

# Opening the Gift

Vol. 23 No. 2

October 2019

## Perfect Pumpkins

*Pumpkin Cat* by Anne Mortimer

*Fall Pumpkin Fun* by Martha E.H. Rustad

*Hocus Pocus, It's Fall!* by Anne Sibley O'Brien

*Piggies In the Pumpkin Patch* by Mary Peterson & Jennifer Rofé

*Pumpkin Pumpkin* by Jeanne Titherington

*I Pick Fall Pumpkins* by Mary Lindeen

*The Pumpkin Patch* by Cliff Griswold



## Nursery Rhyme: This Little Pig Songs & Fingerplays to Share



CD: "What a Miracle" from *Walter the Waltzing Worm* by Hap Palmer

### Five Waiting Pumpkins

Five little pumpkins growing on a vine,  
First one said, "It's time to shine!"  
Second one said, "I love the fall."  
Third one said, "I'm round as a ball."  
Fourth one said, "I want to be a pie."  
Fifth one said, "Let's say good-bye."  
"Good-bye!" said one.  
"Adios!" said two.  
"Au revoir!" said three.  
"Ciao!" said four.  
"Aloha!" said five.

And five little pumpkins were picked that day!  
*Complete Book of Rhymes, Songs, Fingerplays, and Chants*



### Pumpkin Pumpkin Round and Fat

Pumpkin, Pumpkin, round and fat,  
Pumpkin, Pumpkin, jump like that  
Pumpkins high and pumpkins low  
Pumpkin, Pumpkin, down you go!

### Pumpkin Countdown

Five orange pumpkins sitting on the ground.  
One rolled over and tumbled all around.  
He opened up his eyes.  
What a big surprise!  
My, oh, my! He was in a pumpkin pie!  
*Repeat, counting down to zero.*

### From Seed to Pie

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

The seed is in the ground.  
The seed is in the ground.  
Hi-ho, the pumpkin patch!  
The seed is in the ground.

Continue with these lines:

*The seed grows a sprout.*

*The sprout grows a vine.*

*The vine grows a flower.*

*The flower grows a pumpkin.*

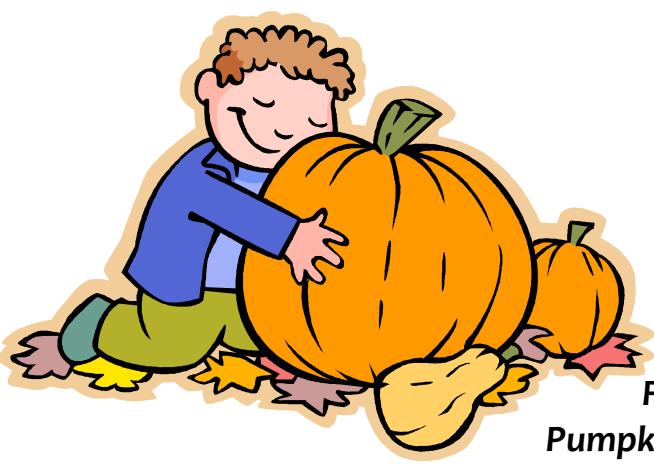
*We make a pumpkin pie.*

*Mailbox Magazine, Preschool Edition  
Oct/Nov '03*

Your next visit will be: November

Next month's theme will be: "Warm & Fuzzy"





## More Books to Share:

*Pumpkin Day!* by Candice Ransom

*Pumpkin Fever* by Charnan Simon

*Ready for Pumpkins* by Kate Duke

*Pumpkin Countdown* by Joan Holub

*Apples and Pumpkins* by Anne Rockwell

*From Seed to Pumpkin* by Wendy Pfeffer

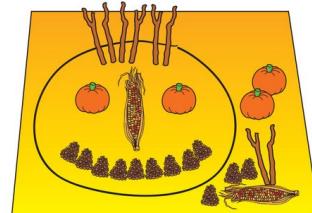
*Fall Pumpkins: Orange and Plump* by Martha Rustad

*Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden* by George Levenson

*Pick a Circle, Gather Squares: A Fall Harvest of Shapes* by Felicia Sanzari Chernesky

## Activity Ideas:

Fall Faces: Place a vinyl tablecloth on a table and then use a permanent marker to draw a large circle on the tablecloth. Provide a basket with fall leaves, pinecones, twigs, gourds, Indian corn, and mini pumpkins. Two youngsters visit the center and place items on the circle to make a fall-themed face. What fun! If desired, take a photo of each face, make a large printout, and then post it in the classroom. [themailbox.com](http://themailbox.com) (submitted by Tricia Kylene Brown, Bowling Green, KY)

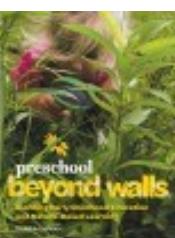


Prize Winning Pumpkin: Try this process-art idea to turn an ordinary pumpkin into eye-catching autumn decor! Spread diluted glue onto a pumpkin and press colorful tissue paper scraps on the glue, overlapping the tissue paper as desired. Spread a coat of glue on the tissue paper to create a decoupage effect; then sprinkle glitter on the glue. Beautiful! [themailbox.com](http://themailbox.com) (submitted by Terri Lavelle, Zion Lutheran Preschool, Indiana, PA)

Cleaning Pumpkins: Spray bottles are great for strengthening little hands and kids LOVE them! Provide a variety of pumpkins – dirty them up ahead of time with a little dirt, paint, or even shaving cream-and spray bottles filled with water. Add a couple of drops of essential oil to the water, if desired, for an extra sensory experience (lavender has a calming effect). Direct the children to spray their pumpkins, then clean and shine with an old cloth. This would be a good activity to do outdoors on a pleasant Fall day!



## Book of the Month:



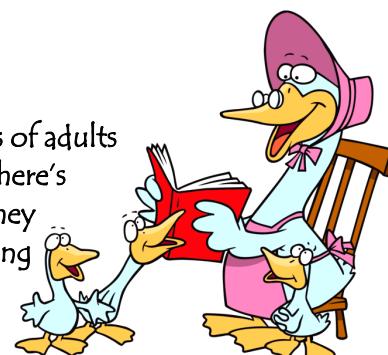
*Preschool Beyond Walls: Blending Early Childhood Education and Nature-based Learning* by Rachel A. Larimore. PTC 372.57 L

Children are spending less time being outside in nature, playing, imagining, and learning about their surroundings. Instead, they're spending more time with tablets, televisions, and overly structured routines. *Preschool Beyond Walls* shows practical and strategic ways educators can create rich, explorative, and interdisciplinary learning through extensive outdoor experiences.

## Road to Reading Tip:



Make Time for Rhymes! Nursery rhymes have been shared by generations of adults and children who have enjoyed the silliness of the characters' antics. But there's more to these rhymes than their good humor and enthusiastic rhythm: they also reinforce early literacy skills such as basic story structure and a recurring cast of characters, while enriching children's vocabularies and introducing lessons in the ways our language works. Nursery rhymes also encourage thinking skills, and provide short, simple texts.  
[curry.virginia.edu/go/wil/rimes\\_and\\_rhymes.htm](http://curry.virginia.edu/go/wil/rimes_and_rhymes.htm).



Harford County  
Public Library

HCPLonline.org

**Questions or Suggestions?** Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, 410-638-3151, ext. 6351  
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator, 410-638-4800 (starting at 8am)  
or call the Opening the Gift cell phone, 443-608-9881  
email: [chase@hcplonline.org](mailto:chase@hcplonline.org)

"like" Opening the Gift on facebook!

