

Dear Caregivers:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our storytime. Please continue helping your child develop by sharing these at home!

PUMPKINS

LETTER OF THE DAY

P p

ASL SIGN OF THE DAY "Pumpkin"



To sign "pumpkin" (or melon), thump your middle finger on the back of your left fist -- as if checking to see if a pumpkin is ripe.

BOOKS TO SHARE

The Best Sukkot Pumpkin Ever
by Laya Steinberg

Stumpkin
by Lucy Ruth Cummins

Pattan's Pumpkin: A Traditional Flood Story From Southern India
by Soundar Chitra

Little Boo
by Stephen Wunderli

The Runaway Pumpkin
by Kevin Lewis

It's Pumpkin Time
by Zoe Hall

Pumpkin Soup
by Helen Cooper

Ready For Pumpkins
by Kate Duke

Plumply, Dumplly Pumpkin
by Mary Serfozo

Apples and Pumpkins
by Anne Rockwell

Pumpkin Day
by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace

FUN WITH FINGERPLAYS AND SONGS

I'm a Little Pumpkin [action rhyme]
[Tune: "I'm a Little Teapot"]

I'm a little pumpkin orange and round. **[make arms into a circle in front of your body]**
Here is my stem, there is the ground. **[point to head, then ground]**
When I get all cut up, don't you shout!
Just open me up and scoop seeds out! **[mime scooping]**

Pumpkin, Pumpkin [action rhyme]

Pumpkin, pumpkin on the ground **[touch the ground]**
How'd you get so big and round? **[make a circle]**
Once you were a seed so small **[pinch fingers together]**
Now you are a great big ball! **[make a big circle]**
Pumpkin, pumpkin on the ground **[touch the ground]**
How'd you get so big and round? **[make a circle]**

Five Little Pumpkins [fingerplay]

Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate.
The first one said, "Oh, my, it's getting late!"
The second one said, "There are bats in the air!"
The third one said, "But we don't care."
The fourth one said, "Let's run and run and run."
The fifth one said, "I'm ready for some fun."
Then OOOOOO went the wind and OUT went the light,
And five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.

Pumpkin Pumpkin [action rhyme]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin bread!

[Hold hands flat in front, palms up, one lying on top of the other]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin head!

[Put hands on head]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin pie!

[Hold hands in a big circle]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin eye!

[Curve hands around eyes]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin cake!

[Hold hands flat, one palm up, one palm down five inches above the other]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin shake!

[Hold fists up and shake hard]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin stew!

[Pretend to stir stew]

Pumpkin, pumpkin,
Pumpkin BOO!

"Life Cycle of a Pumpkin," Amanda Ellis (2012)

"Roll That Pumpkin Down To Town," Kathy Reid-Naiman (2013)

MORE FUN!

Color-Mixing Pumpkin

Supplies:

Plastic bag (with seal)

Red paint

Yellow paint

Black permanent marker



Draw a pumpkin face and/or shape on the outside of the baggie.

Pour a bit of red paint and a bit of yellow into the bag and seal.

Squish and smush your way to an orange color to 'fill up' your pumpkin! This is a great opportunity to introduce the concept of primary and secondary colors to your child(ren).

Talk with your child about all the different things you can do/make with a pumpkin! If you celebrate Halloween, practice different jack-o-lantern face designs by drawing them together on paper.

What other changes do you see in nature during Fall? Are there other special fruits and/or vegetables that are in season during these months?

Check out an early-reader non-fiction book on the pumpkin life cycle and read it together.

Brainstorm a list of other words that begin with the letter 'P.'

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