

MAKE A SPOOKY WITCH'S MOBILE

Create yourself a wicked witch's mobile to hang in your window to spook everyone in sight!

- Take a paper plate and colour it green.
- Draw eyes and a nose onto the middle (your nose could have warts on it or can be crooked, you choose!).
- Draw a mouth beneath the nose to show her ugly teeth.
- Make some hair using orange tissue paper or paper.
- Draw a triangle onto black paper (or a colour of your choice—you could colour in the paper too, its up to you) to make a hat and glue/ tape the ends of your hair onto one edge.
- Turn the triangle over and glue/ tape on the witch's head. Make sure your witch can see through her hair, as she will be flying on her broomstick later!
- Add decorations to the hat.
- Make a hole at the top of her hat and thread some wool through to make a hanger for your mobile.



What you will need:

A paper plate.

Crayons and/ or Felt tip pens .

Orange tissue paper or paper that you've coloured orange.

Black paper for the witch's hat.

Wool.

Scissors.

Glue stick.

Any coloured decorations such as sequins, stars, beads, paper shapes etc.



SPOOKY TALES

WITCHES OF TAMESIDE



This story is a spooky Halloween tale for you based on local folklore.

Longdendale is famous for two witches who were known to live there a long time ago.

One of these was a witch called **Nell Nettlespike** who was a scary lady who spread her terror throughout the land. She believed herself to be so frightening that she wanted to tackle the Devil himself who at that time was living in a large hill nearby called Kinderscout.

Knowing that the Devil had the highest lookout and could see right across the valley, she roamed around all the hills until she found one which was just a little bit smaller. It is still called the Devil's shelf today and it was where she hid in order to spy on both the Devil and all the land around. However it took her a long time to find this spot and because of all the walking (she didn't have a witch's broom), she lay down and soon fell fast asleep.

Now of course, the Devil had been watching Nell from his higher hill, so as soon as he saw she was asleep, he reached out his long arm and grabbed her from the shelf. He then carried her into his home inside Kinderscout and kept her as a prisoner for many years.

However, Nell kept on thinking about how to get away and one day she managed to outwit the Devil and she escaped. By using her spells, she flew like the wind over the moors below and thought that in another few seconds, she would finally be safe from view. Unfortunately though, that wasn't the case and the Devil saw her as she was vanishing into the distance on the other side of Bleaklow Moor.

He took three long strides and threw himself forward, and with his arm at full stretch, struck down the witch who tumbled over the edge of the hill now known as Nell's Pike. Nell rolled down the hill into the woods below where she died from the fall, but not before cursing the Devil for her murder!!



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When poor Nell died it was said that she left a baby who later became known as ‘Nan Nutter’ because her main meals were nuts from the local woods. Nan was as scary as her mother and all the children of Longdendale were frightened of her. She would chase them and terrify them by pulling horrible faces and showing off her enormous ugly green teeth. This in time caused her to be known as **Nanny Greenteeth**.

There lived in the eastern part of the valley at a place called Woodhead. Two farmers who were very good and very tall; so tall that the locals knew that the taller of the two men, **John Wood** hung up the sun every morning using his Shepherd’s crook. However, his friend who was a little shorter would be busy hanging up the moon every night, again with a rather shorter crook.

Nanny Greenteeth didn’t like these two men at all; they were far too nice and always good to everyone around them using their strength to help with everyday tasks. One day she couldn’t put up with them anymore and decided to leave the valley. So she climbed up the slopes of ‘Nell’s Pike, not knowing she was walking in her mother’s footsteps. As she climbed further up the hill, she became very wary and being a witch she used her magic and thought she was being watched. Quickly she turned back but the Devil had seen her from his hill at Kinderscout and with one big stride, was across the valley. The earth shook as he walked towards her, but Nanny Greenteeth was faster than her mother had been running away from the Devil, and just as he was reaching his arm out to grab her, the ghost of her mother Nell Nettlespike who was on watch and had cursed the Devil, helped by tripping him up. He fell full length with his long arm reaching right over the valley below, still trying to catch Nanny Greenteeth. But Nan had reached the bottom of the hill and had managed to escape.

It was now late afternoon, and the farmer John Brown was getting ready to hang up the moon for the night with his Shepherd’s crook as he did every evening. However as the ground shook when the Devil fell, the moon fell off the crook and rolled towards the Devil, hitting his shoulder, and chopping his arm off, which promptly turned to stone just where it lay.



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The locals hearing of this, decided to change the name of the hill from Nell's Pike to the Devil's elbow as it's still there today; just next a bare track known as Nan's swerve where she was seen running away from the Devil.



The Devil's Elbow today showing his bent arm and the bare track on the left is where Nell ran away!

