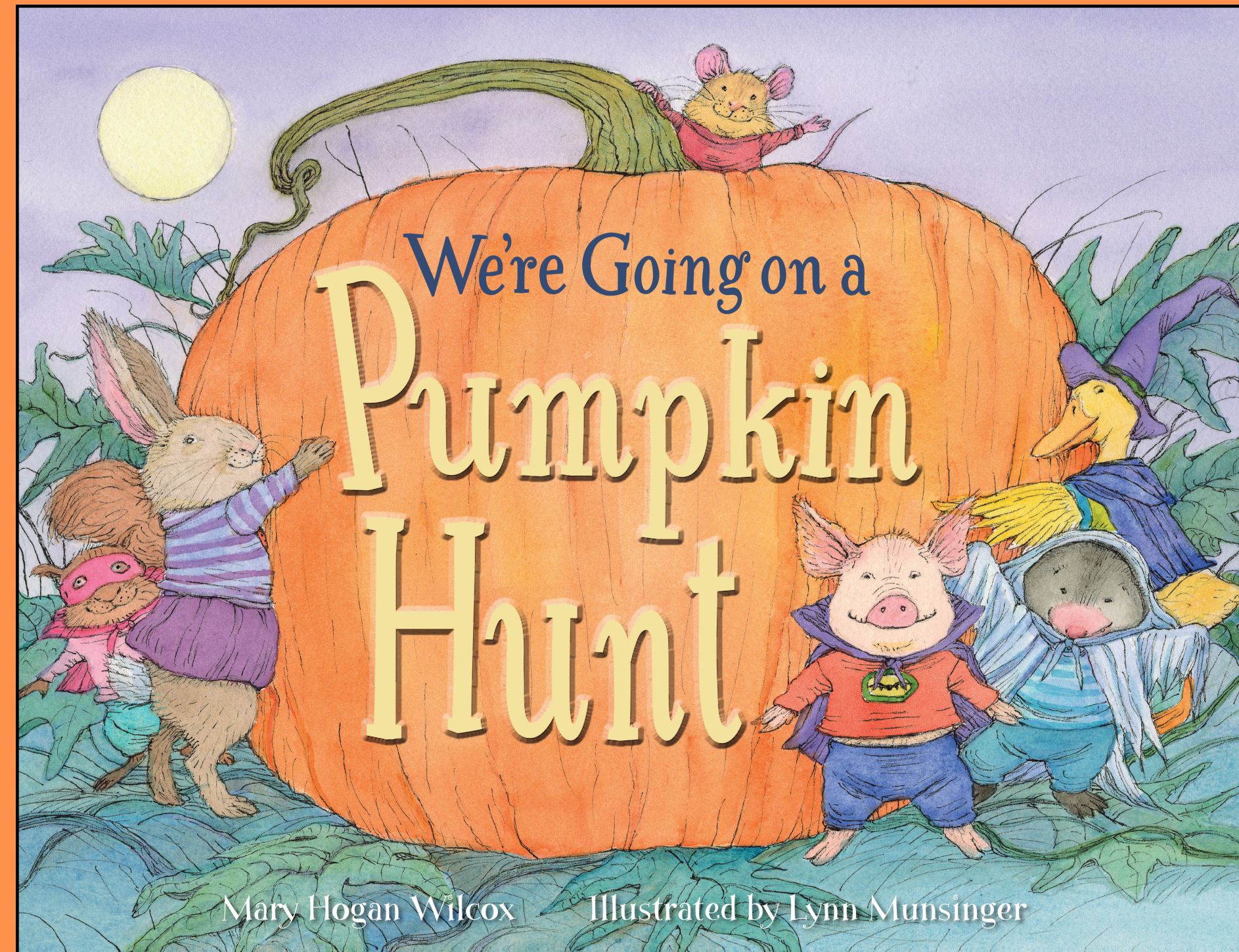


# Distance Learning Teacher Toolkit & Lesson Plan

- Age-appropriate, interactive lessons
- Practical strategies to effectively reach your students
- Bonus options allow you to respond to kids' needs in real time





# FOLLOW THE FLOW

...of an ideal remote learning lesson

1

## FAMILY CONNECTION

An outreach note and description of class objectives

2

## LESSON PLAN

Maximize the opportunities for interaction and connection

3

## CURRICULUM

Social emotional skills  
Self-regulation  
Literacy  
Sequencing  
...and More

4

## EXTEND THE LESSON

At home and future classes

# FAMILY CONNECTION

\*Outreach Note \*Share Learning Objectives

Provide guidance for parents to set them up for success. Communicate objectives so that caregivers can see that valuable learning occurs outside of ABCs and 123s.



The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of several bright orange pumpkins. In the top right corner, there is a blue paperclip graphic.

## Pumpkins for Parents

---

I'm looking forward to our next class together, and to seeing the children's smiling faces. We'll be reading *We're Going on a Pumpkin Hunt*, a picture book about a nighttime hunt for the biggest pumpkin in town. Laugh out loud at the sweet silliness and be heartened to know you might not be the only scaredy cat...er, mouse...in the pumpkin patch. To extend the lesson at home, you can find free, fun activities to download here: <https://www.charlesbridge.com/products/were-going-on-a-pumpkin-hunt>

When you share this preview with your child, it creates connections, and a feeling of stability. I'll take a moment at the beginning of class for children to hold up their work, if they have it. Please know how much I'm looking forward to hunting for all the good things a virtual class can yield with your little one!



# FAMILY CONNECTION: WHAT YOUR CHILDREN ARE LEARNING



- Oral language
- Regulating behavior
  - Fine motor skills
    - Literacy
    - Sequencing
- Social-Emotional Skills



# LESSON PLAN

## Virtual Lesson Plan

### Welcome

- Names: Check-in and Clap
- How are you feeling today?
- Homework Shake
- Schedule

### Activity

Take 5 breathing

### Story

- Introduce cover, author & illustrator
- Prediction
- Connection
- Read & Move Time!

### Activity

Color Hunt

### Music

If You're Brave and You Know It, Clap Your Hands!

### Closure

- Review
- Brave & Shy Goodbye



# Welcome Time: Hello!

Today's story is about big and brave friends, and small and shy friends.

- Each of you is going to say your name two times and in two different ways.
  - Say your name bold. Say it shy.
- When your classmates are saying their names, you will clap boldly. Then clap quietly. (All children to be muted except the child saying her name.)





# Welcome Time: Feelings Check-In

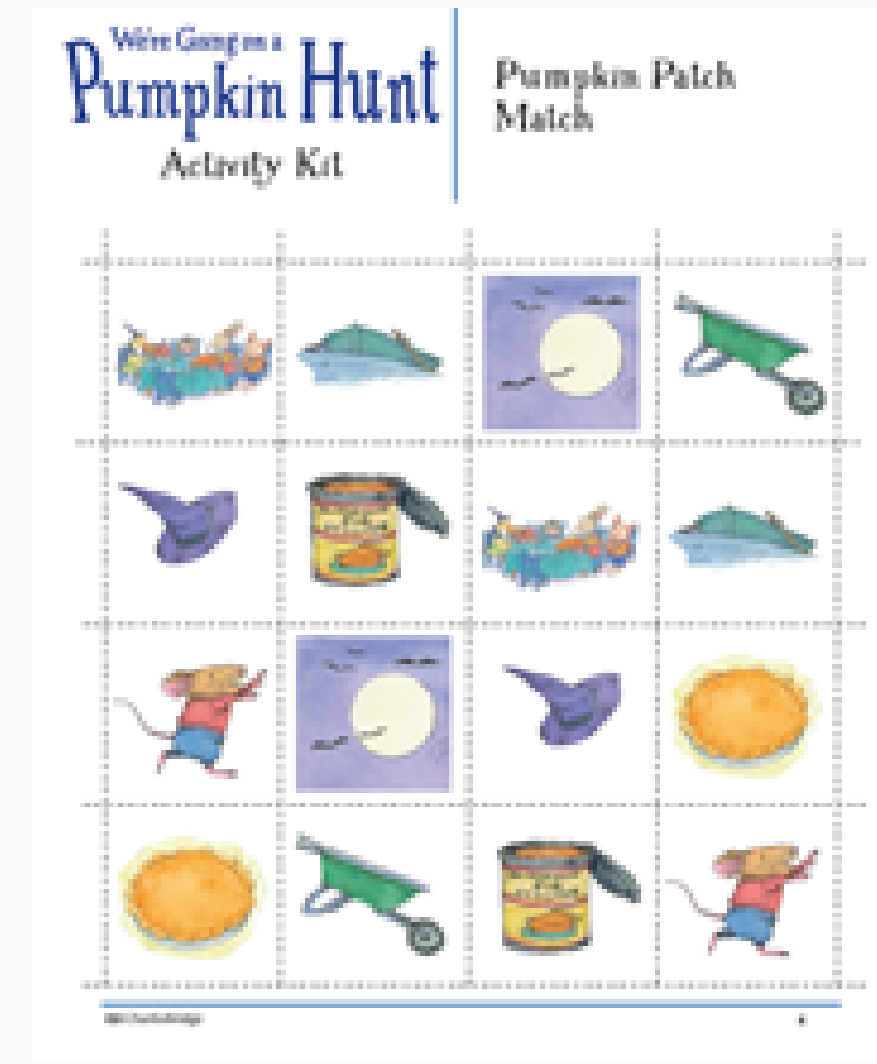
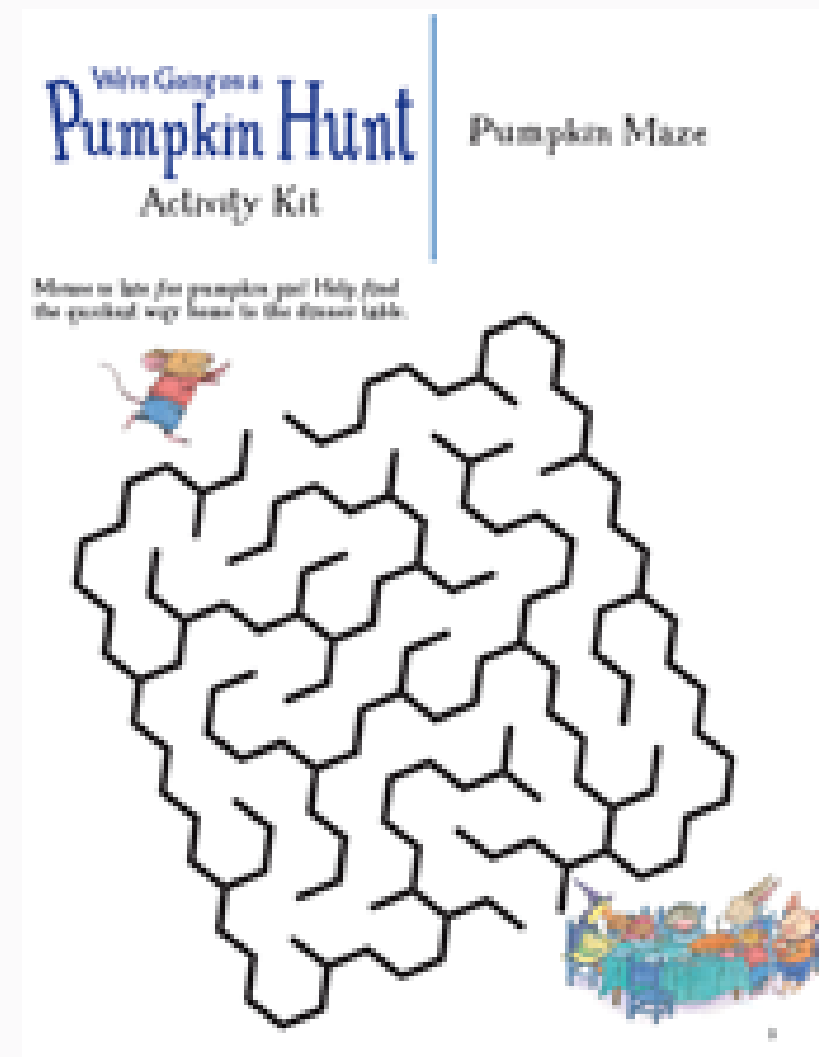
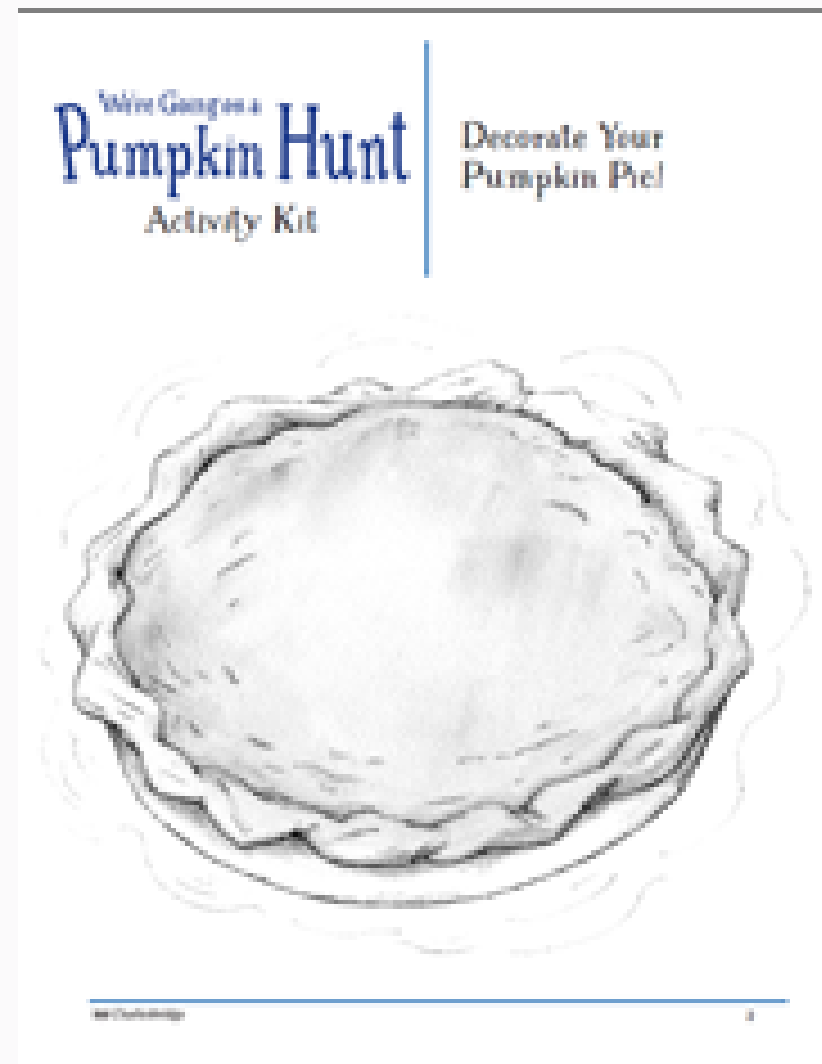
How is everyone feeling? Let's find out.

- Clap hands: Super fast: if you are super-happy. Medium fast: if it's a regular day. Slowly: if it's a droopy day. (If a more energetic hello is warranted, switch in jumping jacks for clapping!)
- Alternate: Show all your fingers on the screen. Wiggle them around. Now we are going to see how everyone is feeling today. Show all your fingers if you are packed with happiness popping out all over. If you are little less than happy-popping, show fewer fingers. Show one little, lonely pinky if it's a droopy day.



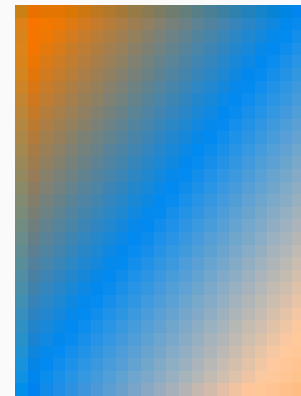
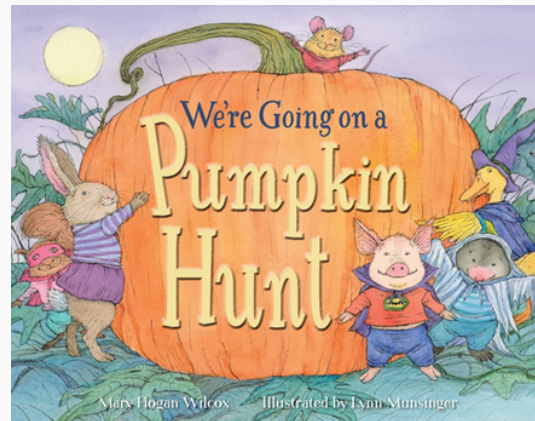
# Welcome Time: Homework Shake

Everyone who was able to complete some work before class, please hold your paper up to the screen, and *shake shake shake!* If you were not able to, you can shake your fingers in the air.



<https://www.charlesbridge.com/products/were-going-on-a-pumpkin-hunt>

# Welcome Time: Schedule Preview





# Activity: Take-5 Breathing

There are some characters who feel a little bit spooked on this journey.

What are some ways that our bodies feel when we are scared?

A powerful way to help your body feel good again is through breathing.

Let's practice Take-5 Breathing to take back our bravery!



- 1.** Stretch your hand out like a star.
- 2.** Get your pointer finger ready to trace your fingers up and down.
- 3.** Slide up each finger slowly ~ slide down the other side.
- 4.** Breathe in through your nose ~ out through your mouth.
- 5.** Put it together and breathe in as you slide up and breathe out as you slide down.  
Keep going until you have finished tracing your hand.





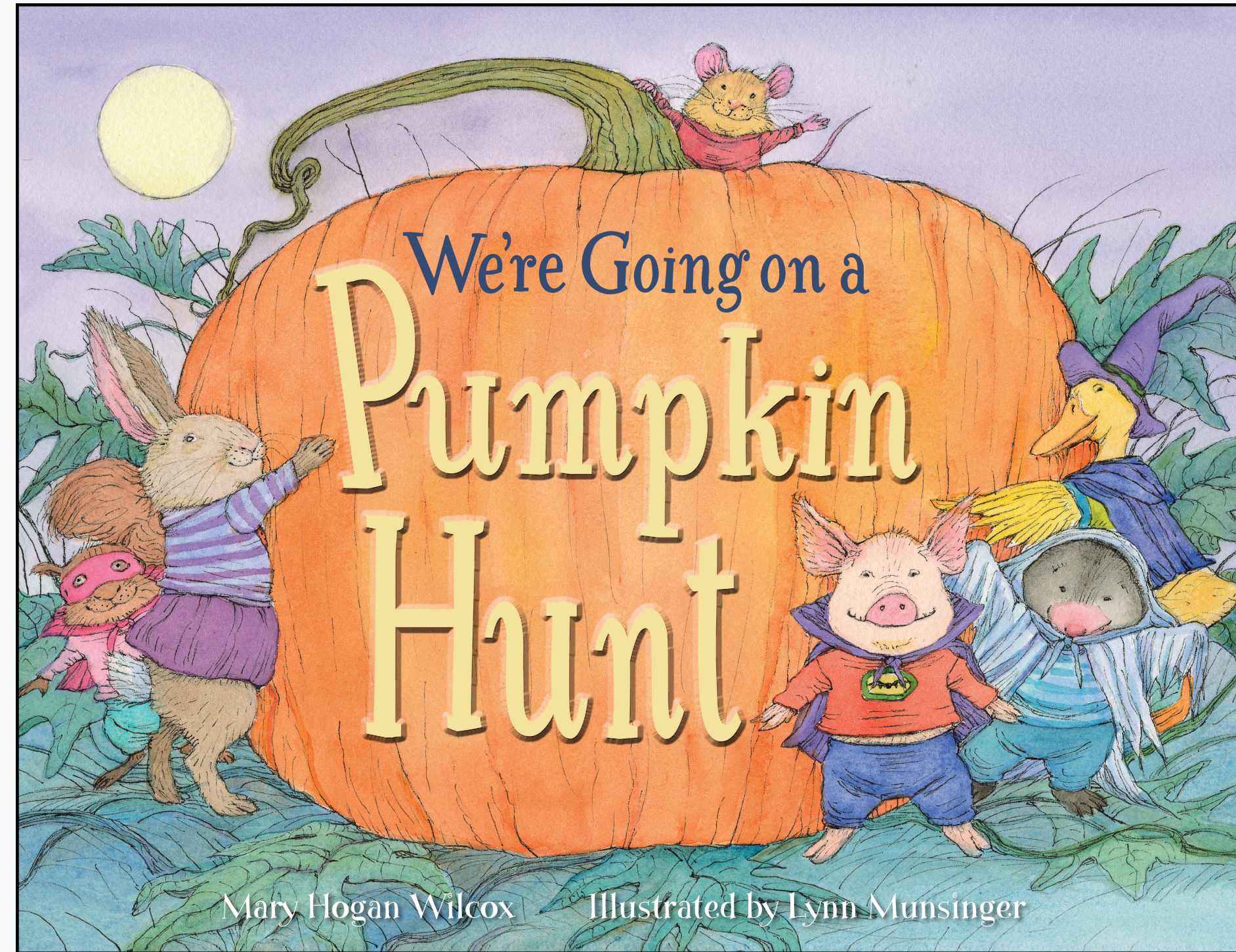
Check out more fun breathing (and free printables): <https://childhood101.com/fun-breathing-exercises-for-kids/>



# Storytime: Read and Move

- Introduce cover, author, illustrator
- Prediction
- Connection

Interactive Storytelling invites movement! Act out all the stomping and chasing together.





# Storytime: More Exploration

**Oral Language:** The words “*squeak-squeak-squeak*” are used to describe the way the gate sounds. What are some other words that you can use to describe sounds? (*Bang, Zap, Poof*)

**Science:** Walk on different surfaces. Which is louder: rug or no rug? Walk on a blanket, tin foil, etc... Categorize as loud or quiet.



# Activity: Color Hunt

Look around your room. Raise your hand when you see something orange. (Unmute each child you wish to respond. Continue through the rainbow. Alternate: have each child point their screen toward something orange.)

# Activity: Emotion Charades

Choose a child. Ask her to express an emotion using her face and body. The other children raise their hands for you to unmute them to guess the emotion.





# Music

Adapt “If You Are Happy and You Know It” to the emotions of the book. “If You’re Brave And You Know It...if You’re Scared..If You’re Hungry...”

Alternate: ask the children to choose a favorite song that has a connection with the book:

Row Row Row Your Boat; Old MacDonald Had a Farm; Hickory Dickory Dickory Dock. (Some silly choices: London Bridge is Falling Down, The Itsy Bitsy Spider, Wheels on the Bus)



# Closure: Bold and Shy Good-bye

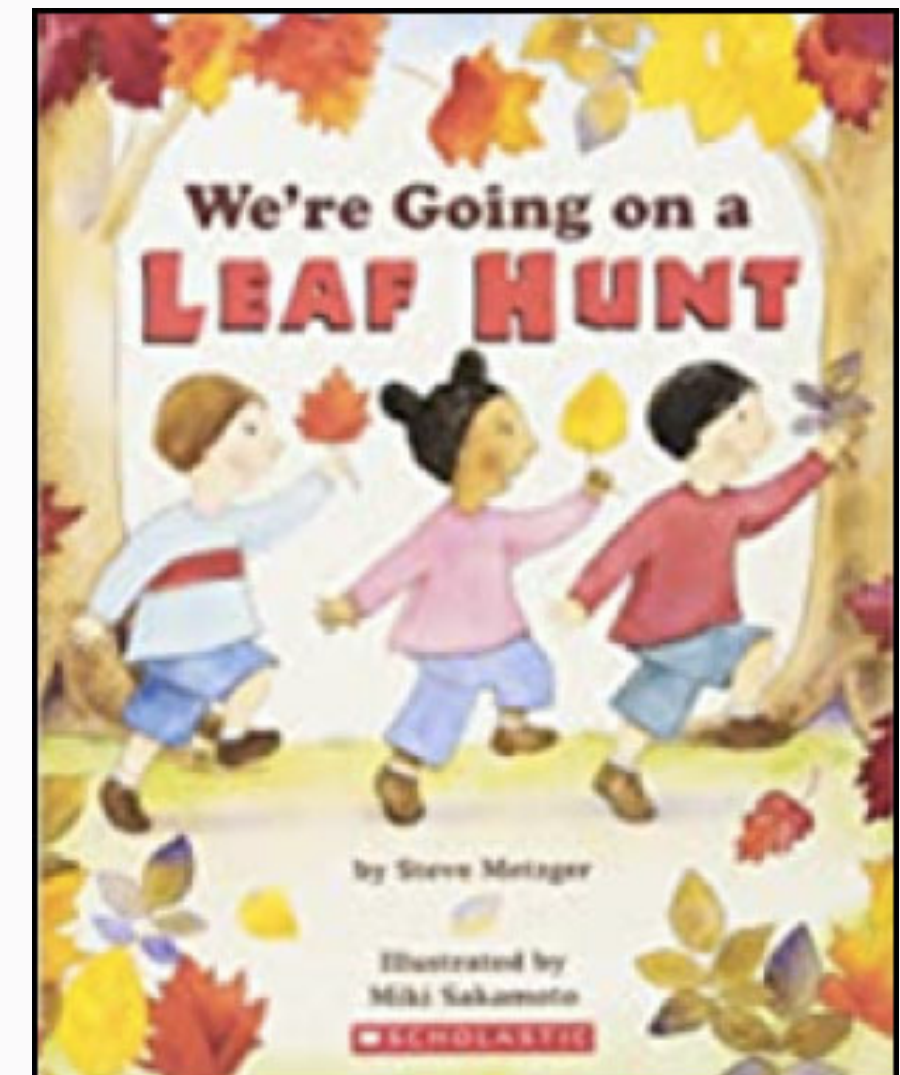
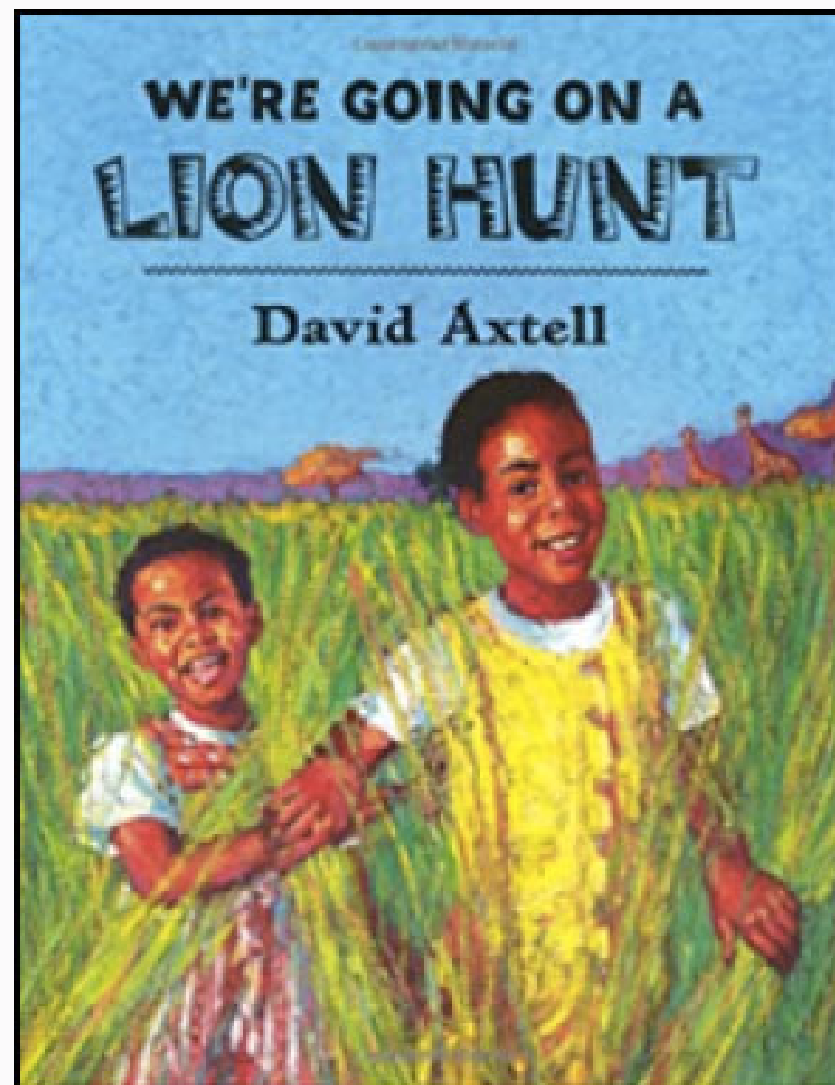
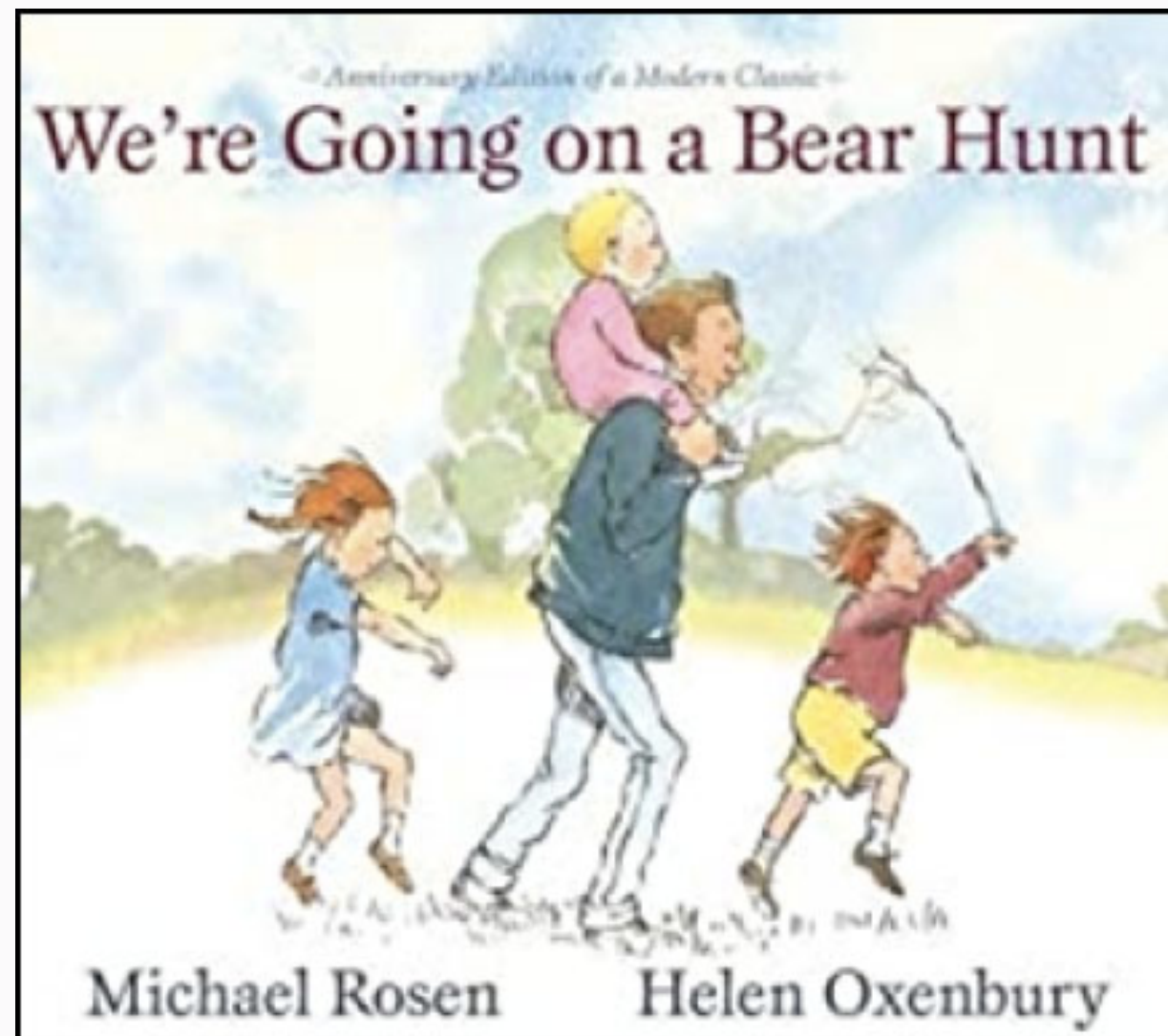
Modeled on our hello!

- Each of you is going to say your name two times and two different ways.
  - Say your name bold. Say it shy.
- When your classmates are saying their names, you will clap boldly. Then clap quietly. (All children to be muted except the child saying her name.)



# Extend the Lesson: Linked Books

Reading multiple versions of the same story is a great way to introduce story structure: beginning/middle/end. You can compare and contrast characters and setting. Linked readings help children pay attention to details, listen more closely, and build a connection to the story on a deeper level.





# Extend the Lesson: Family Connection

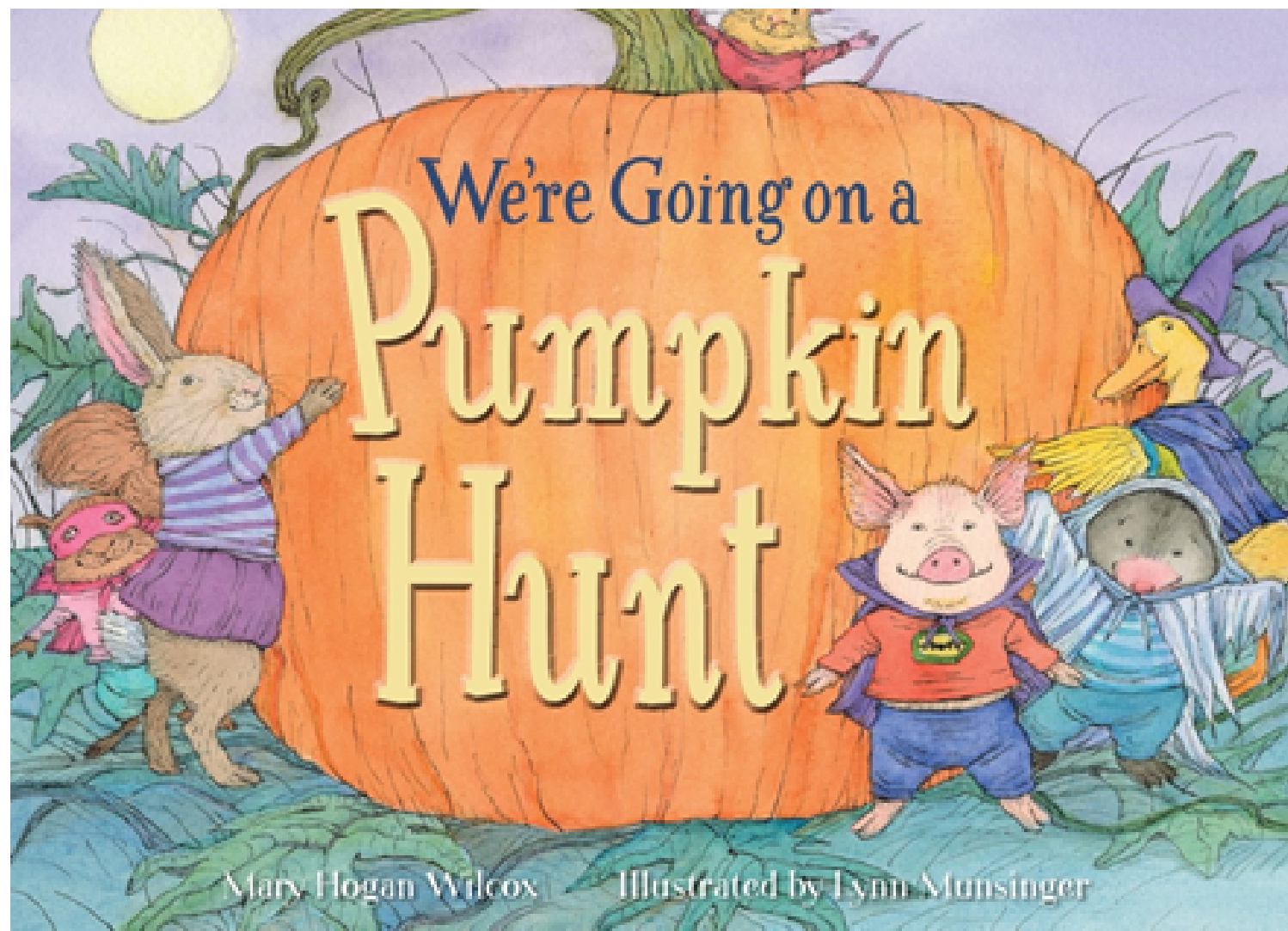
Suggest that a caregiver takes a video of the child talking about a time that she was brave—and then send the video to you, the teacher—or to someone who loves her!



# Available Wherever Books are Sold

★ "This comical, rollicking story is delicious... filled with sweetness and autumnal good cheer."

-Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review



 Charlesbridge

## What Teachers and Librarians are Saying



Laura rated it ★★★★★  
Shelves: picture-books

Apr 19, 2020

What a great little story for kids of any age. Beautifully written and the illustrations are just wonderful. I can't wait to purchase a copy and have it in my preschool classroom this fall.

[Like](#) · [see review](#)



Jess Smiley rated it ★★★★★

Jul 18, 2020

A fun Halloween twist on the beloved American folk song, written in a rhythmic verse and illustrated with contemplative watercolors.. A tricky Halloween twist that's a treat to read!



Miranda rated it ★★★★★★

Apr 14, 2020

This was a cute take on We're Going on a Bear Hunt. It would be a great addition for any children's librarian who frequently does story hours. It would also be a great addition for any preschool teacher's library.