



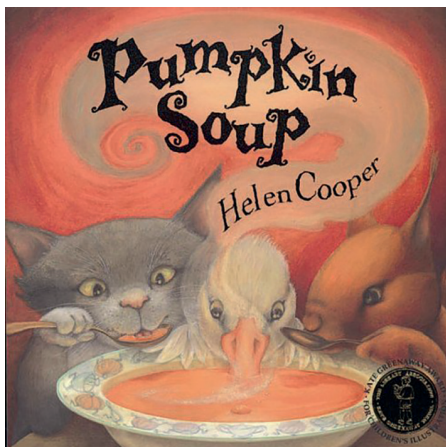
DISCOVER
FARMING

KEY STAGE 1 LESSON PLAN IDEA PUMPKINS

English - Talk and discussion about all aspects of the pumpkin. The size, weight, feel, smell. With a selection of pumpkins and squash, place in size order, weight order - superlative language. Hypothesising - does it roll well, will it sink?

Reading - Pumpkin Soup by Helen Cooper

- Ideas for English - instructional writing how to make pumpkin soup, how to grow a pumpkin. Save the seeds from the scooped- out pumpkin and plant out next year.
- Retell the story from a different point of view, write a sequel.



Maths - Activities involving measurements, estimates involving mass and length. Scoop- out and weigh the contents of the pumpkin, reading scales with increasing accuracy.



Statistics - Construct and interpret a chart for the experiment 'Does the heaviest pumpkin roll the furthest?'

Science - Working Scientifically, Plants

- Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants
- Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
- Scoop-out the insides of the pumpkins and save the seeds to plant out next year.
- Observe the new shoots and record findings; how long does it take for shoots to appear, flowers to appear and then the fruit itself?

D & T - Cooking and Nutrition

- Use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes
- Understand where food comes from.

Pumpkin Soup Recipe for the classroom.

This will serve 4, scale up!

You Will Need:

Equipment:

Heavy based pan

Hand blender

Chopping knife

Spoon

Chopping board

Ingredients

1/2 kg pumpkin, cut into cubes about 2.5cm square

1 onion, finely chopped

1-2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced

Some oil or butter for cooking

600ml vegetable or chicken stock

Salt and pepper

Ground nutmeg

Ginger (optional)

Pumpkin seeds for garnish Instructions

Method

1. Fry the onions and garlic until golden
2. Add the pumpkin cubes and continue to cook for another minute or so
3. Add the stock
4. Season with salt, pepper and nutmeg
5. Simmer over a medium heat and stir occasionally until the pumpkin is tender
6. Take off the heat and whiz the soup with a hand blender
7. If the soup is too thick then add a little water
8. Finish off with some toasted pumpkin seeds on the top and serve with a chunk of bread



The History of the Pumpkin

Children should look at:

- Events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally

As pumpkins are so strongly linked with Thanksgiving celebrations in America here is an opportunity to investigate the voyage of Mayflower to The 'New World' and the 400 year anniversary this year.

15th August 1620 The Mayflower and The Speedwell set sail from Southampton West Quay. They stopped off in Plymouth and eventually sailed for Virginia on 16th September 1620. After more than two months (66 days) at sea, the Pilgrims finally arrived at Cape Cod on November 11, 1620. That place is now called Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Pumpkin Historical facts:

1. Archaeologists discovered the oldest domesticated pumpkin seeds in the Oaxaca Highlands of Mexico. Pumpkins are believed to have originated in Central America over 7,500 years ago. The first pumpkins held very little resemblance to the sweet, bright orange variety we are familiar with.

2. In 1584, after French explorer Jacques Cartier explored the St. Lawrence region of North America, he reported finding "gros melons." The name was translated into English as "pompions," which has since evolved into the modern "pumpkin."



P.E.

Perform dances using simple movement patterns. As gourds are the same family as pumpkins and other squashes... The story is a great starting point for dance performance in small groups using drums and an investigation into 'world-music', from Tanzania in this case.