

Weekly Lesson Plan

Date: September 23 - September 27

Theme: Fall (Pumpkins and the color orange)

Class: PreK

| | <u>Monday</u> | <u>Tuesday</u> | <u>Wednesday</u> | <u>Thursday</u> | <u>Friday</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Practical Life</u> | Washing pumpkins | Pumpkin bread | Pumpkin weaving | Fall arrangements | Toasted pumpkin seeds |
| <u>Alphabet</u> | Letter A Intro | Letter A Hunt | Letter A decorating | Letter A Creation | Review |
| <u>Writing</u> | Sand tray writing | Letter A match - Upper and lower | Sight word tracing | Emergent Reader Booklet | Emergent Reader Booklet |
| <u>Storytime</u> | Big Pumpkin by Erica Silverman | Too Many Pumpkins by Linda White | Pumpkin Jack by Will Hubbell | How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin by Margaret McNamara | How Big could Your Pumpkin Grow by Wendell Minor |
| <u>Art</u> | Paper bag pumpkins | Pumpkin dough | Pumpkin impression painting | Pumpkin stamps - Group cooperative art | Pumpkin decorating |
| <u>Science/Math</u> | Pumpkin number cards - Counting | Color mixing - Orange | Erupting pumpkin | Parts of the pumpkin, life cycle | Pumpkin measuring |
| <u>Music/Movement</u> | Push the pumpkin - Gross Motor | 10 Little Pumpkins song | Yoga | Pumpkin ring toss | Dancing with scarves - Child's choice of song |

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This week's Practical Life:

Fall fun with Pumpkins!! This week we're diving into a world of pumpkin-themed activities that will not only celebrate the harvest but also offer a wealth of developmental benefits for our little learners. Each activity is designed to engage their senses, stimulate creativity, and promote important skills.

Washing Pumpkins: We'll start by getting our hands wet and soapy as we wash pumpkins. This activity is fantastic for enhancing fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. Plus, it introduces basic concepts of cleanliness and responsibility.

Pumpkin Bread: Next, we'll mix up some pumpkin bread! This fun, hands-on activity is perfect for exploring measurement and mixing, which supports early math and science skills. It also provides a sensory experience through the different textures and smells involved.

Pumpkin Weaving: With pumpkin weaving, children will create beautiful fall decorations while developing their fine motor skills and spatial awareness. This activity encourages pattern recognition and fosters creativity as they experiment with different weaving techniques.

Fall Arrangements: Crafting fall arrangements is a wonderful way to enhance children's artistic expression and understanding of color and texture. This activity promotes creativity and can also introduce concepts related to nature and seasonal changes.

Toasted Pumpkin Seeds: Finally, we'll toast pumpkin seeds—a tasty and healthy snack! This activity offers a great opportunity for children to learn about healthy eating, as well as the science behind cooking and transformation.

Together, these activities will not only bring the magic of fall into our classroom but also support the development of essential skills in a fun and engaging way. Let's dive into this pumpkin patch of learning and creativity!

Reading and Writing Corner:

This week, our preschool lesson plan focuses on introducing the letter A!

We'll start by exploring the **letter A sound** through playful activities and songs, helping learners become familiar with its pronunciation. We will focus on both the long and short A sound.

In our **letter hunt activity**, kids will search for the letter A in various books, helping to reinforce letter recognition in context.

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For a hands-on approach our kids will **craft and decorate their own letter A**, fostering creativity and a personal connection to the letter.

We'll also practice **writing the letter A** using sand trays and tracing exercises, enhancing fine motor skills and letter formation.

Upcoming Art:

Our pumpkin-themed art projects this week offer a vibrant way for preschoolers to explore creativity and enhance their fine motor skills. **Paper bag pumpkins** involve transforming simple brown bags into delightful pumpkin creations, which fosters imagination and hands-on crafting. **Pumpkin dough** allows children to shape and mold their own pumpkins, encouraging tactile exploration and fine motor development. For our **pumpkin impression painting** our kids will use watercolors and brushes to paint a unique version of a pumpkin with real life pumpkins on display for them to reference. **Pumpkin stamps** enable cooperative art, where children work together to roll, dip, and press their pumpkins to create works of art on butcher block paper. Finally, our **pumpkin decorating** lets kids personalize their pumpkins with various materials, supporting their creativity and self-expression.

Science and Math Club

Get ready for a pumpkin-packed adventure that makes science and math a blast! Here's how this week's activities bring learning to life:

- **Pumpkin Number Cards - Counting:**
 - **Count and cheer** as we dive into pumpkin-themed counting cards! This hands-on activity helps kids master counting and number recognition while having fun with their favorite fall fruit.
- **Color Mixing - Orange:**
 - **Mix and create** magical shades of orange! This activity turns preschoolers into little scientists as they explore how colors blend and come to life, all while developing fine motor skills and unleashing their inner artist.
- **Erupting Pumpkin:**
 - **Watch the magic** of a pumpkin eruption! Kids will be amazed by the fizz and pop of this fun science experiment, which introduces them to cool chemical reactions while boosting their observation skills.
- **Parts of the Pumpkin, Life Cycle:**
 - **Discover the pumpkin's secrets** from seed to squash! This hands-on exploration helps kids learn about the pumpkin's life cycle and its parts, turning them into young botanists who are curious about nature.
- **Pumpkin Measuring:**
 - **Measure and compare** with our pumpkin pals! This activity turns math into a fun adventure as children use measuring tools to explore size and length, all while developing their problem-solving skills. We'll work on key words such as height, length, circumference, and weight.