



Science



Literacy

# 3-D PUMPKIN

## Grade Level

3-5

## Length of Lesson

45 minutes

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, students will learn more about growing pumpkins in Illinois.

## Materials Needed

- Orange construction paper
- Green construction paper
- Hole punch
- 2 paper fasteners for each pumpkin
- Scissors

## Standards

### Common Core

CCSS.ELA-Literacy:  
RI.3.1; RI.3.9; W.3.2;  
W.3.7

SS.EC.1.3; SS.IS.4.3-5

### NGSS

K-LS1-1; 3-LS1-1; 3-LS4-3

## Lesson Summary

This lesson is designed to help students learn more about pumpkins while creating a visual display of a mini pumpkin.

## Suggested Sequence of Events:

1. Set Up: Cut the orange paper lengthwise into 3/4 inch strips. Cut the green construction paper into 1inch x 1 inch squares. Stack the orange strips and hole punch both ends of the stack and then punch a hole through the center of the green squares. Each student will get four orange strips and one green square.
2. Read [“Too Many Pumpkins”](#) by Linda White to capture student interest.
3. Read through AITC Pumpkin Ag Mag to learn about pumpkins. Interactive online versions can be found on our website.
4. Complete the activity following the procedures:
  - Identify four pumpkin facts from the Ag Mag and write a fact on each of their strips of orange paper.
  - Have students stack their orange strips, all facing the same direction.
  - Place a brad fastener through the center hole of the green square and then through one end of the stack of the orange strips. Make sure the words are facing outward. Spread the wings of the fastener to keep it in place.
  - Grab a second fastener and bend each end of the paper strips down, sliding the fastener through the punched hole at both ends. When all eight ends are attached, spread the fastener inside your pumpkin.
  - Last, have students spread out the paper strips to form a 3D pumpkin!
5. Whole class discussion and reflection of activity. Pair students together and have them share their pumpkin facts with their partner.

# TEACHER RESOURCES

## Extension Ideas:

- Read "[Pick a Pumpkin](#)" by Patricia Toht. Look at the pictures and have students analyze the images.
- Have students write three facts about pumpkins and one lie on their orange strips and have their classmates figure out which is the lie.
- Have students create a comic strip including pumpkin facts.
- Have students tell a story from the pumpkin's perspective.
- Introduce or teach about photosynthesis.
- Watch a time lapse video of a pumpkin growing.
- Watch a video from a local farmer discussing pumpkin growth and harvest.
- Take a field trip to a pumpkin patch and pick your own pumpkins.
- Take a closer look at squash bees and other pollinators. What is pollination? Why is it important for pumpkins?
- Go to [agintheclassroom.org](http://agintheclassroom.org) to contact your County Literacy Coordinator for free classroom sets of our Ag Mags!



Illinois is the #1 state for growing pumpkins.

Morton, Illinois is the Pumpkin Capital of the World.

Pumpkin growth starts inside a flower.