

# CURRICULUM BUILDERS



YMCA CHILDCARE RESOURCE SERVICE

RESOURCE AND REFERRAL

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[www.crs.ymca.org](http://www.crs.ymca.org)

SUPPORTING CHILD CARE PROVIDERS AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



## ABOUT THE STORY

### *Pumpkin Pumpkin*

By Jeanne Titherington

Sparkling with rich autumn watercolors and magical detail, this book introduces little Clee and her blanket, a true and trusted friend. But when her father's shivering pumpkin patch needs help to survive the frost, Clee understands that it needs her blanket more than she does.

## STORY STRETCHERS

Story stretchers are used to reinforce a story so children will have a better understanding of the content. Below are questions that we can ask to help children with comprehension of the book.

- What did Clee like about her blanket?
- How did Clee help the pumpkins?
- Besides pumpkins, what else did Clee and her father grow in their garden?

## CRS RESOURCE LIBRARY

Curriculum Resource books are available to check out at our library. Call 619-521-3055 ext. 2304 to make a library appointment.

## WEB SITES

Here are some web sites to give you more curriculum ideas:

<http://handsonaswegrow.com/40-pumpkin-activities-for-kids/>

<http://www.childcarelounge.com/season-theme/great-pumpkin.php>

<http://kidsactivitiesblog.com/59467/fall-playdough-recipes>

## CONNECT WITH CRS!

Learn about upcoming events, Wellness Wednesday, Frugal Friday and more:

[www.facebook.com/YMCA.CRS](http://www.facebook.com/YMCA.CRS)



## RECIPE

### PUMPKIN PIE PLAYDOUGH

#### Ingredients

- 1 cups pf flour
- 1/2 cup of salt
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons of pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon
- 1 cup of cold water
- Orange Food Coloring

#### Instructions

- Combine dry ingredients in a nonstick saucepan
- Add the oil, water and food coloring, whisking until smooth.
- Cook the mixture over medium heat, stirring constantly until it forms a ball.
- Put the playdough onto the counter to cool
- Knead until smooth



## CIRCLE TIME

### WHAT DO WE WEAR IN FALL?

Prepare a bag full of Fall weather clothing that you wear and also a few items from summer. Talk with the children about fall weather and what it is like. Pull out each article of clothing and ask if it is for Summer or Fall? Extend the conversation by asking open ended questions about weather, clothing differences, and changes that they may see.

## MOVEMENT ACTIVITY

### LEAF HOP

Cut out Large Leaf Shape Patterns.

Draw a shape, number, or letter on each leaf shape.

Play age appropriate music such as, Laugh N' Learn Silly Songs By: Pam Schiller.

Stop/Pause the music at any point and each child should land on a leaf.

For younger children, you can encourage them to identify the shape, letter, or number.

For older children, you can encourage them to find another item that is the same shape, an item with the same letter as the one they landed on, or count or hop as many times as the number that they landed on.

Continue playing so that the children may have an opportunity to hop and land on different leaves.



## MATH FUN

### WEIGHING PUMPKINS

Pass around various sizes of pumpkins to the children. Discuss which feel heavier or lighter.

Weigh a Pumpkin.

Cut open the top of the pumpkin and scoop out the seeds and pulp.

Weigh the pumpkin again and compare the weights.

**Variation:** Estimate the circumference of a pumpkin. Have each child cut a piece of yarn that they think will fit around the pumpkin. Then use a tape measure to record the actual circumference.

## ART

### PAINTING WITH LEAVES

Take the children on a nature in the neighborhood to collect leaves or collect them prior to painting.

Once you arrive back to your program, provide the children with white paper, fall colored paints, and the leaves that you have collected.



Encourage the children to dip the leaves into the paint colors and paint onto their paper.

Allow the children to explore and express creatively through painting while also engaging in meaningful conversation.