling
- **Costume:** outfit worn to look like someone or something else

The Furry Phantom (Page 8)

- **Phantom:** ghost
- **Estate agent:** person who sells houses
- **Diamond in the rough:** something that looks messy but could be made nicer
- **Boarded over:** covered with boards
- **Rickety:** shaky and not strong
- **Uneven:** not flat or level
- **Musty:** smelling old, damp or stale
- **Fuses:** electrical parts that stop electricity flowing if there is a problem
- **Allergic:** when your body reacts badly to something, like certain foods or cat dander
- **Scaredy-cat:** playful term for someone who is easily frightened
- **Sauntered:** walked in a slow, relaxed way
- **Tingly:** slightly tickly or prickly

A Mind of Her Own (Page 13)

- **Capital:** main city of a country, where the government is based
- **Particularly:** especially
- **Mysteries:** things that are hard to explain
- **Gears:** wheels with teeth that fit together
- **Spellbound:** amazed and unable to look away
- **Backdrops:** large painted scenes used behind the stage in theatres
- **Pianist:** person who plays the piano
- **Orchestra:** large group of musicians who play together
- **Futuristic:** looking as if it is from the future
- **Projector:** device that shows films or pictures on a screen
- **Studio:** place where movies, TV programmes or music are made

A Pot Full of Cleverness (Page 18)

- **Minister:** an important advisor to a ruler
- **Taxes:** money people pay to a government
- **Marble:** a beautiful kind of stone used for buildings and decoration
- **Wiser:** better and more sensible
- **Hustle and bustle:** noise and busyness
- **Treasurer:** person who looks after money
- **Declaration:** important announcement
- **Clay:** type of earth used to make pots
- **Instructions:** information on how to do something
- **Attached:** joined or fixed

Continued on page 2...

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STORYTIME GLOSSARY

2 OF 2

The Witch of Lok Island (Page 22)

- **Maiden:** young unmarried woman
- **Beloved:** someone who is dearly loved
- **Deserted:** empty and without people
- **Forbidding:** looking scary or dangerous
- **Otherworldly:** as if from another world
- **Mother-of-pearl:** smooth, shiny material found inside some shells
- **Jellyfish:** kind of soft sea creature with stinging tentacles
- **Realm:** area ruled by someone
- **Treasures:** valuable things such as gold or jewels
- **Enchantment:** magic spell

Deep Space Delivery (Page 30)

- **Vacuum-sealed:** packed in a container with all the air removed
- **Zero-G:** short for 'zero gravity' or the situation where people float because there's no gravity pulling them down
- **Orbit:** path something takes around a planet or star
- **Airlock:** air-proof door in spacecraft
- **Microgravity:** where there is so little gravity that things float instead of falling
- **Thermostabilized:** heated to a high temperature to kill germs that rot food
- **Irradiated:** treated with radiation
- **Shelf life:** how long food can be stored
- **Nutrients:** things in food (like vitamins and minerals) that keep us healthy

The Badger and the Bear (Page 36)

- **Lodge:** house made of natural materials
- **Pine:** kind of tree with needle-like leaves
- **Leather:** material made from animal skin
- **Rug:** small carpet
- **Wigwam:** house made from branches and mats or animal skins
- **Sniggered:** giggled in a mean way
- **Great Spirit:** in Native American traditions, the powerful creator and guardian of the world
- **Brave:** Native American warrior

The Divine Twins (Page 41)

- **Divine:** related to a god or gods
- **Goddess:** female god
- **Composing:** writing or making up
- **Wilderness:** wild area with no towns
- **Blacksmiths:** people who make things from metal
- **Driftwood:** bits of wood that wash up on the shore
- **Volcano:** mountain that releases hot lava and gases from inside the Earth
- **Forge:** place where metal things are made
- **Bronze:** metal made with copper and tin
- **Archer:** person who uses a bow
- **Boasted:** said in a proud way
- **In a panic:** in a state of great fear
- **Destinies:** what will happen to them
- **Constellation:** group of stars in sky

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CLASS DISCUSSION SHEET

LET'S TALK ABOUT...

witches! They are some of the most magical characters in fairy tales, and can be good *or* wicked! How much do your students know about them?

1. What makes a character a 'witch'?

2. Are witches always 'bad' in stories?

3. How do different cultures imagine witches? Look at tales in the 'Around the World' section in ***Storytime*** and talk about the witches you find!

4. Why do you think witches appear in so many stories? How could a witch be used to teach a lesson in a tale?

A PET FIT FOR A WITCH...

Witches often have magical animal sidekicks. Why not create one of your own?

Pet's name: _____

Age: _____

Special power: _____

Favourite witchy snack: _____

The witch it belongs to: _____

DRAW THE PET HERE!

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READING COMPREHENSION SHEET

Spot the *simile* and come up with your own *alliterations*!

> When the man approached the palace, a woman in a green gown opened the door. Her ink-black locks floated around her otherworldly face. She didn't look anything like the witches he had heard about!
>
> "Welcome! Please, come in!" she said, as gently as ripples washing against the shore. Hovarn followed her. The palace walls were made of mother-of-pearl, and it was lit by glowing jellyfish.

1. *Alliteration* is when two words or more words which are next to each other begin with the same letter. What is the alliteration in the first sentence?

2. In the second sentence, the witch's hair is described as being 'ink-black'. What do you think this means?

3. A *simile* describes something by comparing it to something else. What is the simile in the second paragraph that is used to describe how the witch spoke?

AWESOME ALLITERATION!

Can you think of adjectives that begin with the same letter as the words below? That's how you can create an alliteration!

_____ pony

_____ computer

_____ monster

_____ robot

ANSWERS: 1. *green gown*. 2. It means her hair is black like ink. 3. *as gently as ripples washing against the shore*.

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STORY SEQUENCING SHEET

The events from this month's fairy tale have been jumbled up!
Can you number them in the order in which they *should* be read?

He sank deeper and deeper until he saw a palace of seashells. The beautiful witch of Lok Island welcomed him and took him inside.	
Houarn refused to marry the witch, and she turned him into a fish with her silver net. The magic bell Bella had given him rang!	
The witch turned into a sea urchin, and Houarn returned to human form! He and Bella took the witch's gold and started their own farm.	
Long ago, two servants named Houarn and Bella lived in Brittany. They wanted to get married and buy a farm, but had no money.	
In this costume, Bella dived into the lake. The witch welcomed her into her palace, but Bella took her silver net and used it to trap her.	
Houarn asked many people for a job, but no one was hiring. Then, he heard two people talking about the witch of Lok Island.	
Many miles away, Bella heard it ring and knew Houarn was in trouble. She used her magic staff to summon a horse to ride.	
They said that she lived in a palace in a lake and had much treasure. Houarn immediately went to Lok Island and dived into the lake.	
She gave Houarn a golden liquid and asked him to marry her. However, some fish whispered that he should not trust the witch.	
Bella rode all the way to Lok Island and met a hobgoblin called Jennik. He got some pixies to make her some men's clothes.	
One day, Houarn decided to go out into the world to seek his fortune. Bella gave him a magic bell before he set off.	

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STORYBOARD

1 OF 2

Now it's your chance to tell the tale of Bella and Houarn!
Write about what happened to them under the pictures below.

1



2



3



4



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STORYBOARD

2 OF 2

5



6



7



8



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CREATE A WITCH'S TALE!

1 OF 2

Use a pencil and a dice to create your own story... with a witch as the main character! Once you have your results, write your tale on the next page.

A. What is your witch's name? Describe their clothes and pets!

B. What magical item do they have? Roll a dice!

					
Boots of jumping	**Wand of silence**	Broom of flying	**Ring of invisibility**	Potion of healing	**Candle of seeing**

C. Where do they live? Roll a dice!

					
In a spooky castle	**In a deep cave**	Under a waterfall	**In a hut in the woods**	Inside an oak tree	**In an ice palace**

D. What do they want to do?

					
Find some treasure	**Recover a magic cow**	Save a unicorn	**Recover a special egg**	Deliver a message	**Take over a kingdom**

E. What obstacle do they find along the way?

					
A goblin with riddles	**A broken bridge**	A forest wild fire	**A fairy trap**	A grumpy old troll	**A deep canyon**

F. They reach the end of their quest. Who is their foe? How will they win?

					
A fiery dragon	**A hungry ogre**	A powerful giant	**A clever princess**	A brave knight	**A genie in a lamp**

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A WITCH'S TALE

2 OF 2

You've rolled a dice on the previous page to find out about your witch and what happens to them. Now, write about their adventure below!





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WITCHY ADJECTIVES!

Adjectives are words that are used to describe things! Choose a cool adjective to describe each of the witchy things below...

1. A _____ broom

2. A _____ cauldron

3. A _____ spell

4. A _____ potion

5. A _____ hat

6. A _____ cat

7. A _____ toad

8. A _____ bat

9. A _____ pumpkin

10. A _____ mushroom



ADJECTIVES TO GET YOU STARTED!

SPOOKY SCARY BUBBLY POINTY
POWERFUL SMALL SPOTTY QUIET
SPARKLY FAST MAGIC HEAVY DUSTY

BONUS CHALLENGE!

Can you think of an adjective that starts with the same letter as the noun it goes with or can you think of adjectives which *rhyme* with each noun instead?

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WITCHES OF THE WORLD

The witch of Lok Island isn't the only spooky spellcaster from stories! Here are some others that you should know about!

1 La Befana

From: Italy

Who is she? La Befana is a character who is supposed to deliver sweets, treats and toys to good children on Epiphany Eve (the evening of the 5th of January). She's a bit like Santa Claus... if Santa rode a broom!

Read more in: ***Storytime*** 100

2 Circe

From: Ancient Greece

Who is she? A powerful sorceress who was said to live on the island of Aeaea and know about potions and herbs. When the Greek king Odysseus and his men landed on the island, she invited them to a feast. But she put a potion in the food that turned anyone who ate it into pigs!

3 Morgan le Fay

From: Britain

Who is she? The half-sister of King Arthur, the legendary ruler of Britain. She was supposed to have been taught magic by the wizard Merlin, and had healing powers and the ability to turn into animals. However, in some stories she used her powers to plot against Arthur and his knights.

4 Baba Yaga

From: Russia

Who is she? A witch from Slavic folklore! She lived in a hut that walked around on chicken legs. In some stories she wants to capture children, and in others she helps heroes on quests.

Read more in: ***Storytime*** 26 and 87

5 The Wicked Queen

From: Germany

Who is she? The villain in the story 'Snow White'. She is obsessed with being the most beautiful person in the world. The queen wants to get rid of Snow White and poisons her with an apple.

Read more in: ***Storytime*** 16

6 The Wicked Witch of the West

From: The Land of Oz (fictional)

Who is she? One of four powerful witches who plan to conquer Oz! She has an army of bees, crows and wolves and a golden cap that lets her command an army of winged monkeys. In the end, she melts when Dorothy splashes her with water!

Read more in: ***Storytime*** 2

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WELCOME TO BRITTANY!

'The Witch of Lok Island' is set in Brittany, a beautiful and unique region in north-western France. Can you answer these questions about the map below? There are also some fascinating facts about this special place!

A. What country lies to the north of Brittany?

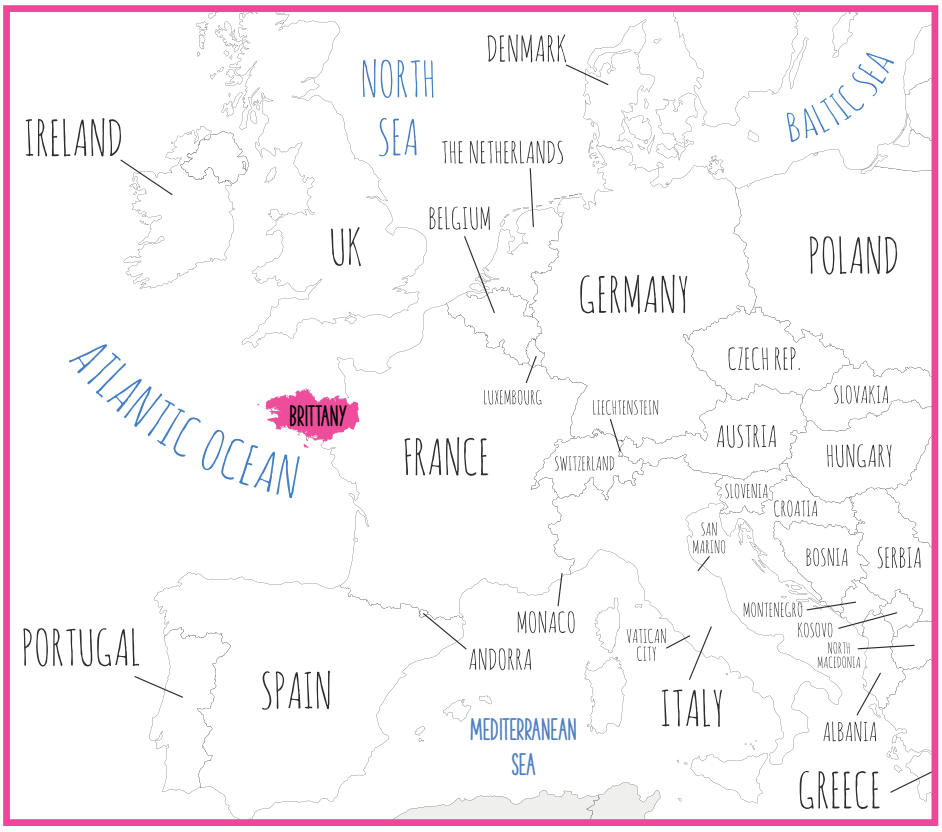
_____

B. What country lies to the south of Brittany?

_____

C. Brittany lies in the _____ of France.

D. Brittany juts out into the _____ Ocean.



TOP BRITTANY FACTS

1. **Brittany** is a *peninsula*, a piece of land almost surrounded by water but connected to the mainland.
2. It is a hilly region with many rocky cliffs and sandy beaches!
3. There are lots of islands along the coast of Brittany. They include **Lok Island**, or *'L'île du Loc'h'* in French.
4. **Brittany** is an awesome place for rock fans! Thousands of years ago, early inhabitants set up lots of monuments including standing stones (menhirs) and stone tombs (dolmens). You can still visit them today!
5. Brittany is one of the six **Celtic** nations, along with Cornwall, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man.
6. Brittany gets its name from... Britain! Celts from Cornwall settled in Brittany in the 4th century CE.
7. Locals speak French, but they also have their own language, **Breton**.

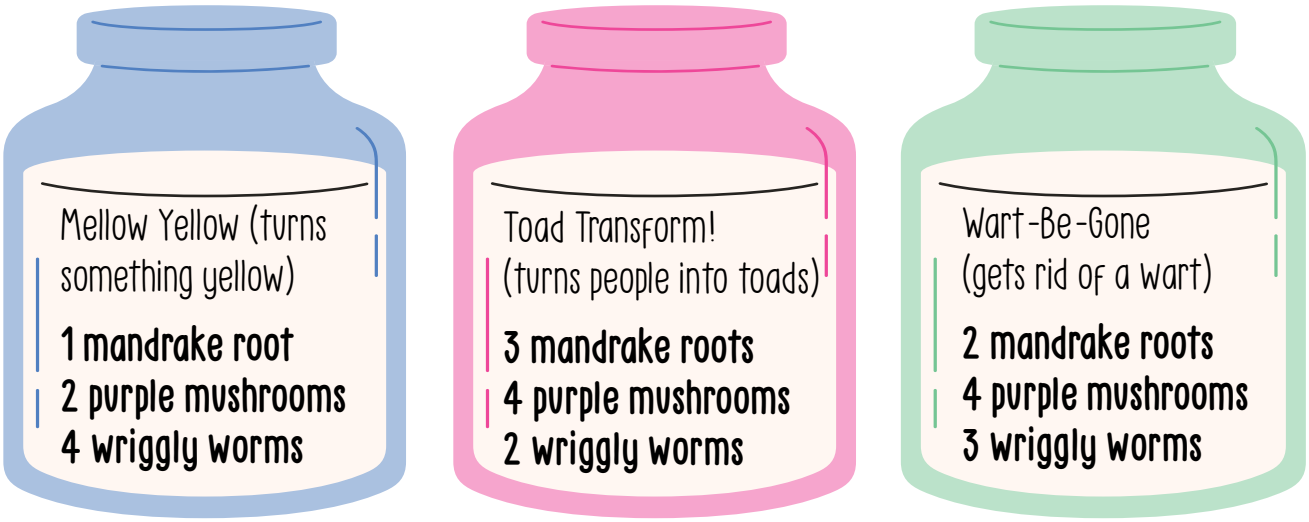
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ANSWERS: A. The UK. B. Spain. C. North-west. D. Atlantic.

MAGIC MULTIPLICATION!

To make different potions, you need magical ingredients! Can you work out how many of each thing you will need to mix up enough potions to do the jobs below?



A. **What would you need to turn three birds yellow?**

Mandrake roots = ☐

Purple mushrooms = ☐

Wriggly worms = ☐

B. **What would you need to turn five annoying people into toads?**

Mandrake roots = ☐

Purple mushrooms = ☐

Wriggly worms = ☐

C. **What would you need to get rid of four warts?**

Mandrake roots = ☐

Purple mushrooms = ☐

Wriggly worms = ☐

D. **What would you need to turn two cats into yellow toads?**

Mandrake roots = ☐

Purple mushrooms = ☐

Wriggly worms = ☐

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ANSWERS: A. 3 mandrake roots, 6 purple mushrooms and 12 wriggly worms. B. 15 mandrake roots, 20 purple mushrooms and 10 wriggly worms, C. 8 mandrake roots, 16 purple mushrooms and 12 wriggly worms. D. 8 mandrake roots, 12 purple mushrooms and 12 wriggly worms.

NAME _____ CLASS _____

WONDERFUL WITCH WHIPS

It's Halloween, and witches are busy in their kitchens, baking cupcakes! Here are some ideas to decorate cupcakes or muffins for treats (no tricks!). Bake your own using your favourite recipes and get decorating!

1. Cauldron Cupcakes



Put your cupcakes in purple foil cases. You'll need green icing, pink icing drops and jelly 'worms'! Pile the green icing on top so it looks like a bubbling potion, sprinkle the pink drops over and then add your worms so they are wriggling out of the cauldron.

2. Ghost Icing Cupcakes



You'll need white icing, a large piping nozzle, white chocolate strands, and two chocolate drops. Spread a thin layer of icing on the top of your cupcake with a spoon. Roll the sides of the cupcake in the chocolate strands for a neat edge. Then, pipe a tall swirl of white icing in the centre, as high and fluffy as you can, to make the ghost's body. Add chocolate drops for eyes!

3. Jack O'Lantern Whips



You'll need orange and green icing, a large and a small piping nozzle, dark chocolate drops for eyes, and black fondant icing for the mouth. Pipe a wide swirl of orange icing over the cupcake to make it look like a pumpkin. Using the small nozzle, pipe a little green 'stem' on top. Add the chocolate drops for eyes. Cut out mouth and nose shapes from the black fondant and press it into place to finish the pumpkin's face!

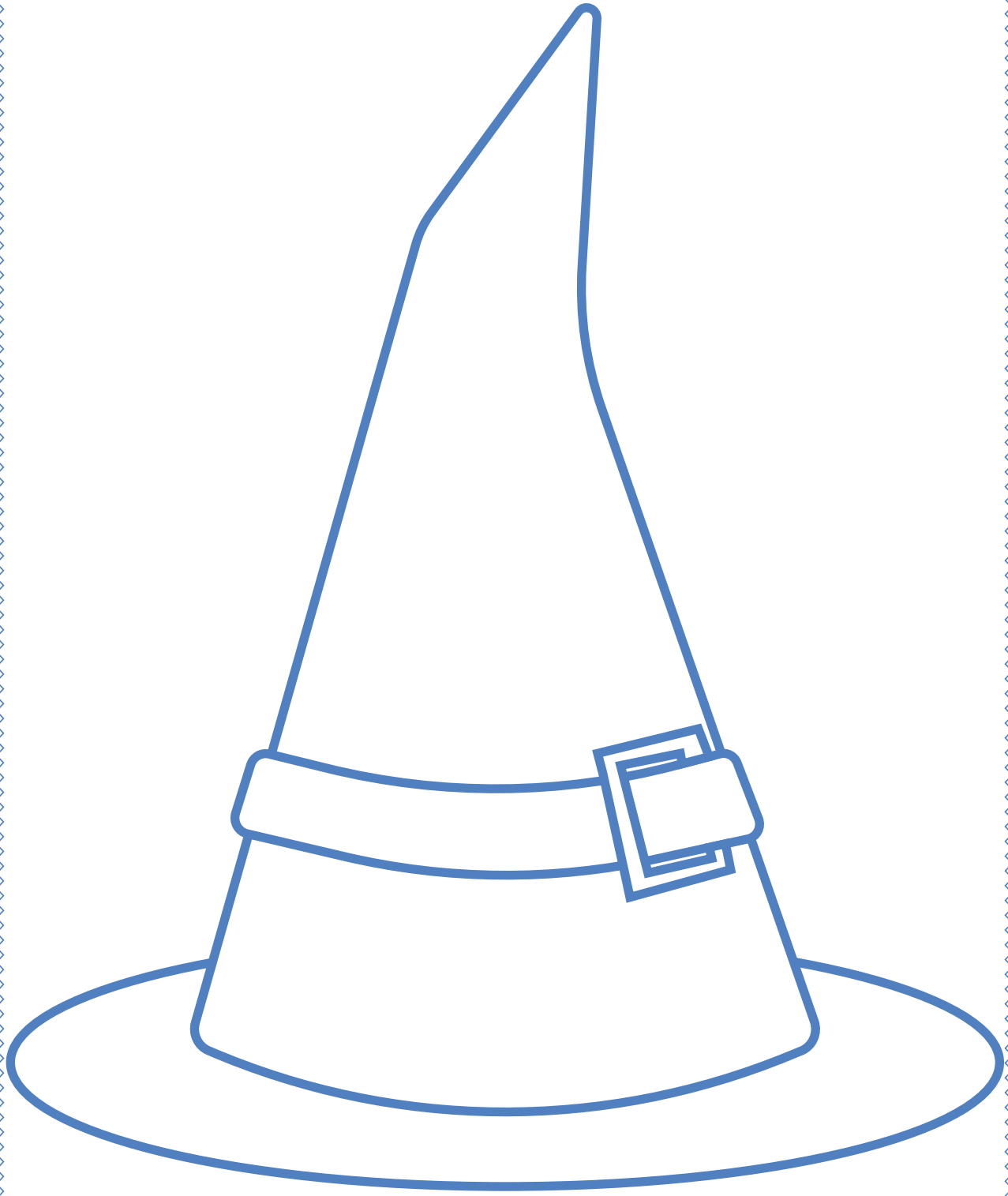
4. Frankenstein Topper



You'll need green and white icing, a large and a small piping nozzle, chocolate drops for eyes, and chocolate sprinkles. Slice the top off your cupcake (about 2cm thick). Pipe a green blob of icing in the centre of the cut cake. Place the piece you cut off gently back on top – this will be Frankenstein's 'hairline'. On the green section, pipe two white circles for the eyes and place chocolate drops in the middle. Spread white icing over the top 'hair' section, then sprinkle generously with chocolate sprinkles until it's completely covered.

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DECORATE A WITCH HAT



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