

## Paper Bag Pumpkin Patch

A fall favorite of young and old, pumpkins are grown in many different places in Virginia and are harvested from September to November. To ensure a fall harvest, seeds are planted from mid-June to July. Children often see pumpkins used as decorations for fall and Halloween, but they are also used in foods like pies, breads, and soups. Although 90% water, pumpkins are high in potassium and vitamin A making them a healthy and tasty addition to fall tables.



### You will need:

- Paper lunch bags
- Orange, green, and brown crayons or paint
- Green pipe cleaners
- Scissors
- Green construction paper
- Scrap paper or old newspapers
- Single hole punch

### How to:

1. Have children color or paint the top 2-3 inches of the bag green or brown to represent the stem.
2. Color or paint the remainder of the bag orange.
3. Stuff the bag with scrap paper or old newspapers.
4. Twist the top of the bag closed.
5. Wrap a green pipe cleaner around the "stem" to secure it.
6. Cut out leaves from the green construction paper and hole punch each.
7. Thread the leaves onto the pipe cleaner.
8. Curl the remainder of the pipe cleaner using your finger or a pencil to finish the vine.

### Suggested Books:

Pick a Perfect Pumpkin by Robin Koontz  
Pumpkin Circle by George Levenson  
Pumpkin, Pumpkin by Jeanne Titherington  
Pumpkin Jack by Will Hubbell