

I. Concepts To Be Taught:

- To identify and label a pumpkin
- To estimate the circumference (how big around) the pumpkin may be
- To estimate how much a pumpkin may weigh
- To use descriptive words (orange, big, little , bumpy, smooth, round , skinny, fat, hard, soft, rough, slimy, and gooey are a few examples).
- A pumpkin grows from a seed to a large pumpkin
- A pumpkin needs soil, water and sunshine to grow.
- A pumpkin can be used for food
- A carved pumpkin is called a jack-o-lantern

II. Stories to Read:

- Teacher Made Book: *Pumpkins* by Teresa Williams (look for link on Stories Page)
- *The Little Pumpkin Book* by Katherine Ross
- *Pooh's Puzzling Plant* adapted by Agnes Sumner
- *Too Many Pumpkins* by Linda White
- *Its Pumpkin Time* by Zoe Hall

III. Activities:

1. **Visit a Pumpkin Patch** and bring home a real pumpkin.
2. **Descriptive Language:** Use lots of descriptive words to describe the pumpkins as the children use their sense of sight, smell and touch to examine it.
3. **Jack-O-Lantern:** Cut out a jack-o-lantern in the classroom. Let the children decide what kind of face to cut out by picking pictures of pumpkin faces.
4. **Sequencing 1:** Take pictures of the pumpkin being cut into a jack-o-lantern. Have the children put the pictures in order.
5. **Sequencing 2:** Pictures of a pumpkin growing from seed to pumpkin color, cut, put in correct order (Mailbox: Oct/Nov 2005)
6. **Sensory Pumpkin Painting:** Use card stock to outline a pumpkin shape. Use butterscotch pudding to paint with and sprinkle pumpkin pie spice on it.
7. **Pumpkin Pie Slice:** I would make a paper triangle for pumpkin pie and use pumpkin pie filling and the pumpkin pie spice then glue onto paper crust add a cotton ball on top for cool whip

III. Activities continued:

8. **Stuffed Bag Pumpkin:** Stuff the grocery bag, and paint it orange and tie with yarn and add a paper leaf. Place in the classroom for your very own pumpkin patch
9. **Draw a Jack-o-Lantern face:** on a paper outline or Xerox sheet of a pumpkin, have the children draw a face. Let them tell you if it's "happy," "scary", "sad", or "silly".
10. **What's Inside:** Make 2 paper outlines of a pumpkin shape. Tape or lace with yarn the two pumpkins. Inside, put orange yarn pieces and pumpkin seeds. This is slimy like the inside of a real pumpkin.
11. **Pumpkins on a Gate:** Use black construction paper, glue on brown fence and 5 foam, 5 cut pumpkins or 5 pumpkins cut from orange construction paper. Say the poem and point to each pumpkin.
12. **Various Worksheets:** color, cut and glue
13. **Literacy:**
 - The letter "p" for pumpkin
 - Follow picture directions for making fun themed snacks found in all Preschool or Kindergarten Mailbox Magazines.
14. **Math:**
 - a) **Counting:** Count pumpkin seeds. I typically buy a few bags pumpkin seeds for math activities. I have found that store bought pumpkin seeds are very salty.
 - b) **Size Comparison;** compare the sizes of pumpkins (largest, smallest, tallest, etc)
 - c) **Measure and Weight:** If the students all bring their pumpkins to the room before going home weigh and measure them.
 - d). **1:1 correspondence:** I took a Mailbox magazine Oct/Nov 2004 issue pumpkin seed activity and made it larger. Then I have the count out the correct number of pumpkin seeds to put on seeds on the pumpkin.

IV. Cooking: If the recipe is not included: it can be found in most cookbooks. You can also buy the snack item already baked in most grocery stores.

- **pumpkin cookies :**
- **pumpkin bread:**
- **pumpkin pie**
- **pumpkin spread:** *Preschool Oct/Nov 2005 Mailbox*
1 tsp margarine, 1tsp pumpkin pie filling, 1/8 tsp sugar, sprinkle w/ cinnamon, stir and spread on bread cut with a pumpkin cookie cutter.
- **pair of pumpkins:** *Preschool Oct/Nov 2004 Mailbox*
2 pumpkin shaped cookies that is decorated w/ 2 tsp of whipped topping, 1 tsp of pumpkin pie filling, stir and spread on cookie, add green candy stems
- **pumpkin pancake:** *Preschool Oct/Nov 2007 Mailbox*
1 small orange tinted pancake for each child, fruit cocktail (or tiny tinted marshmallows, pineapple chunks and a red jelly bean) to decorate the face. Use pineapple chunks for stem and 2 eyes, jelly bean for nose and marshmallows for smile, drizzle lightly with syrup and enjoy.
- **pumpkin shake:** *Preschool Oct/Nov 1995 Mailbox*
1 can pumpkin filling, 1 pint of skim milk for every 32 children
 $\frac{1}{2}$ gal of vanilla frozen yogurt (or every 16 children)
1 candy pumpkin per child, 1 plastic cup and straw per child
- scoop 1 - Per child $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vanilla yogurt, pour 1 TBS of skim milk
1 tsp of pumpkin, stir put candy pumpkin on top and drinks with a straw
- **jack-o-lantern fruit cup** (by "Cookie" Sansam) recipe below
- **Pumpkin shaped sugar cookies:** cut out with pumpkin cookie cutter and bake. Now, one can buy the pumpkin shaped sugar cookies that is ready to be baked. The children love to frost the cookies and use a candy such as candy corn or mm's to make a face.
- **roasted pumpkin seeds:** recipe below
- See any of the Oct/Nov issues of Mailbox for seasonal recipes

1. Roasted Pumpkin Seeds Recipe

- Wash seeds and let dry.
- Coat with oil or butter.
- Toss with Worcestershire sauce according to taste and Kosher salt

- Bake in a 350 degree oven until brown and crispy.
- Store in an airtight container.

2. Jack-o-Lantern Fruit Cup Recipe

- adults cut off the top of a large naval orange
- take out the insides and put into a bowl
- Using a plastic knife, cut up orange pieces, plus additional fruits such as apples, bananas, or grapes.
- fill scooped out orange with fruits
- replace tops of orange, stick together with a large toothpick
- with a felt tip marker draw a face on the orange (I would do this before adding in the fruit.