

Kindergarten 1-Hour Session
Pumpkin Patch
10-28-15

Caution: If the group is early in the day, surfaces may still be wet from dew or rain. Wipe off the tables in the story time tent and the selling area, the bales of hay students will sit on, and chairs in the story time tent. The tables will be needed for students to put papers on to mark off the items found during the scavenger hunt activity.

Welcome to the Pumpkin Patch

- Introduce myself. Find out names of adult helpers.
- We're going to learn some things about pumpkins, sing some songs, and do some other fun things together.

Hooky Spooky (Halloween version of Hokey Pokey)

- Show black and orange streamer. Give guidelines for use: hold at one end, don't shake in someone's face, don't crumple or tear so someone else can use it in another group. Don't hand out streamers yet.
- Have students line up behind you and walk out onto the parking lot single file. Have students stop in a line (along one of the parking lines is helpful). Adult helpers hand out orange and black streamers so that each student holds an orange streamer in one hand and black streamer in the other. Invite adults to also have streamers and to join in.
- Have students form a big circle with at least an arm-length space between students.
- Walk students through how to follow the song to know what to do. Walk them through steps with "orange hand." Have them show what to do for orange foot, black hand, black foot, whole self. Demonstrate as needed.
- Sing the "Hooky Spooky" song and play. (See song sheet for lyrics.)

Return to the Story Tent for **Scavenger Hunt Set-Up.**

- Invite students to turn and look at the pumpkin patch.
- Explain Scavenger Hunt and show handout.
- Give directions for putting name on handout.
- Point out the truck and the New Mexico state outline. Point in direction of the sign with info about the pumpkins coming on a truck from New Mexico. If a helper is available to be at that sign, tell adults to take their group to the sign and that the helper there will explain about the state and truck. Otherwise, have adult helpers that are with the group read the sign to their group.

Direct adults to take papers and crayons. Remind about sign and to bring children back to seating area when all done. While adults ready the materials, have children stand, make a line, and follow the leader (me). Lead the children out into the pumpkin patch singing "**We're Walking in the Pumpkin Patch**". (Tune of "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush")

Lyrics:

We're walking in the Pumpkin Patch, the Pumpkin Patch, the Pumpkin Patch.

We're walking in the Pumpkin Patch on a sunny day. (marching, clapping, skipping, hopping)

Scavenger Hunt

Divide the children among adult workers. Children should put names on their scavenger hunt sheets (get papers and crayon from adults), then look for the items on the paper. When found, put an X on that picture. When all pictures have been found, return to the seating area.

Transition:

What did you see in the pumpkin patch? (Let students share something that they saw.)

- What color are pumpkins? Are all of them orange? Did you see some that were not orange?
- What size?
- What is the stick on top?
- What do you suppose is inside? I have a pumpkin here that has had the top cut so we can take it off and look inside. What do you think we'll see? Show seeds inside of cut pumpkin.

Life Cycle of a Pumpkin

- Return to the cut pumpkin. Why do you think there are so many seeds inside of a pumpkin if only one seed is needed to grow a new plant? (Nature always has a back-up plan in case something goes wrong. Some seeds may not sprout, some may sprout but the plant doesn't live, may need more than one plant in case seeds from another plant don't grow, etc.)
- Read the Life Cycle of a Pumpkin and elaborate as needed. Show worksheet to go back to school with them.
- Show pumpkins they will take home. (Invite adult helper to put names on pumpkins at this time.)

Songs

- Five Little Pumpkins
- One Little, Two Little, Three Little Witches
- Once I Had a Pumpkin (may save for ending)
- Other

Story

Read story book(s).

Song: Once I Had a Pumpkin (if not already done)

Trick-or-Treat Safety and Manners

- Go with an adult
- Go to houses of people you know
- Watch for traffic
- Use a flashlight where dark
- Stay on sidewalk
- Don't damage lawns or decorations.
- If offered, take only one or two unless offered more.
- Say "thank you"

Thank you for coming to the Pumpkin Patch! (hand out sticker to each student)