

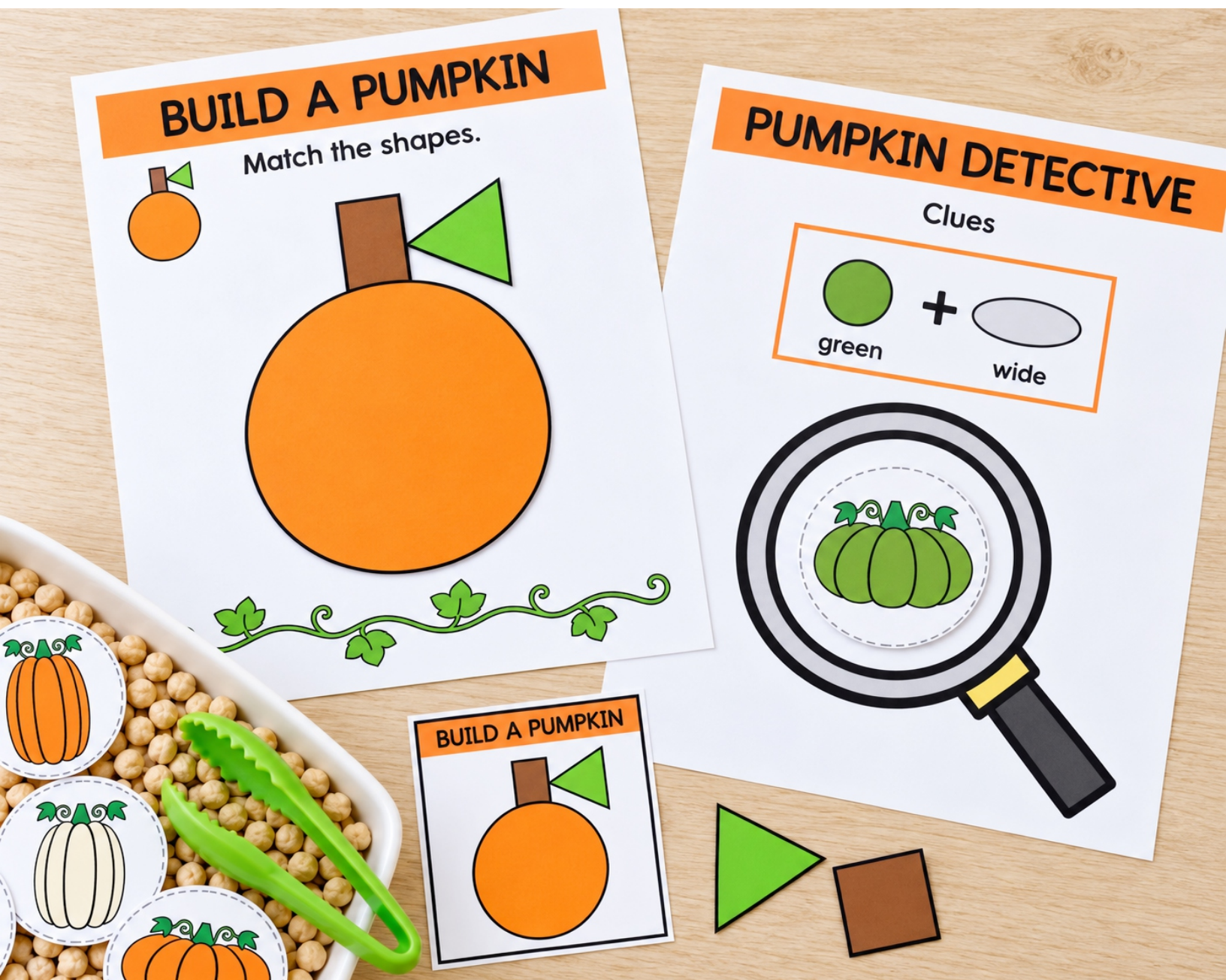
pumpkin shapes & colors

SENSORY BIN ACTIVITIES



PUMPKIN SENSORY BINS

APPLE PIE RECIPE



Lavinia Pop

Thank you for downloading this product; I hope you will enjoy using it and that it will be a valuable resource for you! I value your feedback, so please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns whatsoever as I will endeavour to address them. And if you like what I've done, please let me know by leaving feedback at my online store.

Lavinia

lavinia@kinder-resources.com

ILLUSTRATIONS Kari Bolt, Little Red, Dancing Crayon Designs, Whimsy Clips, PartyHead Graphics, Ramona Majdis, Zip-a-Dee-doo-dah-Designs, Bunny on a Cloud, Krista Wallden - Creative Clips, Creating4 the Classroom, Rainbow Sprinkle Studio - Sasha Mitten, First Class Clipart, ClipArtisan, Muggy Studio

teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Kari-Bolt teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Littlered
dancingcrayon.com teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Whimsy-Clips teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Partyhead-Graphics
teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Ramona-Majdis teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Zip-a-dee-doo-dah-Designs
teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Bunny-On-A-Cloud teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Krista-Wallden-Creative-Clips
teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Creating4-The-Classroom teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Rainbow-Sprinkle-Studio-Sasha-Mitten
teacherspayteachers.com/Store/First-Class-Clipart etsy.com/au/shop/ClipArtisan teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Muggy-Studio

FONTS schoolfonts.com.au teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Kimberly-Geswein-Fonts
teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Ramonam-Graphics

PRINTING TIP This resource is designed for US Letter paper. Print at Actual Size or 100% to preserve the intended card and mat dimensions. If printing on another paper size, select Fit or Shrink to Printable Area and use the same scaling setting for all related pages.

Copyright © 2026 Lavinia Pop. All rights reserved.

Purchase of this item permits the original purchaser to reproduce the pages for personal and single-classroom use. Sharing with other classes, an entire school, or for commercial purposes is prohibited without written permission from the author. Minor editing is permitted for personal use only; the document remains protected by copyright. Posting this item, in whole or in part, online is prohibited and may violate the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

Please be fair and don't share! If you are not the original purchaser of this file, please visit my store to purchase a copy. Kinder-Resources.com

let's connect!



Kinder-Resources.com



facebook.com/inmyworldlavinia



instagram.com/lavinia_kinder_resources



pinterest.com/lavinia

Build a Pumpkin & Detective

Explore shapes, colors, and clues through hands-on pumpkin play! Children build pumpkins with shape pieces, then become detectives as they search for pumpkins that match two picture clues.

These two preschool activities develop shape recognition, visual discrimination, spatial awareness, and fine motor skills. Use them in sensory bins or as tabletop activities.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 2 guided Build a Pumpkin mats
- 1 blank building mat
- 6 shape pieces: a circle, oval, square, rectangle, and 2 triangles
- 4 pumpkin model cards
- 1 Pumpkin Detective mat
- 6 color-and-shape clue cards
- pumpkin picture circles
- Teacher directions for both activities
- Visual How to Play guides
- 3 additional ways to play for each activity
- Sensory bin setup and safety guide
- 2 storage labels

HOW TO PLAY

- Build a Pumpkin

Choose a guided mat. Find a shape in the bin, name it, and turn it to match the outline. Keep going until the pumpkin is complete. For another challenge, use the blank mat to copy a model card or create your own pumpkin.

- Pumpkin Detective

Place a clue card on the mat. Name its color and shape together, then find the pumpkin that matches both clues. Place it on the magnifying glass picture and check the match.

MORE WAYS TO PLAY

- Build a Pumpkin: Guess the Shape, Move the Leaf, and Make a New Picture.
- Pumpkin Detective: Sort the Pumpkins, Give a Friend a Clue, and What's Missing?

SKILLS PRACTICED

- Shape and color recognition
- Matching two features
- Spatial awareness
- Position words
- Following a model
- Visual discrimination and memory
- Listening and descriptive language
- Fine motor coordination

PERFECT FOR

- Preschool and pre-K centers
- Kindergarten review
- Pumpkin and fall themes
- Sensory bins and morning tubs
- Small group learning
- Homeschool activities

PREPARATION

Print the mats, cards, and pieces at Actual Size or 100%. Laminate for repeated use, if desired, and cut out the shapes, cards, and pumpkin circles.

Place one activity's pieces in a shallow layer of sensory filler. Keep the mat and any model or clue cards beside the bin.

Begin with only the shapes needed for one guided mat or two pumpkin choices for the detective activity. Add more choices as children become familiar with the task.

Adult supervision is required when using sensory fillers and small pieces.

Happy Teaching :)

Sensory Bin Setup & Safety

Build pumpkins with shapes and follow picture clues through sensory play. Choose materials and tools to suit the children using them.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Print the required pages on cardstock at Actual Size or 100% so the pieces fit the mats.
- Laminate for repeated use, if desired.
- Cut out the shape pieces, model cards, clue cards, and pumpkin circles.
- Add a shallow layer of plain dried chickpeas to a tray or sensory bin.
- Partly hide one activity's pieces, leaving some visible.
- Place its mat, supporting cards, and How to Play guide beside the bin.

BUILD A PUMPKIN SETUP

- Begin with one guided mat and the shapes needed to complete it. Model naming a shape, turning it, and placing it over the matching outline.
- Use the same shape pieces with the blank building mat and model cards. Turn the oval on its side to make a wide pumpkin. Children can also arrange the shapes to create their own pictures.

PUMPKIN DETECTIVE SETUP

Place the pumpkin circles in the bin and keep the clue cards beside the mat. Begin with two pumpkin choices and a clue card that matches one of them.

Model checking both clues: the pumpkin must match the color and the tall or wide shape. Place the chosen pumpkin on the magnifying glass picture. A separate magnifying glass is not needed.

CHOOSING A FILLER

- Plain dried chickpeas are shown in the activity photos. Keep the filler shallow so children can find and lift the pieces easily.
- Children can use their hands or suitable tweezers or tongs. Larger building shapes may be easier to pick up by hand. Both activities can also be used on a tabletop or in a tray without filler.

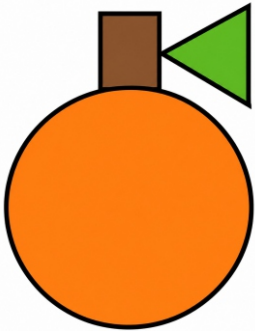
STORAGE AND CARE

Store each activity's mats, pieces, cards, and directions together in a labeled bag, wallet, or container. Use the included storage labels to keep the two activities organized.

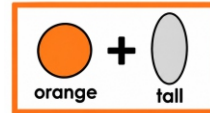
Check the filler for hidden pieces after play. Wipe laminated materials with a slightly damp cloth and allow them to dry before storing.

Happy Teaching!

STORAGE LABELS



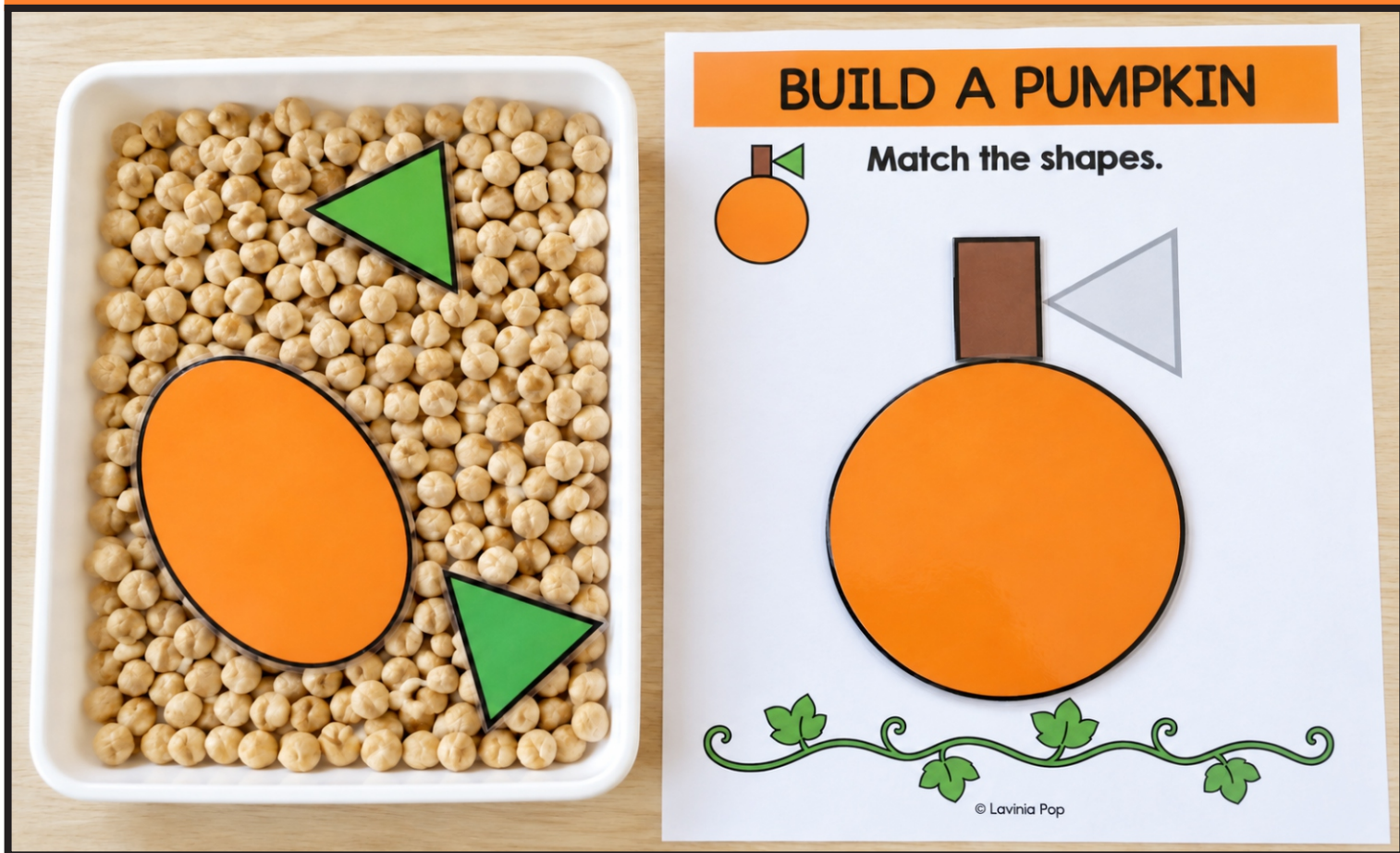
**BUILD
A
PUMPKIN**
SENSORY BIN



**PUMPKIN
DETECTIVE**
SENSORY BIN

BUILD A PUMPKIN

Teacher Directions



YOU WILL NEED

- Guided mats and blank building mat
- Pumpkin model cards
- Shape pieces
- Shallow sensory bin
- Plain dried chickpeas

PREPARATION

1. Print and laminate. Cut out the shapes and cards.
2. Place the shapes in the filler.
3. Set a mat beside the bin.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Choose a guided mat.
2. Find a shape in the bin. Name it together.
3. Turn and place it on the matching shape.
4. Keep going to finish the pumpkin. Check and play again.

DIFFERENTIATION

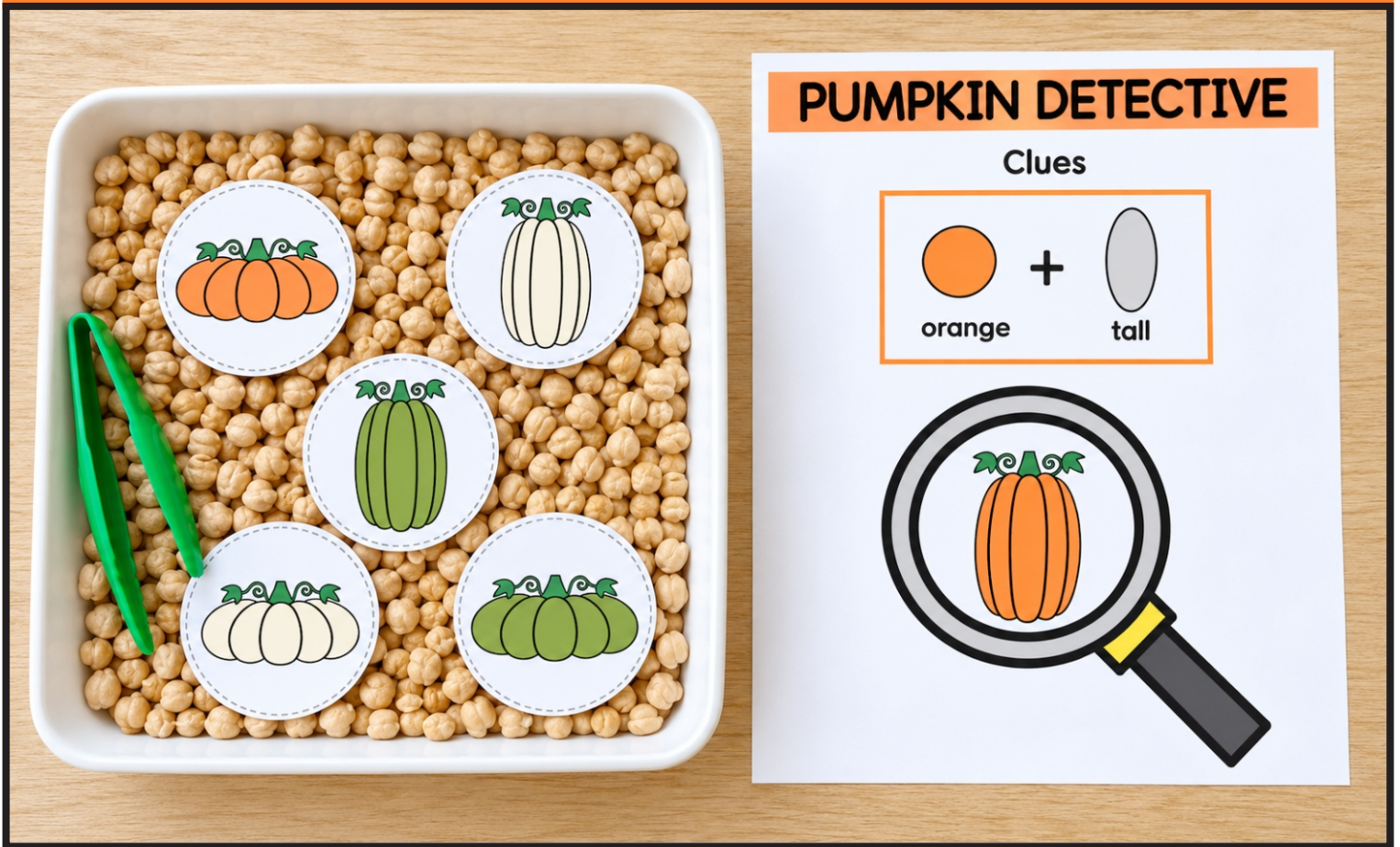
Begin with only the shapes needed for one guided mat. For a challenge, use the blank mat and copy a model card.

LEARNING FOCUS

Shape recognition • Spatial awareness • Following a model • Fine motor skills

PUMPKIN DETECTIVE

Teacher Directions



YOU WILL NEED

- Pumpkin Detective mat
- Six clue cards
- Six pumpkin circles
- Shallow sensory bin
- Plain dried chickpeas
- Optional tweezers or tongs

PREPARATION

1. Print and laminate. Cut out the cards and circles.
2. Hide the pumpkin circles in the filler.
3. Place the mat and clue cards nearby.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Place a clue card on the mat.
2. Name the color and shape together.
3. Find the pumpkin that matches both clues. Place it on the magnifying glass.
4. Check both clues. Clear the mat and play again.

DIFFERENTIATION

Begin with two pumpkin choices. Help children check both clues. For a challenge, say the clues without showing the card.

LEARNING FOCUS

Visual discrimination • Following directions •
Color and shape vocabulary • Fine motor skills