

recommended for preschoolers – grade 3 (ages 3-8)
(younger children may need adult assistance)

D.I.Y. STEM: EXPLORE PUMPKINS

SUPPLIES

pumpkin • ruler/tape measure • scale • pencil

DIRECTIONS

Step 1: Observe Your Pumpkin

a. What words describe your pumpkin? Circle all that apply.

orange	bumpy	curved	small	light	tall	soft
green	smooth	flat	big	heavy	plump	hard
yellow	round	square	speckled	short	thin	hollow

b. Can you think of other words to describe your pumpkin? Write them here!

Step 2: Estimate the Size of Your Pumpkin

An *estimate* draws upon your observations to roughly guess the value or size of something. The *circumference* is the distance around a circle (or a pumpkin!) Record your estimates below.

Circumference: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Step 3: Test Your Estimates

- Use the ruler and scale to measure and weigh your pumpkin.
- Record the results below.

Circumference: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Questions for Discovery

- How close were your estimates to the actual measurements?
- 2.54 centimeters = 1 inch. What is your pumpkin's height and circumference in centimeters?
- Compare your pumpkin to other pumpkins. What differences do you notice? Why do you think they do not look exactly the same?

Further Learning

- Farmer, Jacqueline. [Pumpkins!](#) Charlesbridge, 2004. (gr K – 3)
- Hall, Zoe. [It's Pumpkin Time!](#) Scholastic, 1994. (preschool – gr 3)
- McCorquodale, Elizabeth. [Kids in the Garden.](#) Black Dog, 2010. (gr K – 6)
- Tate, Nikki. [Down to Earth: How Kids Help Feed the World.](#) Orca Book Publishers, 2013. (gr 3 – 6)



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