

# BOOK OF THE MONTH:

## The Roll-Away Pumpkin

by Junia Wonders

Ages 2-5

### 1. Introducing the book:



#### Exploring the Cover

Before reading the title, ask the children to describe what they see. Is that a giant pumpkin or a miniature pumpkin? Does it look like the pumpkin is still or in movement?

#### Building Background

Ask the children: What colors do they see? How is the girl dressed? In what season do we often see pumpkins and leaves turning orange and red? Talk to the children about the changes we can see during the autumn season. The leaves change colors, and the weather gets colder. Also, you can ask them what kind of celebrations you have in your area during this time of the year.

### 2. Reading the book:

As you read the book, invite the children to say it with you: "Diddle-dee-doo! Oh, what shall I do?" and ask them to predict who Marla Little will meet next.

At the end of the story, the cook makes a pumpkin soup. What are other things we can make with a pumpkin?

### 3. After reading the book: Pumpkin Volcano Experiment



- Measuring to describe, compare and order things



- Practicing fine motor skills while pouring the ingredients, squeezing the food coloring, and measuring



Materials:

- Pumpkin
- Baking soda
- Vinegar
- Food coloring

Begin by carving the pumpkin. You can keep the seeds and the pulp for a sensory activity afterwards.

Then, pour into the hollow pumpkin half cup of baking soda and a few drops of orange food coloring or any other color!

Finally, pour half a cup of vinegar into the mixture and watch the reaction. As the vinegar (acid) touches the baking soda (base), a chemical reaction happens, and the liquid erupts inside the pumpkin. Like a volcano!

#### Story Sequence



- Participating in making decisions
- Learning to problem solve and reflect on experiences



- Understanding and using a variety of words and phrases
- Demonstrating knowledge about the book

Materials:

- Paper and printer
- Scissors
- Glue

Print out the sheet and ask the children to help you to follow the story sequence and put it in a sequence. What happens first? And next?

Encourage the children to retell the story using the cards once they are finished.

#### References and resources

- [Printable Story Sequence](#)

#### Legend



Cognitive



Socio-emotional



Language



Physical