

Smartest Pumpkin IN THE Patch

Pumpkin Life Cycle (K–3 grade focus)

Objectives: Students will learn the cycle of a pumpkin plant using appropriate vocabulary and picture association.

Standards: **NS. K-3 Life Science:** As a result of activities in grades K-4, all students should develop an understanding of the characteristics of organisms, life cycles of organisms, and organisms and environments.

Preparation/Materials: Copies of the life cycle circle with pointer, orange plates, brads, scissors, coloring materials. Worksheet and dice to play *Roll with It*.

Activity:

1. Read [Pumpkin Pumpkin](#) by Jeanne Titherington or [Too Many Pumpkins](#) by Linda White. Emphasize the importance of the illustrations as this will help them recall for the project.
2. Review with the students what a plant needs to grow. Good soil, water, sun. pollination. Explain how all living things need these as well. Discuss the functions of each cycle as it relates to the growth of the plant.
What would happen if we or plants did not get these things? Explain importance of the sequence of the life cycle as well.
3. Hand out the worksheet. Using the illustration review the pumpkin life cycle process. Have students cut out pumpkin circle. Directing them along the way and coloring on order of process. Continue through the life cycle on the circle until complete. Use brad and paper plate to connect. It fun to add stem and vine with construction paper and pipe cleaner!
4. Play *Roll with It*. Use a die/dice have students roll and move to the appropriate step on the life cycle, have them explain the function of the process that they have moved to. Once they have rolled to the number designated on the pumpkin, have students color in that spot. This can be completed as a group or independent activity.

Extensions:

Video: Lifecycle of a pumpkin. Book Reading, but very informative!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xc71punaV8>

Video: The Pumpkin Life Cycle Song: Short and fast to follow along!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifLMJLN-A9w>.

