

## Pumpkin Pie Play Dough

- 1 Cup flour
- ½ Cup salt
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 Cup water
- Food coloring (6 drops red & 15 drops yellow)



Note: Smells good, doesn't taste good. Safe if child happens to eat.

1. Combine the dry ingredients in a nonstick saucepan. Add the oil, water and food coloring. Whisk until smooth.
2. Cook the mixture over medium heat, stirring constantly, until it forms a ball – about 3-4 minutes.
3. Turn the dough onto a counter. Let it cool slightly. Then knead the dough until it has a smooth texture – about 1 minute. The dough will keep up to a week in a ziplock bag.
4. To make stems use green pipe cleaners or pasta dyed green. (Fusilli pasta makes a good stem.) Put pasta in a ziplock bag. Add 5 drops of green food coloring and a teaspoon of water. Seal the bag and squish the pasta around until it is tinted. Pour the pasta onto a piece of waxed paper and let it dry for 5 minutes or more before handling it.

## Pumpkin Games



Think pumpkins are just for carving into jack-o'-lanterns and baking into pies? Guess again. After the second helping of Thanksgiving pumpkin pie, get up and get moving with these great-for-all-ages games. They make the most of these roly-poly icons of autumn, whose uneven shapes can result in some erratic itineraries! Be sure to use small to medium-size pumpkins; large ones are too heavy.

### Pumpkin Bowling

Arrange a triangle of 10 empty plastic 1- or 2-liter bottles. Players take turns gently rolling a pumpkin into the pins, with three chances to knock them all down.

### Pumpkin Roll

Determine a starting line and a finish line. Set 2 pumpkins on their sides at the start and have the racers line up behind them. At "Go," each pair of challengers uses sturdy brooms to propel the pumpkins over the finish line.

# Pumpkin Seed Mosaics



Mosaics are made of tiny colored pieces of stone, pottery, glass or other materials, arranged together and set in plaster or cement to make patterns and images. They can be used to decorate a floor, a wall or in some cases a ceiling.

Mosaics have a long history. They were created in Ancient times in Babylon, Egypt, Greece and Rome. When the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum (which were buried under lava when Mount Vesuvius erupted in A.D. 79) were rediscovered, many wonderful mosaics were found.

Ask your students to imagine, making a mosaic using over one million pieces of glass - all hand cut, and placed into wet plaster to create a large pattern for their entry hall! It is a project that would take months and in some cases even many years to complete.

For several centuries, interest in the making of mosaics declined. It wasn't until the 19th century, when architects started to look at old ideas for new inspirations, that the interest once again returned and mosaics began popping up in public buildings and private homes.

Make your own mosaic ... Don't throw those pumpkin seeds away! Roast a few and paint the rest for a spectacular work of art.

## What You Need:

Pumpkin Seeds (clean)  
Shallow container  
Pencils

Tempera paint (dark colors)  
Thick paper (poster board)  
Wax paper or newspaper

Paint brush  
Glue  
Fork

## What You Do:

1. Have students choose a few paint colors that would work for pumpkins, cats, bats, ghosts, or monsters.
2. Put pumpkin seeds into a shallow dish (one for each color), squirt some paint on the seeds and mix until all seeds are covered in paint. Drain the water off the seeds and then dump them on a tray lined with wax paper or newspaper. Spread them out with a fork and let them dry.
3. While they are waiting for the seeds to dry, students can draw a picture onto their poster paper. Remind students to keep it simple, remember, they will be "coloring in" with seeds.
4. When the seeds are dry, they can be arranged and glued onto the poster paper in the appropriate areas.

\*\*\*If you are feeling really adventurous, try using plaster instead of glue to create the mosaics. Just remind students to work quickly as plaster has a very quick set time. Also, never pour plaster down the sink. Wait for it to dry and throw it in the garbage.

\*\*\*You can always use dried beans, lentils, popcorn or other types of seeds for this project ... you don't need to use pumpkin seeds. In fact, if you use dried beans, you can leave them in their natural colorful state (black eyed peas, red kidney beans etc).





## Pumpkin Village

Instead of the carving the traditional Jack O Lantern create a classroom pumpkin village.

1. Cut the top open at an angle so it doesn't fall inside the pumpkin. Scoop out the seeds and stringy flesh.
2. Use a washable black marker to outline the windows and doors. This lets a child "erase" with paper towels and begin again. When design is set, trace with a permanent marker. This becomes the guide for carving.
3. Carve out the windows straight or an angle they can be pushed in are removed. This will let more light shine out. Carve door out completely, or just slits on the top and one side to make it appear open.
4. Trace the edges of the window and door again with the marker, if needed.
5. Put a candle or battery light inside.
6. Other ideas: Stem can be painted red and become a chimney. A cotton ball can be glued on top for smoke. Flat rocks or pebbles can be laid in from to make a path leading up to the door.

## Pumpkin Spelling Bee!

Who says you can't have fun with spelling?

1. Make pumpkin cut-outs from orange paper (or duplicate on a sheet of paper the outline drawing of a pumpkin) with the words "Pumpkins" – "can" – "have" – "are." See picture.
2. Talk about each and have children write the descriptive words.



## Using the 5 Senses

1. Make pumpkin cut-outs from orange paper (or duplicate on a sheet of paper the outline drawing of a pumpkin) with the 5 senses (seeing, feeling, hearing, smelling, tasting) divided into sections as illustrated.
2. Talk about the senses and have the children describe pumpkins in regards to each of the 5 senses.

# Pumpkin Patch Word Match

1. Learn the definition of each word below:

**Seed**      **Blossom**      **Pumpkin**      **Sprout**      **Vine**      **Squash**

2. Fill in the best word that matches the meaning in the blank.

3. Using color pencils, color the shape in the picture that is the same as your answer.

4. **HAVE FUN! WE ARE GLAD YOU CAME TO THE PUMPKIN PATCH!**

A. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a slender stem that trails or creeps on the ground.

**Color that space BLACK.**

B. The small part of a plant that is dormant and stores food which can grow into a new plant is a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Color that space GREEN.**

C. The fruit of any vine like plant MIGHT be called a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Color that space BLACK.**

D. The flower of a plant is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Color that space GREEN.**

E. To begin to grow or shoot forth as a plant from a seed is a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Color that space BLACK.**

F. A large orange vegetable on a coarse vine is a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Color that space BLACK.**

Color your Pumpkin **ORANGE** and color the wavy lines and spaces with triangles **ANY COLOR!**

