

Crafts 'n Snacks

A Monthly Series from Keepsake Curriculum

October

Craft Theme: Pumpkins

Snack: Banana Pumpkin Bread

Story Ideas:

"The Biggest Pumpkin Ever" by Steven Kroll

"How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin?" By Margaret McNamara

"Too Many Pumpkins" by Linda White

"The Pumpkin Book" by Gail Gibbons

"Pumpkin Jack" by Will Hubbell

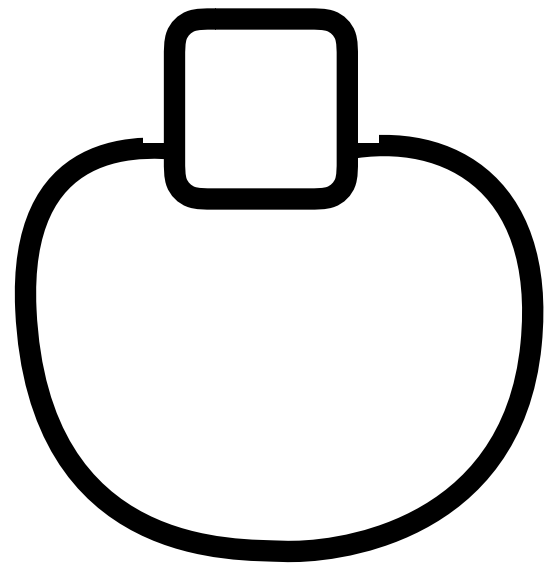
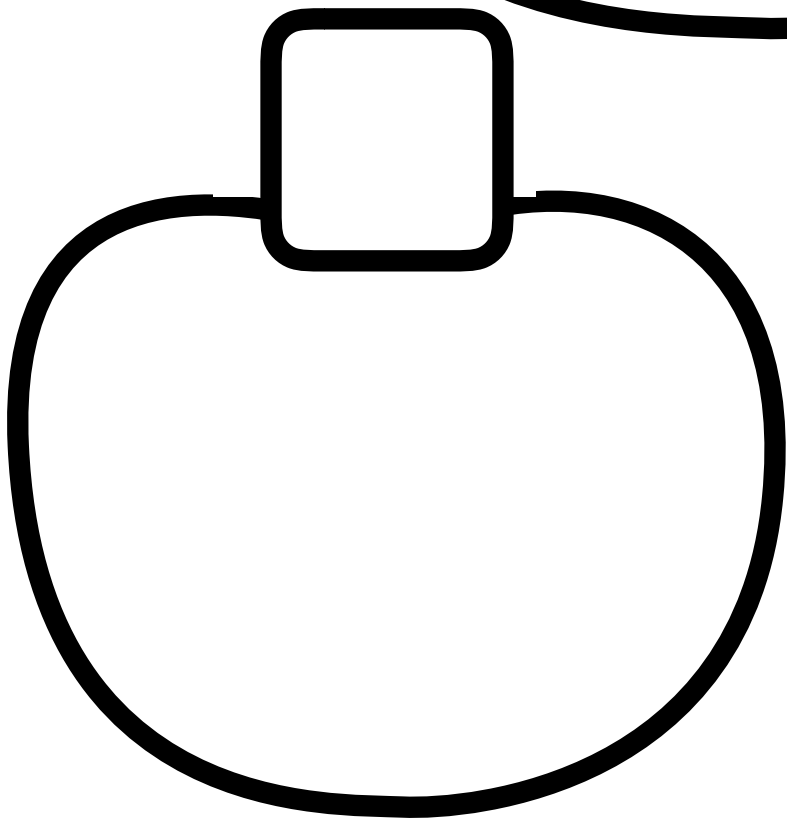
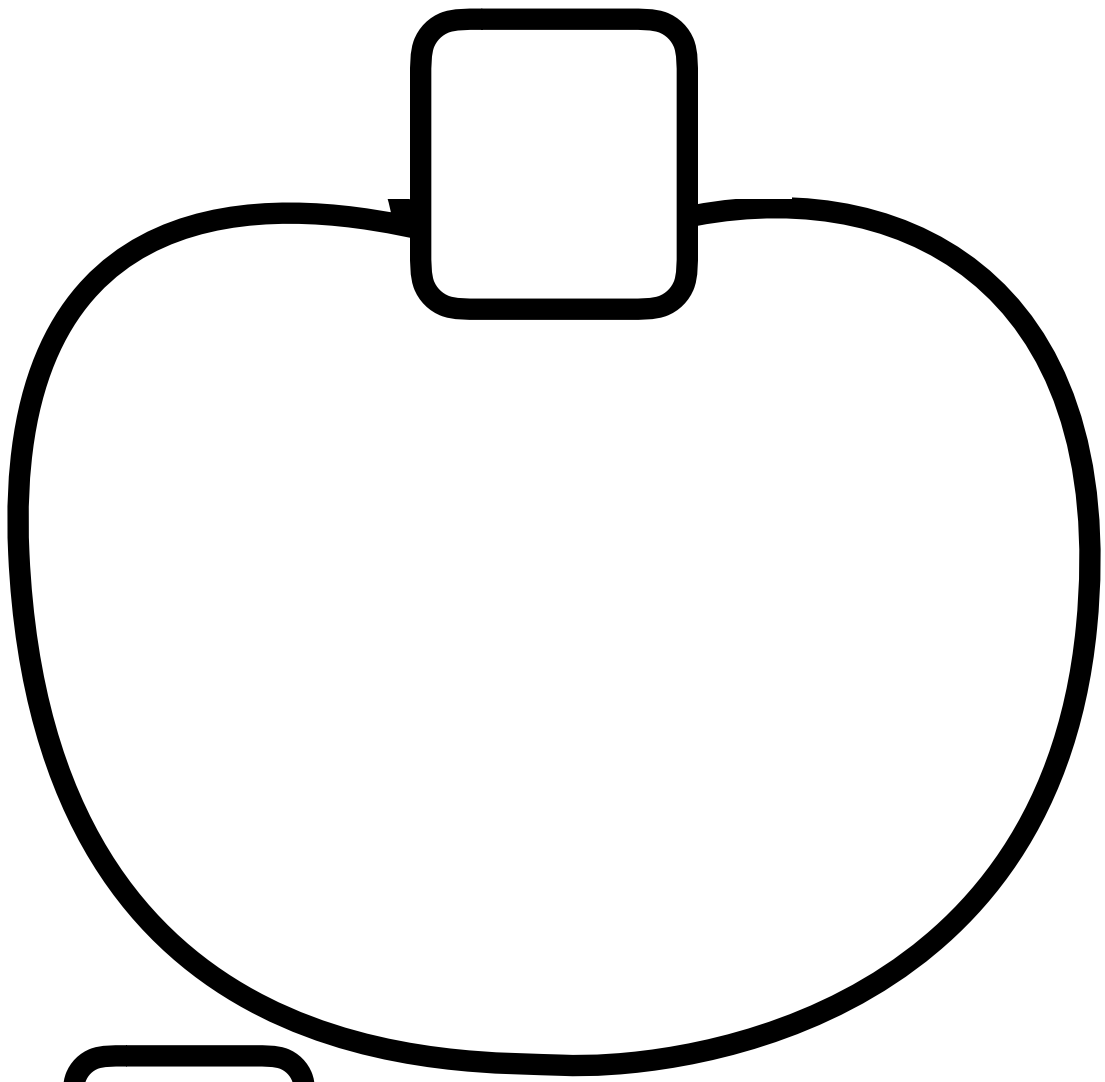
Pumpkin Patch Craft

Materials needed: pumpkin templates, pumpkin patch sign template, brown crayon, orange, blue, and green construction paper, craft popsicle sticks (mine were purchased at the dollar store), scissors, glue stick, glue bottle

Use the pumpkin templates on the following page. Color the stems with brown crayon. Rip little pieces of orange construction paper and glue to the pumpkins (spread glue lightly like paint across pumpkin with a piece of the paper before putting the little pieces down). Use green construction paper to make grass. Glue pumpkins onto paper. Glue craft popsicle sticks (with glue bottle) to make a fence. Have your child write their name on the sign below; cut and glue to the top of the paper with **glue stick**.



Pumpkin Patch



Banana Pumpkin Bread

Bread Ingredients:

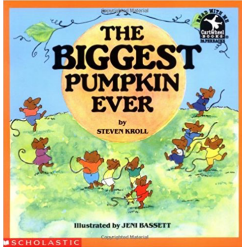
1 cup dark brown sugar
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup canola oil
2 eggs, room temperature
1 cup canned pumpkin puree
1 cup mashed banana
1 3/4 cup flour
1 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
1 tsp cinnamon
2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
1/4 cup whole milk
1/2 cup diced pecans, optional

Directions:

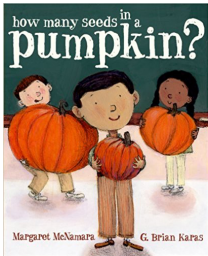
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Grease two bread pans.
3. Stir together the brown sugar, sugar, oil, and eggs in a bowl.
4. Mix bananas, pumpkin puree, and whole milk; add to the sugar/egg mixture.
5. Sift the flour, salt, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, and pumpkin spices together (optional: add pecans)
6. Slowly add 1/3 of the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients at a time, mix as you add.
7. Pour mixture between the two bread pans.
8. Bake for 45-50 minutes (cooking time may vary for metal and glass pans) until toothpick in middle comes out clean.
9. Remove from oven and allow to cool.

* This recipe was adapted from passionforsavings.com

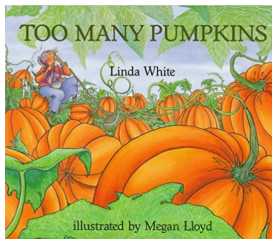
Pumpkin Read-Alouds for Kids



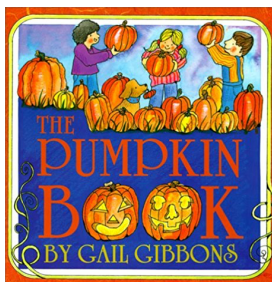
“The Biggest Pumpkin Ever” by Steven Kroll - Mouse friends Desmond and Clayton both have plans for a pumpkin they find growing outside. Desmond wants to carve the biggest pumpkin in the neighborhood; Clayton wants to win the biggest pumpkin contest. Problems arise when the mice discover that their pumpkins growing in the pumpkin patch are actually the same pumpkin! Follow along as together, they grow the biggest pumpkin ever!



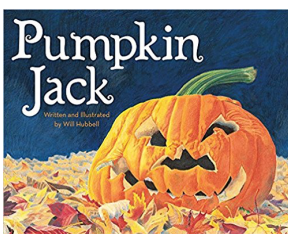
“How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin?” by Margaret McNamara - In this adorable skip counting book, a class of curious kids are asked by their teacher, “How many seeds are in a pumpkin?” With a big, medium, and small pumpkin to guess from, they all have different ideas of what the answer will be. Once the slimy business of looking inside is complete, however, the answer is a bit surprising!



“Too Many Pumpkins” by Linda White - When a giant pumpkin falls off a truck and lands with a splat in the yard of old Rebecca Estelle, she decides to simply bury the mess. You will not believe what happens the following fall!



“The Pumpkin Book” by Gail Gibbons - With her well-known presentation of simple non-fiction text and pictures, Gail Gibbons the many shapes and sizes pumpkins come in, how they grow, and how they’re used in different cultures. The book also includes instructions for carving a pumpkin and drying out seeds.



“Pumpkin Jack” by Will Hubbell - An interesting story following the decay of a pumpkin. Tim carves his first pumpkin, named Jack. When Halloween passes, Tim decides to watch it change in the garden.