

Practically Perfect



Mini-Lapbook

Designed for K–8th grades



Written & designed by
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Practically Perfect Pumpkins Mini-Lapbook
Written by Debra Haagen
Edited by Cyndi Kinney
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How Do I Get Started?

First, you will want to gather your supplies. Depending on which format you purchased from us, you will need different supplies. So, take what applies, and skip over the rest.

*** Printing:

*Print instructions and study guide on white copy paper.



*Print the booklet templates on 24# colored paper or 110# cardstock. For some booklets, we have suggested specific colors or cardstock. You may choose to use those suggested colors, or you may choose to print on any color that you like.



*** Assembly:

*Folders: We use colored file folders, which can be found at Walmart, Sam's, Office Depot, Costco, etc. You will need between 2 and 4 file folders, depending on which product you have purchased. You may use manilla folders if you prefer, but we have found that children respond better with the brightly colored folders. Don't worry about the tabs....they aren't important. If you prefer, you can purchase the assembled lapbook bases from our website.

*Glue: For the folder assembly, we use hot glue. For booklet assembly, we use glue sticks and sometimes hot glue, depending on the specific booklet. We have found that bottle glue stays wet for too long, so it's not a great choice for lapbooking.



*Other Supplies: Of course, you will need scissors. Many booklets require additional supplies. Some of these include metal brad fasteners, paper clips, ribbon, yarn, staples, hole puncher, etc. You may want to add decorations of your own, including stickers, buttons, coloring pages, cut-out clipart, etc. The most important thing is to use your imagination! Make it your own!!



Ok. I've Gathered the Supplies. Now How Do I Use This Product?

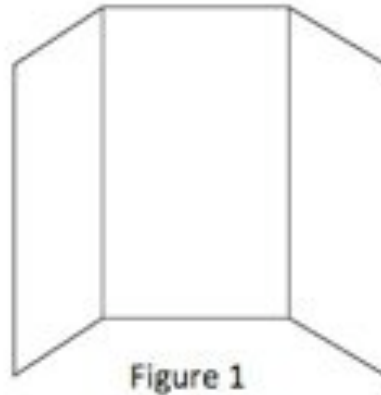
Inside, you will find several sections. They are as follows:

1. **Lapbook Base Assembly & Layout Guide:** This section gives instructions and diagrams and will tell the student exactly how to assemble the lapbook base and where to glue each booklet into the base. Depending on the student's age, he or she may need assistance with this process, especially if you choose to allow the student to use hot glue.
2. **Student Instruction Guide:** This section is written directly to the student, in language that he or she can understand. However, depending on the age of the child, there may be some parent/teacher assistance needed. This section will also tell the student exactly what should be written inside each booklet as he or she comes to it during the study, as well as telling the student which folder each booklet will be glued into.
4. **Booklet Templates:** This section includes ALL of the templates for the booklets.
5. **Study Guide:** This section is a great resource for the parent/teacher while teaching about Pumpkins.

Practically Perfect Pumpkins Mini-Lapbook

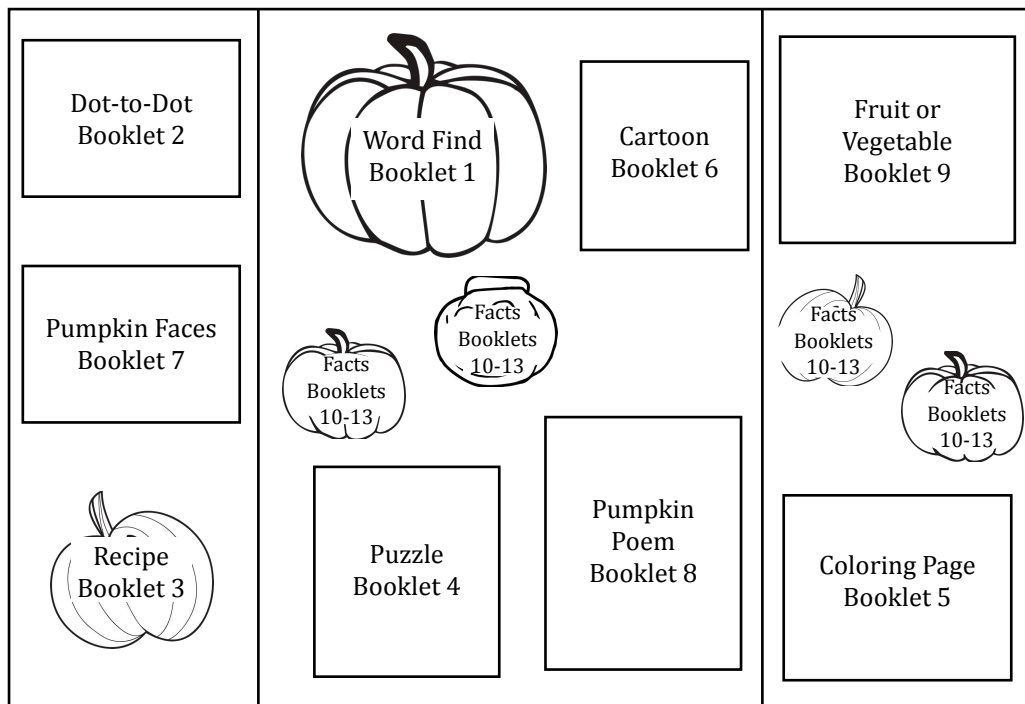
Base Assembly & Layout Guide

You will need a folder of any color. We used a green folder and printed all pumpkin mini-books on orange paper. Fold both sides toward the original middle fold and make firm creases on these folds (Figure 1).



This is the "Layout" for your lapbook. The shapes are not exact on the layout, but you will get the idea of where each booklet should go inside your lapbook.

Inside of Folder:



Below you will find a picture of a completed *Practically Perfect Pumpkins* Mini-Lapbook. YOUR lapbook will be laid out in the SAME way.

This should help in figuring out how to assemble the booklets and then how to put it all together!



Alternate Lapbook with Completed Puzzle:



Practically Perfect Pumpkins

Student Instruction Guide

Booklet #1

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Word Find

*Student Instructions: Find the below words in the Word Find Puzzle.

AUTUMN	GIANT	PIE
BAKING	HARVEST	PUMPKIN
BREAD	JACK	ROASTED
CARVE	LANTERN	SEEDS
CUSTARD	MUFFINS	SQUASH
FLOWER	ORANGE	STINGY
FRUIT	PATCH	VEGETABLE

**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklet and word find puzzle (on the following page) out around the outer black line edges. Fold booklet in half on the dotted horizontal line. Glue word find puzzle into inside of booklet. Glue booklet into folder.

Booklet #2

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Dot-to-Dot

*Student Instructions: Connect the dots to make a shape.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklet and title out around the outer black line edges. Fold booklet in half on the center vertical line. Glue title onto front of booklet. Glue booklet into folder. Highlight the title by gluing ribbon strips above and below it.

Booklet #3

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Recipe

*Student Instructions: Write your favorite pumpkin recipe - one of your own or one from this book - inside the booklet.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklet out around the outer black line edges. Fold booklet in half on the vertical dotted line. Glue booklet into folder.

Booklet #4

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Patch Puzzle

*Student Instructions: Cut out the pieces of the Pumpkin Patch Puzzle and see how long it takes you to put the puzzle back together.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut out the puzzle along the outer black line edges of the puzzle. Cut the pieces apart along the black wavy lines. You have two options for storing the pumpkin patch puzzle in your lapbook:

Option #1: Once the puzzle is assembled, glue the finished project into your folder or onto the back of your lapbook folder.

Option #2: Cut the Booklet Pocket on the bottom of the page out along the outer black line edges of the booklet. Fold the tabs under and glue them into your lapbook to make a pocket for the pieces of the pumpkin patch puzzle, so that you can do the puzzle again and again. Make sure the title is on the front of the pocket. If you choose this option, you may want to print the pumpkin patch puzzle onto heavy cardstock or laminate it before cutting the pieces apart.

Booklet #5

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Coloring Page

*Student Instructions: Color the pumpkin.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklet out around the outer black line edges. Mat coloring page on a piece of orange paper. Glue booklet into folder. Glue buttons onto the corners of the coloring page. You may sew the buttons on by hand, or use a marker to draw faux stitches onto the buttons.

Booklet #6

*Booklet Title: Cartoon Booklet

*Student Instructions: Color the turkey and write your own funny line in the word balloon.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklet out around the outer black line edges. Fold booklet in half on the center vertical line. Glue the cartoon page into booklet, or draw your own cartoon inside the booklet. Glue booklet into folder. Glue a ribbon along the left binding of the booklet.

Booklet #7

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Faces

*Student Instructions: Draw and/or color faces on the pumpkins on each page of the booklet.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut out the booklet pages along the outer black line edges. Stack pages with cover on top. Punch holes on left side of booklet and secure with a ribbon. Glue booklet into folder.

Booklet #8

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Poem

*Student Instructions: Write your own short poem about a pumpkin. Write the poem in the space provided.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklet and title out around the outer black line edges. Mat booklet and title onto a different-colored piece of paper. Glue booklet into folder.

Booklet #9

*Booklet Title: Fruit or Vegetable?

*Student Instructions: Is the pumpkin a fruit or a vegetable? Why? Write what you have learned inside the booklet.

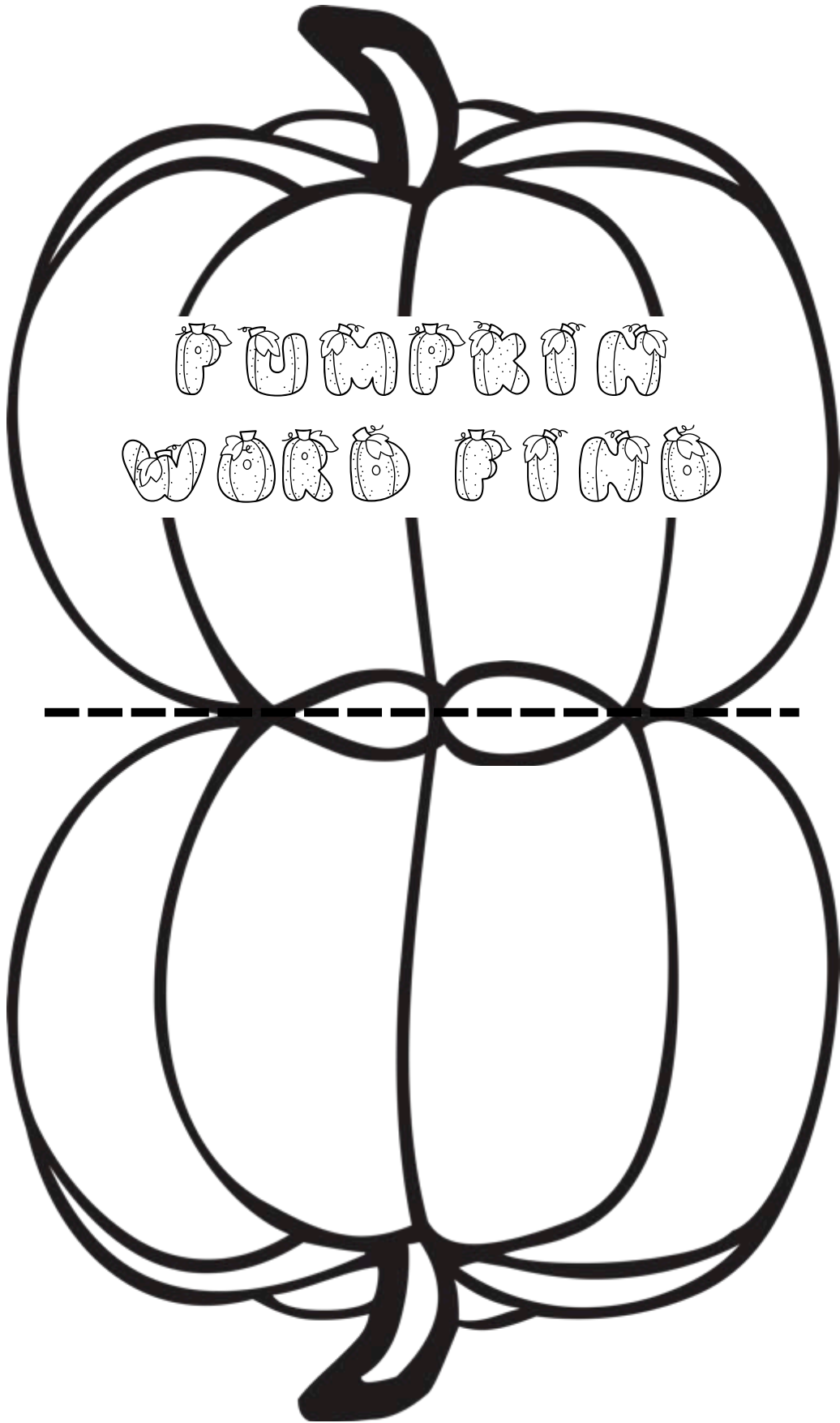
**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklet out around the outer black line edges. Fold booklet in half on the center vertical line. Glue booklet into folder.

Booklets #10-13

*Booklet Title: Pumpkin Facts

*Student Instructions: Write other interesting facts you have learned about pumpkins in the booklets.

**Assembly Instructions: Cut booklets out around the outer black line edges. Fold booklets in half on the center vertical lines. Glue booklets into folder. The booklets print with pictures on both sides, so you may decide to turn one or more backward for variety, as we did with the very last one in the sample.

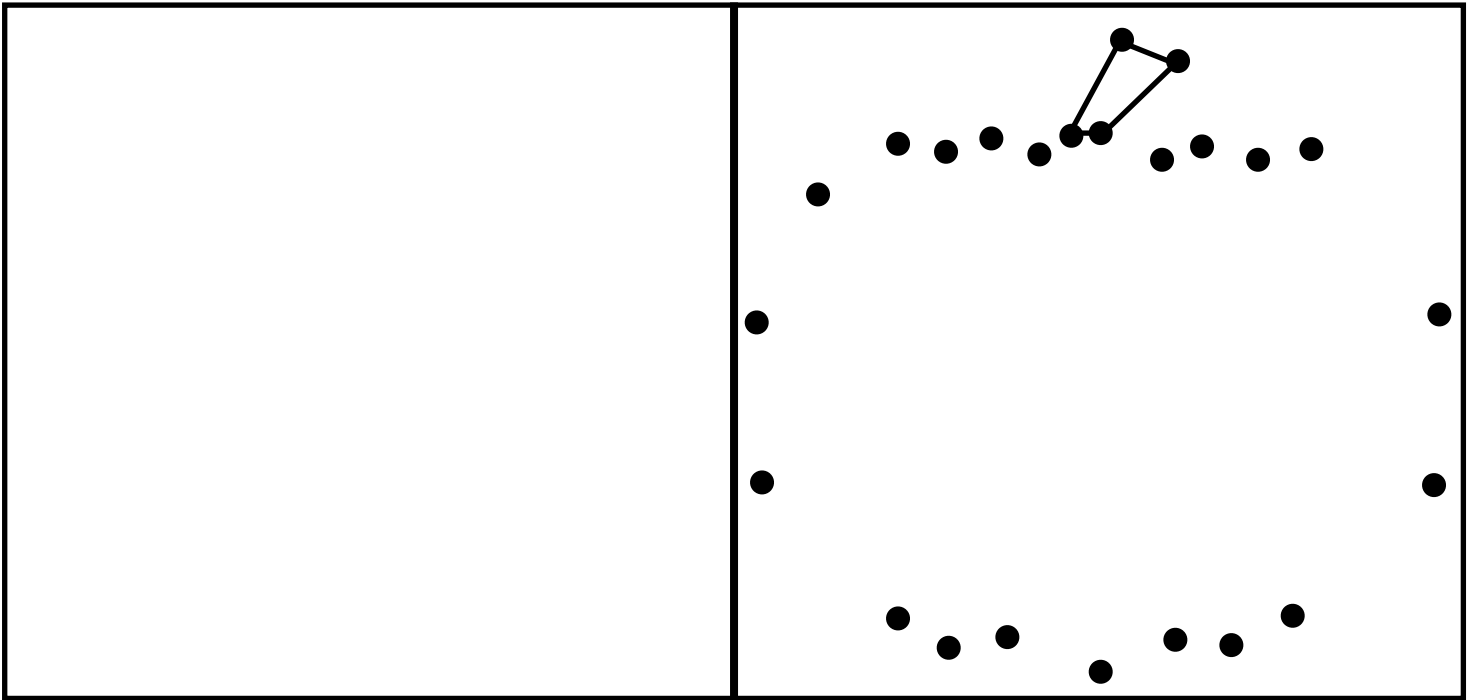
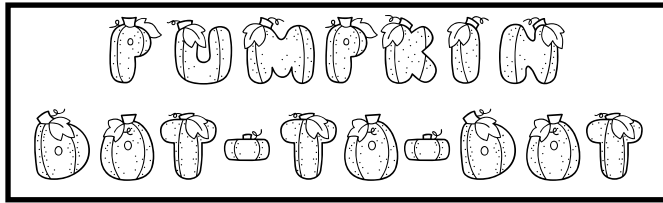


Booklet #1

(Printing Suggestion: Print on ORANGE Paper)

Pumpkin Word Find - cont.

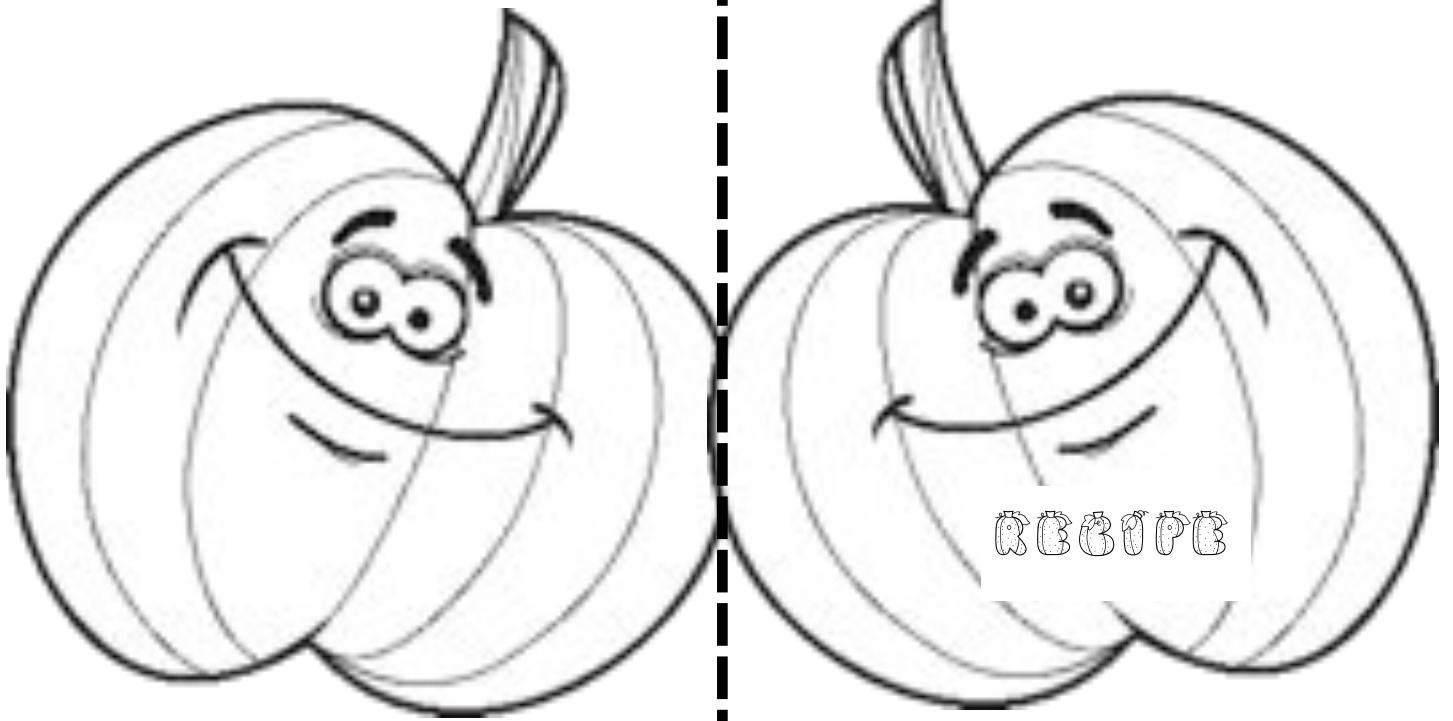
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A	W	W	B	A	D	P	T	N	K	U	G	R	S	Q
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S	Z	K	G	S	J	T	E	E	V	R	A	C	I	E
J	I	A	S	M	U	C	U	Y	T	T	B	U	D	S
N	M	U	F	F	I	N	S	A	C	J	R	T	O	M
C	S	G	I	A	N	T	Q	H	V	F	Q	P	Q	W



Booklet #2
(Printing Suggestion: Print on ORANGE Paper)

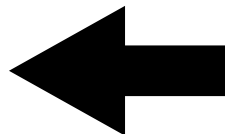
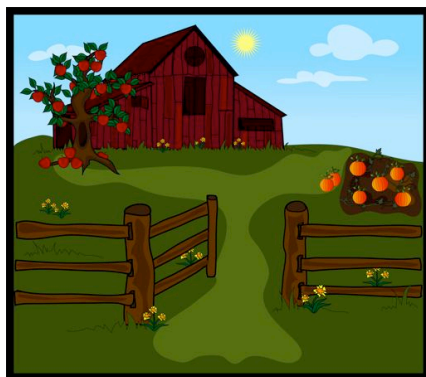
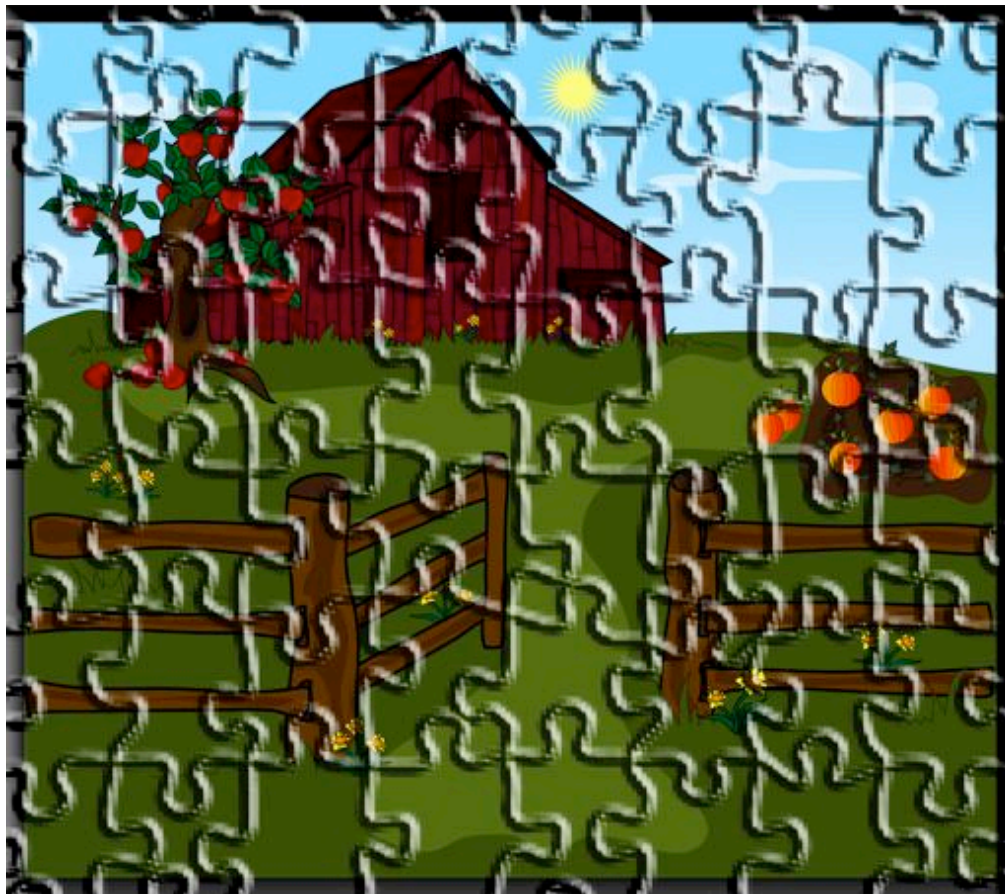
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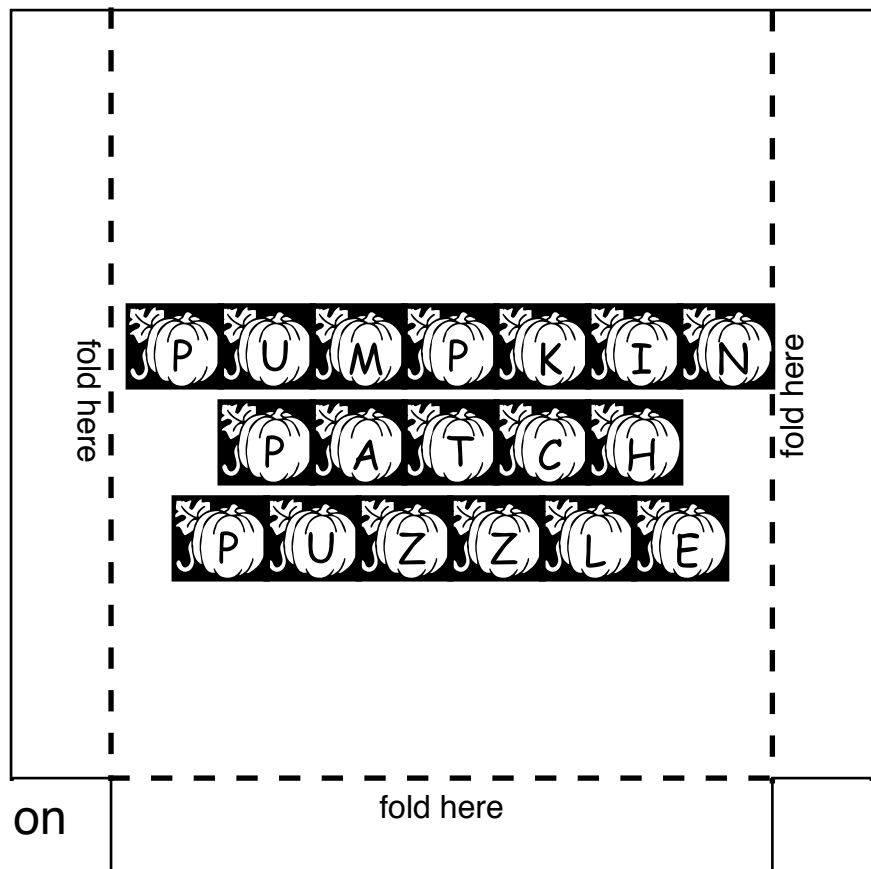


Booklet #3

(Printing Suggestion: Print on ORANGE Paper)

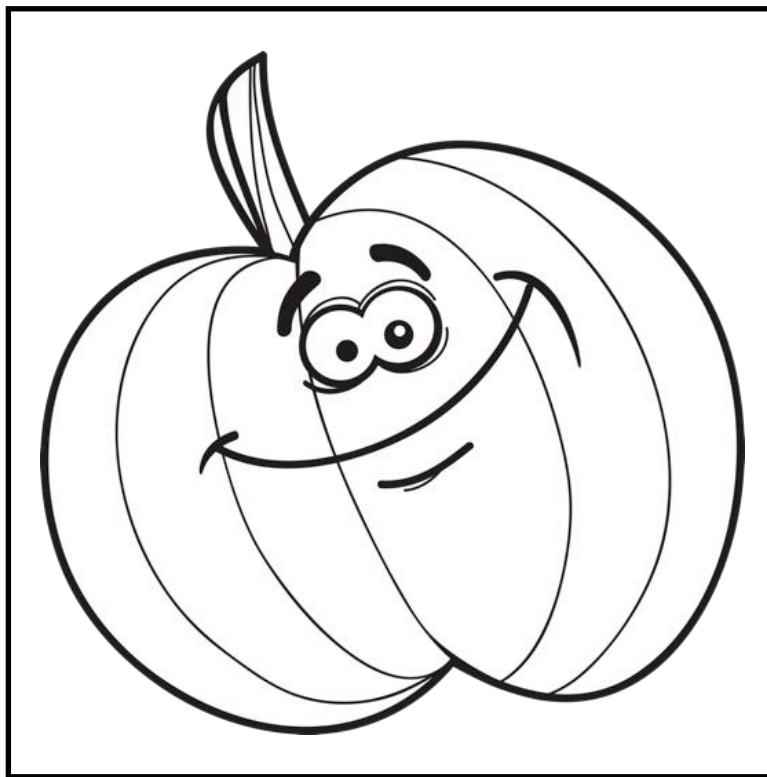


You may wish to look at this smaller image while you complete the puzzle.



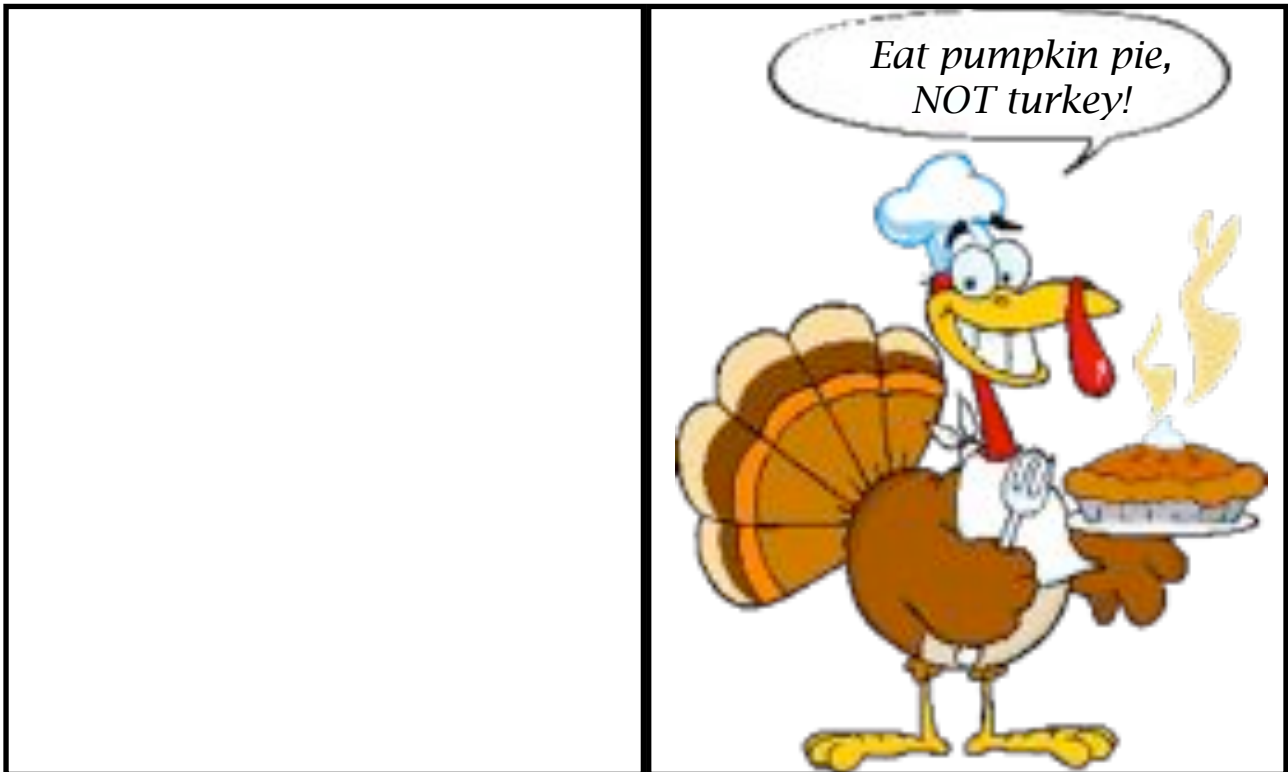
Booklet #4
(Printing Suggestion: Print on
WHITE Paper)

C O L O R I N G P A G E



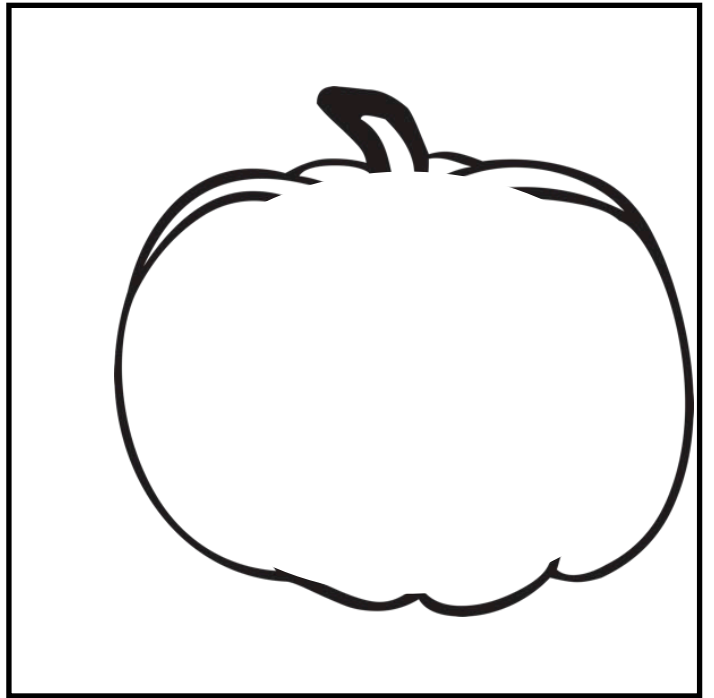
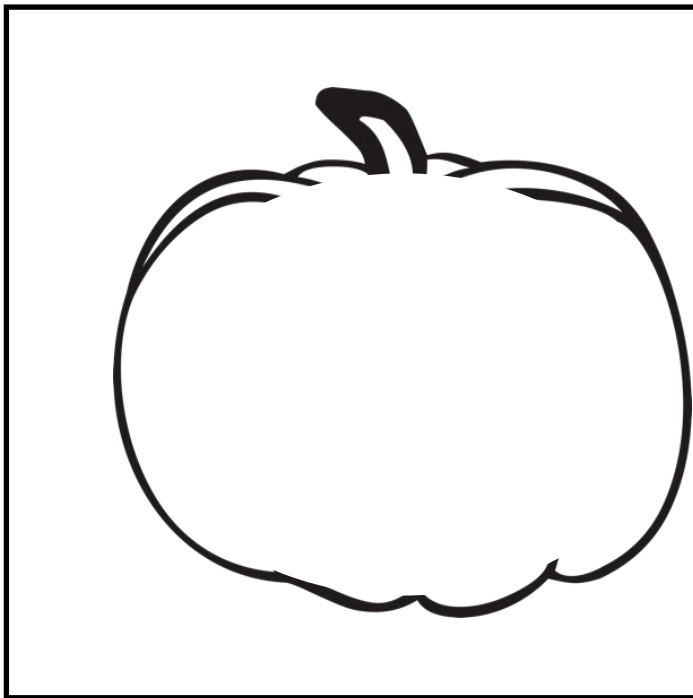
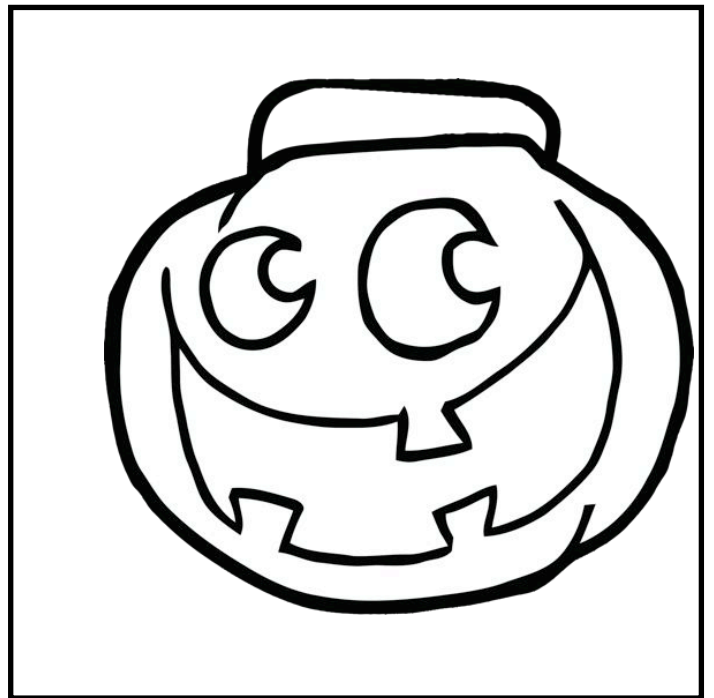
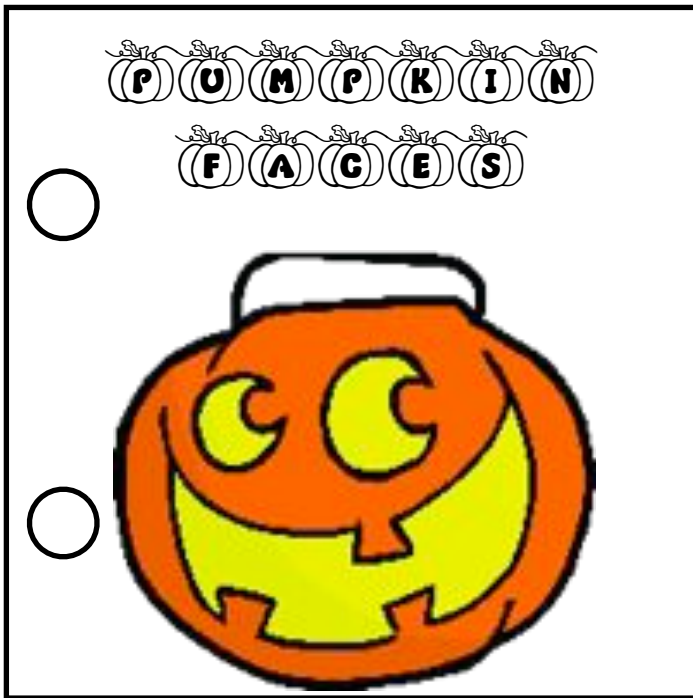
Booklet #5
(Printing Suggestion: Print on WHITE Paper)

C A R T O O N



Booklet #6
(Printing Suggestion: Print on WHITE Paper)

P U M P K I N F A C E S

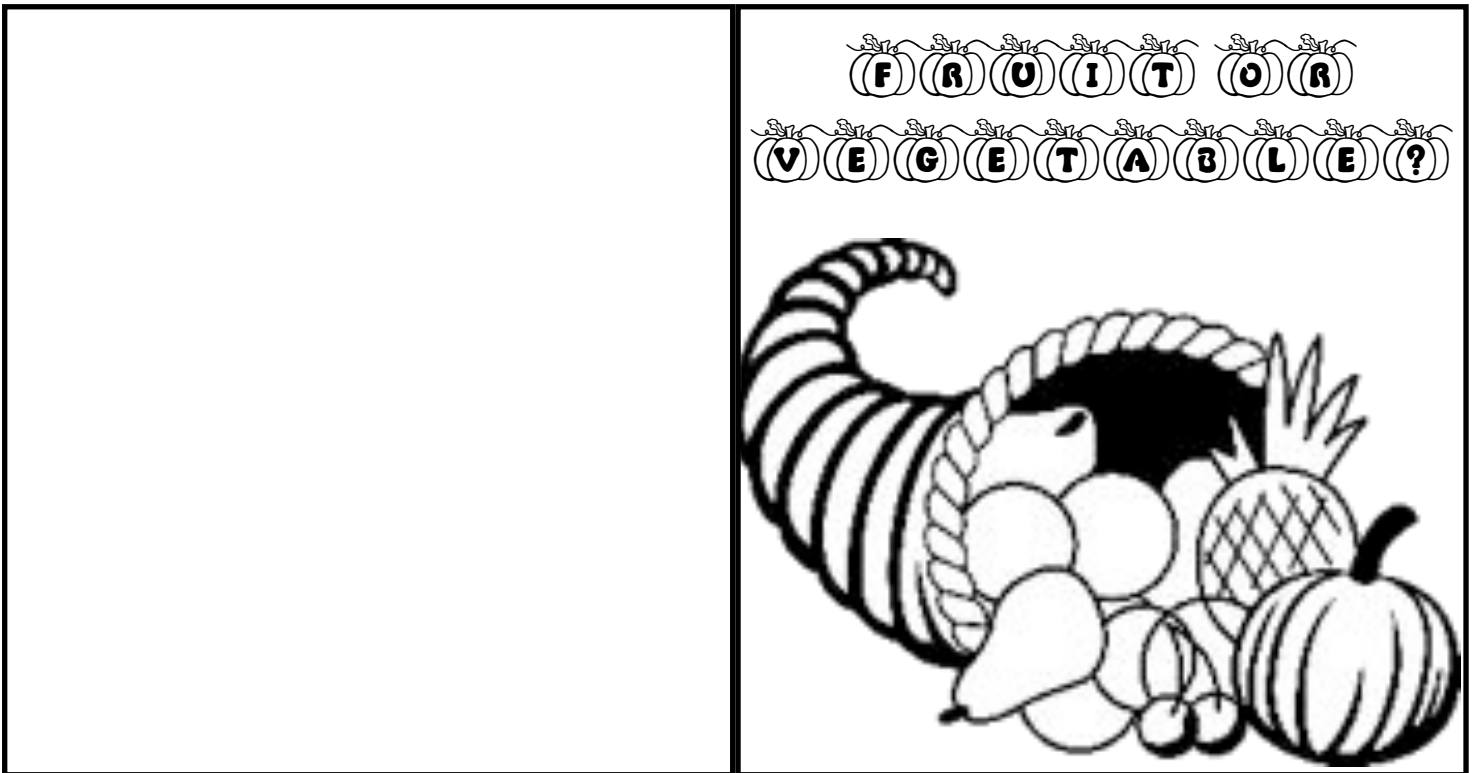




Booklet #8
(Printing Suggestion: Print on ORANGE Paper)

F R U I T O R

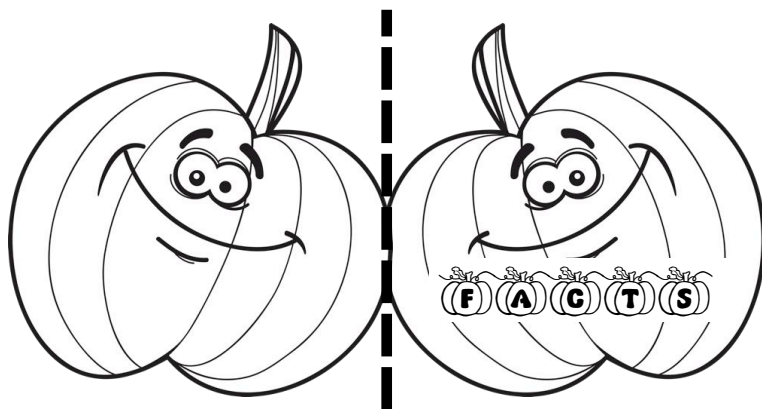
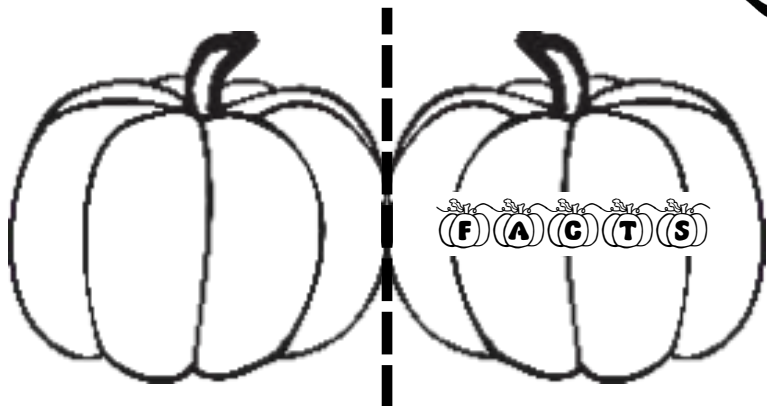
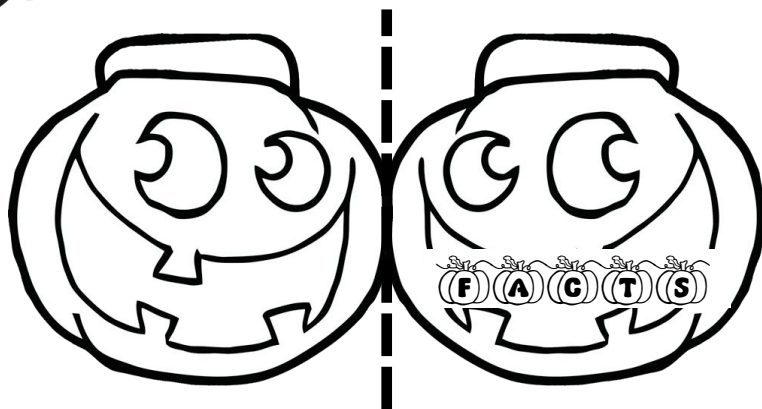
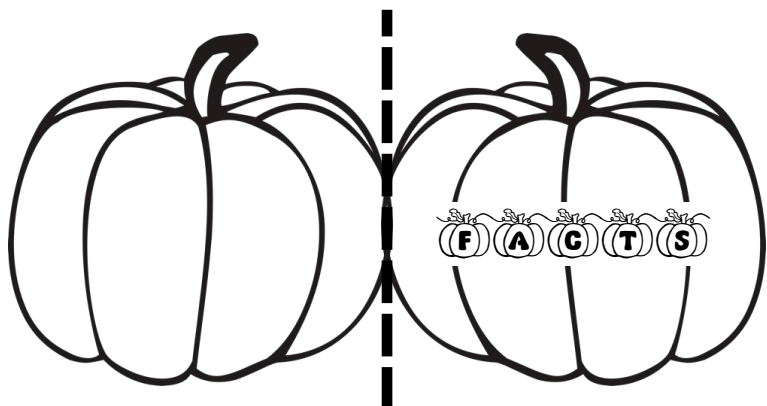
V E G E T A B L E ?



Booklet #9

(Printing Suggestion: Print on ORANGE Paper)

P U M P K I N F A C T S



Booklets #10-13

(Printing Suggestion: Print on ORANGE Paper)

Practically Perfect Pumpkins

Mini-Lapbook

Study Guide



Next year at this same time, I'll find a pumpkin patch that is real sincere and I'll sit in that pumpkin patch until the Great Pumpkin appears. He'll rise out of that pumpkin patch and he'll fly through the air with his bag of toys. The Great Pumpkin will appear and I'll be waiting for him! I'll be there! I'll be sitting there in that pumpkin patch... and I'll see the Great Pumpkin. Just wait and see, Charlie Brown. I'll see that Great Pumpkin. I'll SEE the Great Pumpkin!

-- *Linus in It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown*

Pumpkins

A pumpkin is a large, usually orange or orangish-yellow member of the squash family. It has a thick rind and many seeds. Its flesh is not only edible, it is delicious! Pumpkins can be grown all around the world but are thought to have originated in North America.

Various plants around the world that are called "pumpkins" are from the *Cucurbita* plant family. The scientific name for the large orange orb that is commonly called a pumpkin in the United States and that is most commonly used for carving jack-o-lanterns is the *Cucurbita pepo*. It grows on a vine and is native to the United States and Mexico. It is also sometimes called a summer squash or autumn squash. It is used for food and as an ornamental gourd.

Another common species is the *Cucurbita maxima*, or giant pumpkin. It can weigh over 1,000 pounds and can be almost as tall as a person.

Cucurbita pepo

Image courtesy of <http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Consumer/Agritourism/CornMazes/>



Cucurbita maxima

Image courtesy of <http://blog.mass.gov/>





Fruit or Vegetable?

Many sources, including the Farmers' Almanac, refer to the pumpkin as a vegetable. Most sources, however, regard it as a fruit, including the Mayo Clinic. Fruit or vegetable - do you know the difference?

Fruits and vegetables are both, of course, plant products. From a *culinary* standpoint, sweet plant products that are often used in desserts, such as apples and strawberries, are considered *fruits*. Edible plant products that are more savory and are used in the main dishes and side dishes of a meal are considered *vegetables*. Although these designations are not scientific, they do describe how most people think of fruits and vegetables, which is why so many people consider the tomato a vegetable when it really has the scientific characteristics of a fruit. While we often add sugar and other spices to pumpkin and cook it into a delicious pie, the flavor of the pumpkin without the added sugar and spices is not sweet. It is similar to other members of the squash family in flavor, so it can be classified as a vegetable.

Scientifically speaking, a *vegetable* is a food product that is a part of a plant. A carrot is a root, we eat the stem of the celery, and lettuce and cabbage are leaves. A *fruit* is the ovary of a plant that develops from the flower and contains the seeds for reproduction. Thus, apples, peaches, tomatoes, and pumpkins are all technically fruits. Even nuts are classified as "hard fruits." Nuts used to fall under the "meat" category because of their protein content, but under new classification guidelines they are considered a fruit.

Who is correct? Both viewpoints are correct using their respective definitions, but scientifically speaking, the pumpkin is a fruit!

Harvest



Pumpkins ripen in the autumn at the end of the harvest, and those large balls of bright orange goodness just symbolize autumn fun! They are used in pies, pumpkin breads, and other tasty dishes. Pumpkins also make great decorations.

Pumpkin seeds are roasted as a popular and nutritious seasonal snack. Pumpkin flavoring is used in coffee, hot chocolate, and other seasonal items, and pumpkin scent is used in candles and other scented products, especially in the fall around harvest time.



Image courtesy of <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/>



Jack-O'-Lanterns

Pumpkins, other gourds, and dried corn are often used for fall decorations as symbols of the harvest. Pumpkins are also commonly used to make jack-o'-lanterns. While carving jack-o'-lanterns in October is a favorite activity of many children, some people do not prefer to carry on this tradition because of the often-scary faces or because of the pagan roots of this tradition. Early jack-o'-lanterns were actually carved into beets or turnips in Ireland in the Middle Ages. No one knows the exact purpose, or there may have been several purposes. The lanterns may have been used as lamps to light the way during the dark nights of autumn festivals. They may also have been used to represent souls of the dead, or to scare evil spirits or fairies away from one's home.

Jack-o'-lanterns have been associated with the legends of the Will-o'-the-wisp and of Stingy Jack in Irish folklore. Stingy Jack was a legendary character who tricked the Devil into promising not to take his soul. Finding upon his death that he was not welcome in heaven because of the life he had lived, and unable to go to Hell because of his deal with the Devil, his soul was doomed to wander the earth carrying his jack-o'-lantern. From these various stories, the Irish kept the tradition of carving jack-o'-lanterns during the festival of Samhain and other autumn nights. When Irish immigrants brought the tradition to America, they found that the American-grown pumpkin was plentiful at that time of year and ideal for carving into a lantern. These pumpkin jack-o'-lanterns were not associated with Hallowe'en right away. The modern versions of Hallowe'en pumpkin jack-o'-lanterns have only been used since about the mid-1800s.

Whether or not you carve jack-o'-lanterns, picking a pumpkin in a pumpkin patch for a pie or a decoration is a fun autumn tradition!



Etymology of the Word



Etymology is a fancy word that means "origin." In other words, where did the word *pumpkin* come from?

The word *pumpkin* is derived from the Greek word *pepon* (πέπων). In Greek, it meant "large melon," or something big and round. The word, which was used for various types of squash and gourds, was changed to *pompon* in French, and *pumpion* in British English. The American colonists changed the word to *pumpkin*, and they used it to refer exclusively to the usually orange fruit of the *Cucurbita* family that Americans call pumpkins today.

More Facts About Pumpkins. See the following links:

www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/food/pumpkins.html

www.pumpkinnook.com/facts.htm

www.pumpkinfresh.com/facts.htm

urbanext.illinois.edu/pumpkins/



Autumn Fun Activities



Find a pumpkin farm or a pumpkin patch in your area where you can pick your own pumpkin. Farms often offer several other seasonal fun activities in the fall, including apple-picking, corn mazes, and hayrides.



With your parents' permission, carve a pumpkin. Even if you do not want to carve a jack-o'-lantern face into a pumpkin, there are many other beautiful designs you can carve. Draw a picture on the pumpkin, then carve it out. Cut off the top of the pumpkin, scoop out the seeds, and place a tea light candle or a battery-operated tea light inside. While many people do not want to associate with the dark Samhain-festival traditions of the past, pumpkins truly are a perfect natural lantern to light up dark autumn evenings. Find tips for lighting your lantern at <http://www.wikihow.com/Light-a-Pumpkin-for-Halloween>.

Find carving ideas at <http://www.southernliving.com/food/holidays-occasions/halloween-pumpkins/view-all>.



Draw a face. You can draw a fun face on a pumpkin with markers, or use plastic accessories from a play dough set or a plastic potato-head toy.



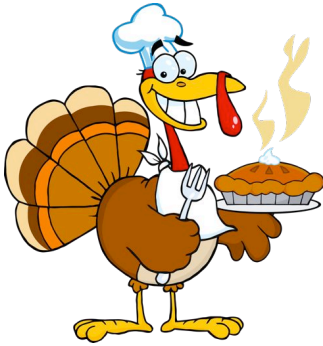
Take a family picture. Pumpkin patches are a fantastic setting for fun and colorful fall pictures!



Watch "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown!"

Baking

As the weather grows cooler and the nights grow darker, it is nice to heat up the oven and fill the house with delicious smells as the holidays approach! Ask your parents if you may help make some family holiday favorites or if your grandmother had a famous pumpkin pie recipe! There are always a few recipes on the cans of pumpkin you can buy in the grocery store. Below are a few easy recipes that you may be able to make on your own, with your parents' permission.



Early Americans cut the tops off of pumpkins, scooped out the seeds, filled them with milk and spices, and baked them in hot ashes for hours. That was the birth of pumpkin pie!

Stir a tablespoon of pumpkin puree into a cup of hot chocolate for a unique treat!

Easy Chocolate Chip Pumpkin Muffins

Ingredients:

- 1 (16.5 oz) yellow cake mix (no eggs or oil, just the mix)
- 1 (15 oz) can of pumpkin
- 2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- 1 (12 oz) bag chocolate chips

Directions:

Mix all ingredients together well.
Pour mixture into greased muffin pan or paper cupcake liners (in muffin pan).
Bake at 350 degrees F for 20-25 minutes, until toothpick inserted into the center of a muffin comes out clean.

Mom's Pumpkin Custard

Ingredients:

- 1 can (30 oz) pumpkin pie mix
- 2/3 cup evaporated milk
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- (no crust)

Directions:

Mix ingredients according to directions on can.
Pour mixture into glass pudding cups.
Place cups in a shallow pan of water in oven.
Bake at 425 degrees for 15 minutes.
Bake at 350 degrees for 50-60 more minutes.

