



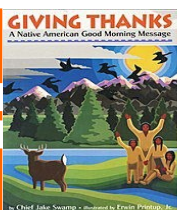
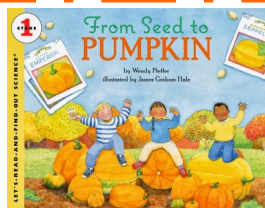
The Scoop in Family Child Care

For Licensed Home Child Care Providers

Date: November 1, 2021 Issue #11

Featured Books

Read aloud: search YouTube for *From Seed to Pumpkin The Joyful Bookshelf* or visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0aFrXW2cFQ>



Bonus book! Find the 8-minute Scholastic video by searching YouTube for "Giving Thanks Jim Reschke" or visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PE2YHTSQVgY>

For a list of other books about autumn, visit <https://shop.scholastic.com/teachers-e-commerce/teacher/subject/seasons/autumn.html>

Pumpkin Snack

Have children help prep and cook the pumpkin seeds to eat later!

Following the recipe and cooking the seeds can be a science experiment.

Explore the seeds and ask: What do they look, smell, feel, and taste like? How are the seeds different when we took them out of the pumpkin vs cleaning them off vs cooking them?

Break apart the seeds to examine the inside too. Use children's 5 senses to explore the pumpkin and seeds and encourage them to describe what they see, smell, feel, taste, and maybe even hear! Scraping seeds from a pumpkin makes a sound and eating baked pumpkin seeds can sound loud and crunchy.

Talk about the health benefits of eating the seeds. Plus, pumpkins are actually a fruit!



Kids' Favorite Pumpkin Seeds (Taste of Home)

TOTAL TIME: Prep: 5 min. Bake: 45 min. + cooling **YIELD:** 2 cups

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 cups fresh pumpkin seeds
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a small bowl, combine all ingredients; transfer to an ungreased 15x10x1-in. baking pan.
2. Bake at 250° for 45-50 minutes or until lightly browned and dry, stirring occasionally. Cool completely. Store in an airtight

Fun with Pumpkins & Gourds



Literacy: Read the story or watch the read aloud. Talk about how the pumpkin grows from a tiny seed and what it needs to grow. Look back at the book/video to talk about the different stages as the pumpkin growing cycle progresses.

Emotions: Talk about how the children in the story felt. Use the pictures from the book to look at the character's faces to help the children guess what emotions they were feeling. Ask the children what emotions they would feel if they grew their own pumpkins!

Science: Explore pumpkins and gourds! Let the children use magnifying glasses, tweezers, and their 5 senses to explore. With help, they could explore the inside of the pumpkins too! Children can talk about their observations and/or draw pictures.

Fine motor & Counting: Pick up, arrange, and count seeds from your pumpkin on trays or paper plates.

Compare, Contrast, and Language: Get more pumpkins and gourds of various sizes to see what is the same and different. Use descriptive words like *smooth*, *bumpy*, *orange*, *green*, *heavy*, *light*, etc. Ask questions like what do the different pumpkins and gourds look, feel, smell like?

Serialize pumpkins or gourds from smallest to largest or largest to smallest.

Sequencing: Use the included printable to make a pumpkin growing sequence book and talk about the pumpkin life cycle.

Pumpkin Art

Children can paint a printout of a pumpkin or paint a paper plate orange and curl green pipe cleaners for vines at the stem.

For younger children, draw a *simple* pumpkin on a quart/gallon size Ziploc baggie. Put orange paint inside the bag and make sure it is sealed tight. (OR try yellow and red paint inside for a color mixing experiment!) Children can squish the bag to spread the paint inside to "paint" their pumpkin orange.



Child Care Workforce Bonus

In September, Governor Pritzker announced the Child Care Workforce Bonus program to recognize the efforts of child care staff who served and continue to serve children and families in person during the pandemic. This bonus is funded by federal pandemic relief funds.

Child Care Workforce Bonuses will be available to licensed and license-exempt providers who were caring for children in March 2021 and continue to care for children today.

For Licensed Family Child Care: Must apply through the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (INCCRRA) at:

<https://www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/child-care-workforce-bonus> Check frequently to see when the application is made available!

For questions on the Workforce Bonuses, email: bonuses@inccrra.org

Spread joy, not germs.

Continue to wear a mask.
Watch your distance. Wash your hands.

You make a difference every day!

www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19

November Brings CHILD SAFETY & PREVENTION Month



1. **Use safety gates.** Even before a baby crawls, install safety gates to match your home and protect curious children from harm. Hardware mounted gates should be installed at the top and bottom of the stairs.
2. **Prepare for bedtime:** Remove all soft, fluffy and loose bedding from the baby's sleep area. This includes pillows, blankets, quilts, bumper pads, sleep positioners, sheepskins, stuffed toys and other soft products.
3. **Be mindful of plants.** Choose decorative plants that are nontoxic. Common household plants can often cause serious sickness.
4. **Update your exterior.** Place a welcome mat outside your home or apartment. Pesticides and other toxins may be carried inside on the soles of people's shoes.
5. **Keep things tidy.** Storage bins offer a great way to store toys and baby supplies, preventing anyone from tripping.
6. **Get creative.** Hand paint electrical outlet covers to blend into walls. Install door knob covers as a means to keep little hands from opening doors.
7. **Lock it up.** Put locks on anything and everything that can open.
8. **Be cautious of choking hazards.** Be vigilant about coins, marbles, keys, jewelry, paper clips, water bottle tops, safety pins, removable rubber tips on doorstops, jeweled decorations on children's clothing, crayons, and hard and round foods.
9. **Check out your furniture.** Use angle braces or anchors to secure large furniture to the wall. Place TVs, VCRs and stereo systems on lower furniture, as far back as possible.
10. **Hot water:** Set hot water heaters no higher than 120 degrees F. A lower water temperature reduces the chance of scald burns. Munchkin's White Hot Super Safety Bath Ducky can help you manage the temperature of water.

Child Care Connection Referral Service

Have you sent your survey back to Becky? Each year, Child Care Connection distributes a Complete Survey Update to collect data on child care. Our office strives to compile this important data to update and verify information. A postage-paid envelope was included in the mailing for you to make it more convenient. For questions on completing the survey, or if you did not receive a survey, contact Becky at 309-686-3750, option 3. [Thank you for your commitment to the children of our communities!](#)



For information on any of our programs and services

3425 N. Dries Ln. Peoria, IL 61604
(309) 686-3750 Fax: (309) 686-3850

Visit our Website at: www.salccc.org

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/salchildcaeconnection



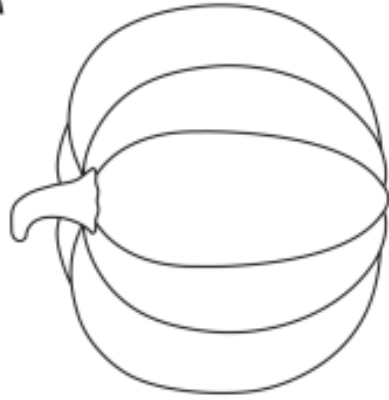
For CCAP information choose Option 2

For help in finding childcare call Becky @ Option 3

For a Quality visit call Christy or Catrina @ Option 9

For information on becoming a new provider call Stephanie @ Option 6

Pumpkin Life Cycle

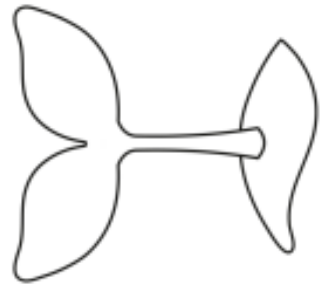


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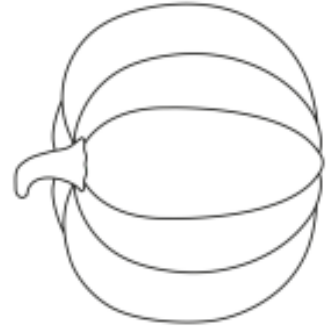


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Pumpkin words I know:



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