

science page



PUMPKIN PARTS





Many people enjoy doing activities with pumpkins to celebrate fall. Some people will go to the Monster Pumpkins Popup in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Many people will go to pumpkin patches or pumpkin festivals near their homes. They may buy pumpkins to paint or carve. In this activity, your students can learn about the different parts of a pumpkin.

Before you start the activity, you should buy one pumpkin for the whole class to observe. You should cut the pumpkin in half so students can see the inside and the outside of the pumpkin.

Each student should get a Pumpkin Sheet and a Labels Sheet. You can cut apart the labels before giving them to the students, or have students cut out their own labels.

You can start by reading the definition of a rib on a pumpkin. You can point to where a rib is on the actual pumpkin and then students can try to find the rib on their Pumpkin Sheets. You can repeat the process for each definition. You can check to see if students are labeling the pumpkins correctly as you go or check at the end.

If it is safe to do so, you can invite students to touch the pumpkin too. If students cannot all safely touch the pumpkin, you can add more description about the different parts. You can talk about how smooth the skin is or how squishy the strands are.

Once students have the labels in the correct boxes, they can glue them in place. Students can also color their pumpkin pictures.



What We Know:

The Monster Pumpkins Popup has many huge pumpkins.





- Pumpkins are a kind of fruit that grows on vines.
- A. F
- The outside of a pumpkin looks different than the inside of a pumpkin.





What We Can Do:

• We can learn about the parts of a pumpkin.





Need:

Labels Sheet, cut apart (page 63)



Pumpkin Parts Definition Sheet (page 61)



pumpkin, cut open



Pumpkin Sheet (page 62)



glue stick



Activity Steps

1. Students pick up rib labels.



2. Teacher reads aloud definition of rib on Pumpkin Parts Definition Sheet.

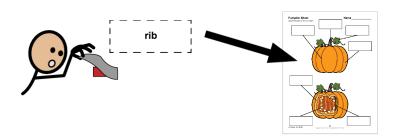




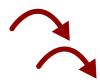
3. Teacher shows where rib is on pumpkin cut open.



4. Students find where he or she thinks rib is on Pumpkin Sheet and puts label into box.



5. Repeat steps 1-4 for each label.

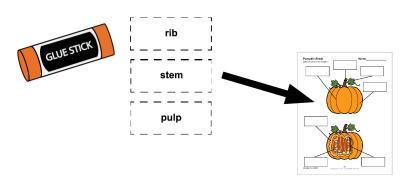


1 - 4

6. Teacher should check answers.



7. Students can glue labels into correct boxes.





Pumpkin Parts Definition Sheet

Rib: A rib is on the outside of a pumpkin. It is an indented ridge that runs from the top to the bottom. Ribs help make the pumpkin stronger.

Leaf: A leaf is on the outside of a pumpkin, at the top. Leaves can help keep the soil around a growing pumpkin damp. They can help shelter small pumpkins.

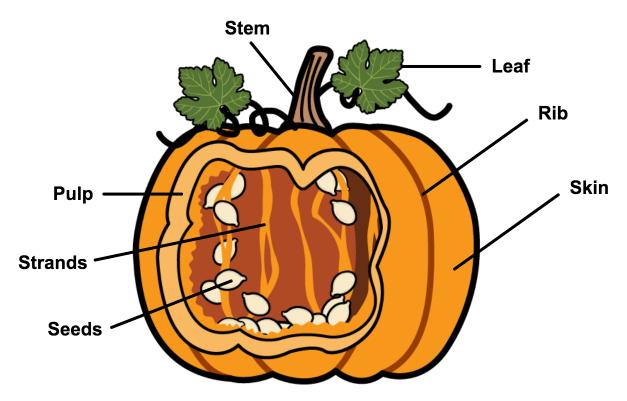
Stem: A stem is on the outside of a pumpkin, at the top. The stem attaches a pumpkin to a vine.

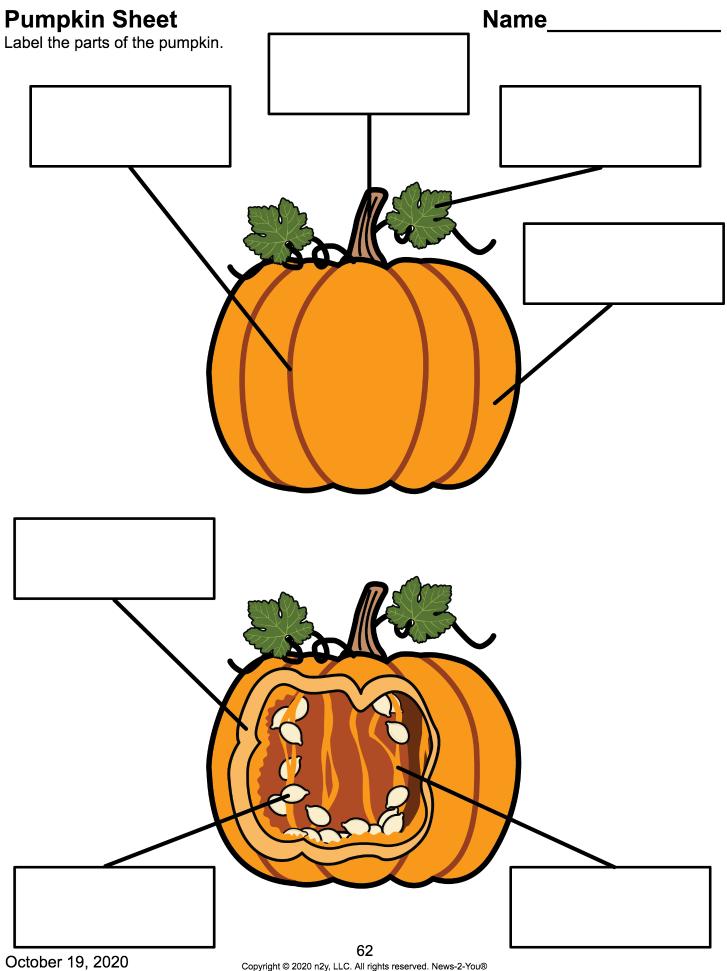
Skin: Skin covers the outside of a pumpkin. It is also called the rind. It helps keep insects and disease out of the fruit.

Pulp: Pulp is on the inside of a pumpkin, under the skin. It is also called the meat of a pumpkin. It is used to make different kinds of pumpkin foods, like pumpkin pie.

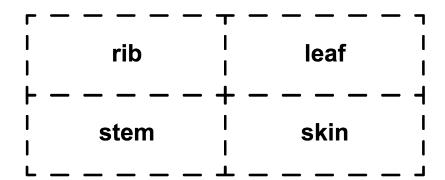
Strands: Strands are on the inside of the pumpkin. They are soft and squishy and cover the seeds.

Seeds: Seeds are on the inside of the pumpkin, between the strands. They are small and white. When seeds are planted in soil, new pumpkins can grow!

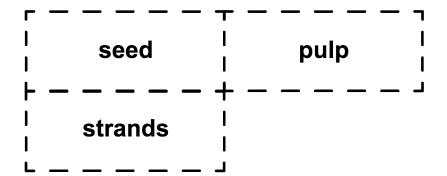




Outside View



Inside View





What I Learned

1. What did you label parts of?



pumpkin



apple



tree



2. Where can you find the seed of a pumpkin?



inside



outside



3. Where can you find the rib of a pumpkin?



inside



outside



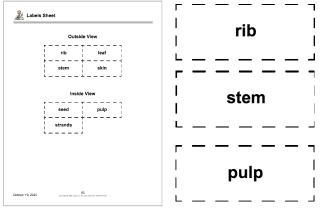


Questions for Class Discussion

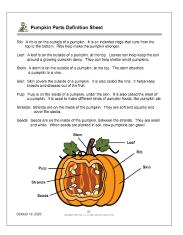
- What colors do you see on the pumpkin?
- In what ways do the different parts of the pumpkin feel different?
- What do you think is the most important part of the pumpkin? Why?

Read, practice and post these words on classroom or craft area word walls.

Labels Sheet, cut apart



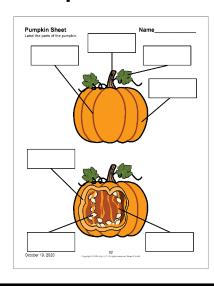
Pumpkin Parts Definition Sheet



pumpkin, cut open



Pumpkin Sheet



Read, practice and post these words on classroom or craft area word walls.

