

Grow a Pumpkin



Claire Llewellyn

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lantern
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Summer
earth
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Alternative pronunciations

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Tricky Words

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It's your

Tricky Words

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Oxford
Reading
Tree

Phonics

Grow a Pumpkin



Claire Llewellyn

Why grow pumpkins?

It's good fun growing pumpkins.

They grow
like mad!





You can use your pumpkin to make a giant lantern and a quick snack. This book tells you all you need to know.

Getting started


What do you need
to grow pumpkins?

Sunny patch
of ground

Pumpkin
seeds

Watering
can





Garden fork
and spade

Manure

First, get your ground ready.
Dig a hole and fill it with
manure. Put the earth back
on top to make a low 'hill'.

Plant
food



Did you know?

You should plant your
seeds in the spring.



Sowing your seeds

Sow three seeds in your 'hill'.
Lay each seed on its side about
3cm under the ground.





Put a jar over each seed. This will protect the seedlings from slugs and snails.



Did you know?

Slugs and snails could eat all your seedlings in just one night!

Looking after the plants

Your plants will grow very quickly and flowers will soon appear. When the petals have dropped off, the pumpkins start to grow.



Pumpkin plants are very thirsty
so give them plenty of water.
Add plant food to
the water every
week or so.

You can eat
pumpkin flowers!



Look at them grow!

Your pumpkins will keep growing all summer long.

1

The pumpkin seed is sprouting.



2

Now it is a small plant. Flowers are growing!



3

A pumpkin is starting to grow.

very small pumpkin



4

The pumpkin is getting bigger ...



5

... and bigger!



The ripe pumpkin

Put some wood under your pumpkin to protect it from the damp ground. Turn it gently now and then so the sun helps to ripen every part.



At the end of the summer, your pumpkin will be ripe and ready. Cut through the stalk with a sharp knife.



Knives are sharp. Ask an adult to help!



Make a lantern

Did you know that pumpkins
make fantastic lanterns?
This is what you need:

newspaper

teaspoon

perfect
pumpkin

pen



Step 1

Spread newspaper on a table.
Cut a hole around the stalk of
the pumpkin so you can put
your hand inside.



Step 2

Pull out all the seeds and flesh and put them in the bowl. Use a spoon to scrape out the insides.



Step 3

Draw a pattern on your pumpkin.



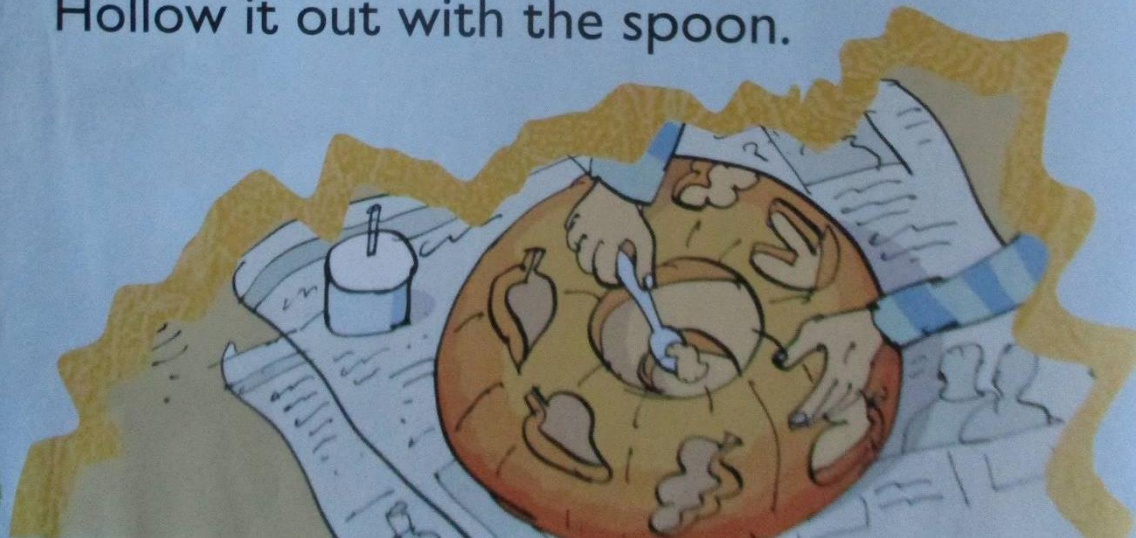
Step 4

Carefully cut out the shapes.



Step 5

Mark a circle the size of your candle in the bottom of the pumpkin.
Hollow it out with the spoon.





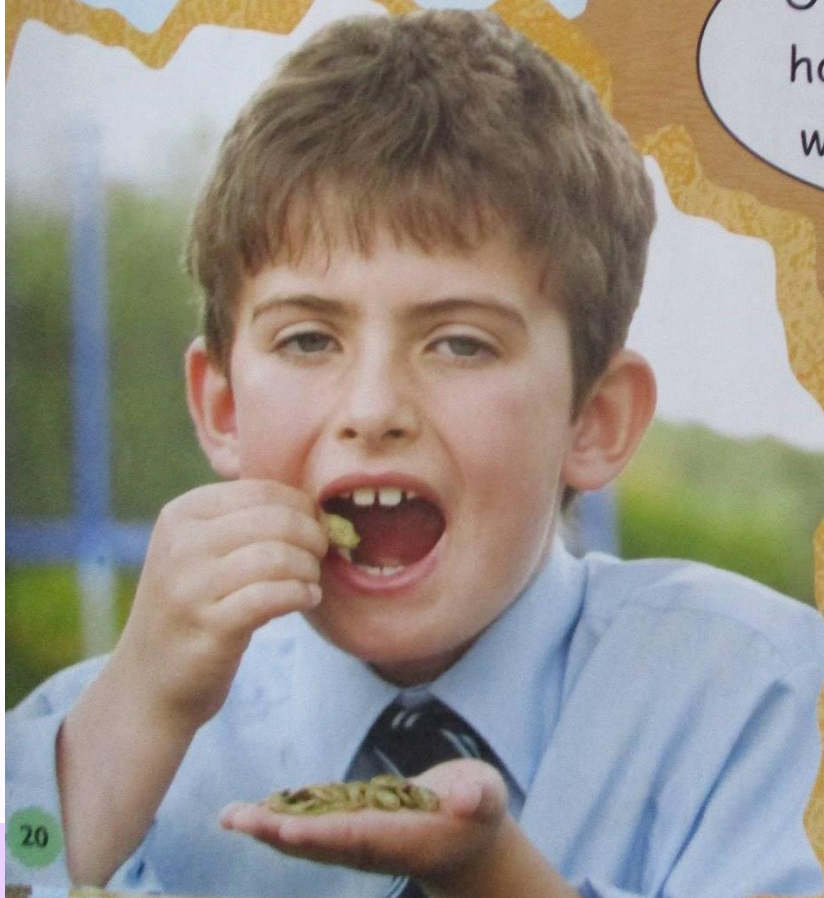
Step 6

Put your candle in the hollow.
Light it, and put the stalk back
on top of the pumpkin.

A pumpkin snack

Roasted pumpkin seeds
make a good snack.

Ovens are very
hot! Make this
with an adult.



You need:

kitchen
paper

tin

cooking oil

salt

tablespoon

pumpkin
seeds



Step 1

Wash and dry
the seeds.



Step 2

Spread them out on a tin.



Step 3

Pour on a tablespoon of oil and sprinkle with salt.



Step 3

Roast the seeds at 150°C until they are golden-brown.



Use the text to help you answer these questions. Remember to be a Rocket Retriever or a Crimson Clue Hunter.

1. What do you need to grow pumpkins?

2. Why do you need to put a jar over each pumpkin seed?

3. What season do pumpkins grow?

4. Why should you put wood underneath your pumpkin whilst it is growing?

5. In your own words, tell an adult how to make a lantern using a pumpkin.

5. Why was the old man surprised to see the children with the Snow Monster?

6. What does the test suggest the children will make for the Snow monster when they get home?

7. Do you think you would like to meet the Snow Monster? Why/why not?