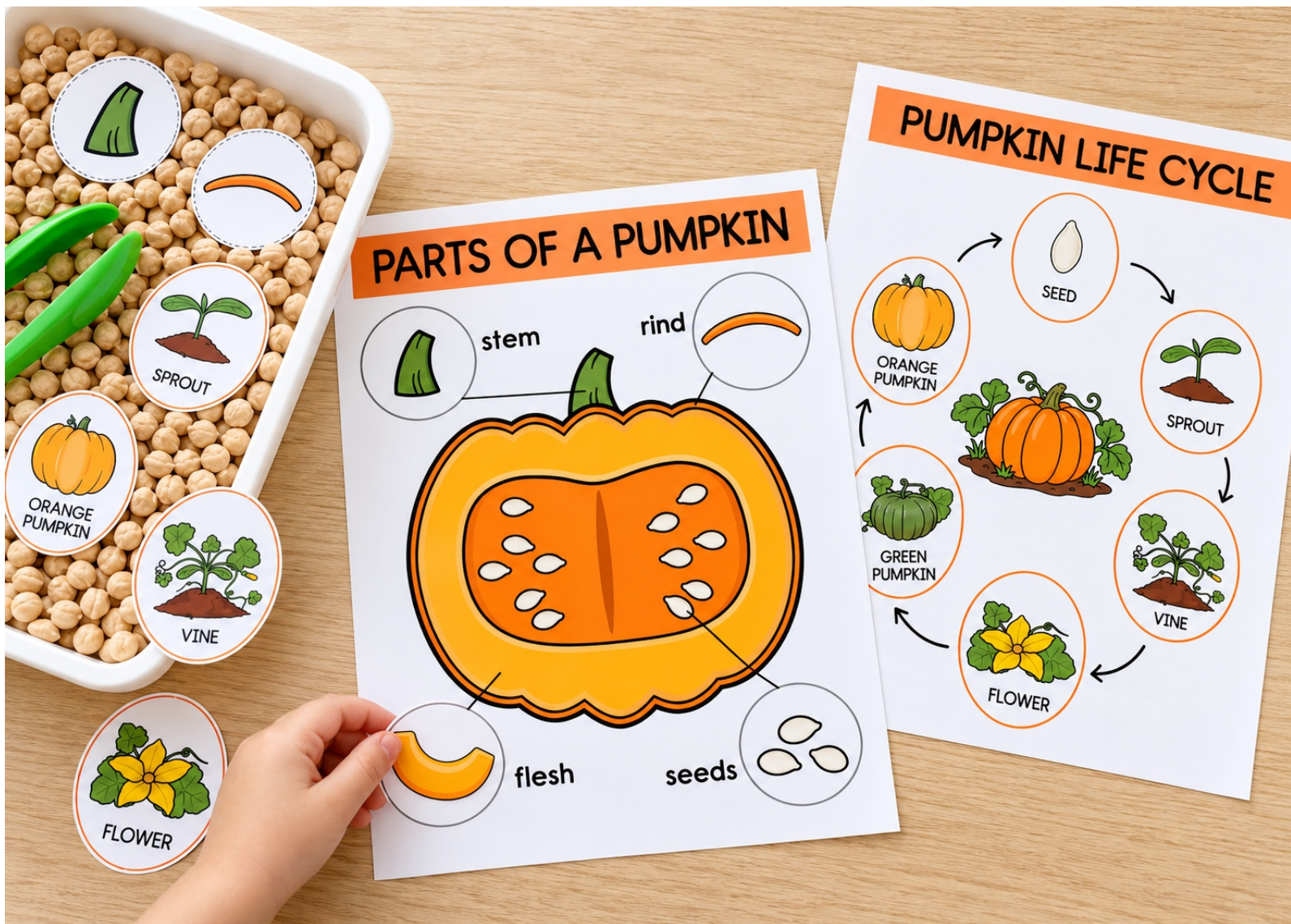


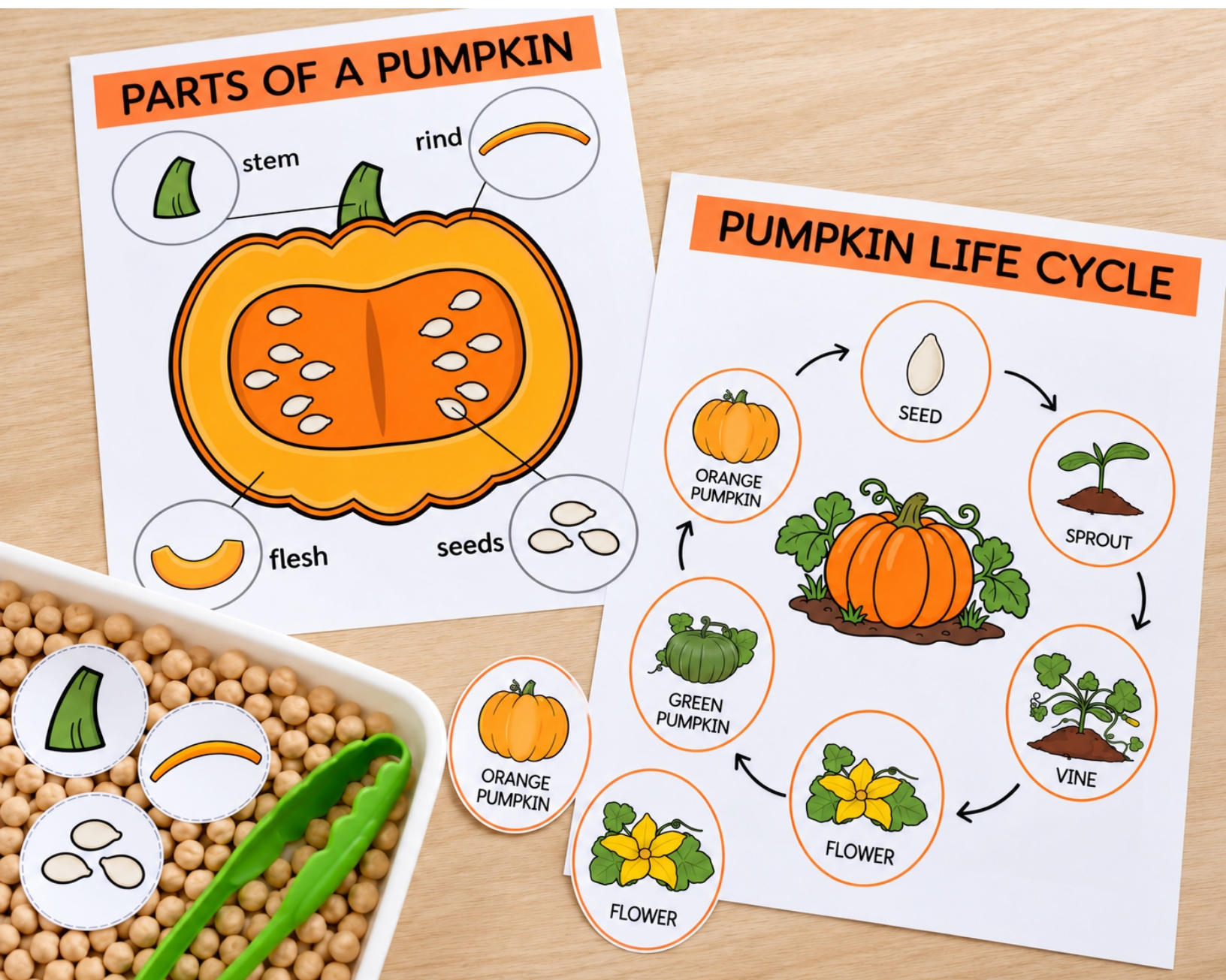
pumpkin parts & life cycle

SENSORY BIN ACTIVITY



PUMPKIN SENSORY BINS

APPLE PIE RECIPE



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Lavinia

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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

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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.

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Pumpkin Parts & Life Cycle

Explore pumpkins through hands-on science play! Children search for picture pieces, name pumpkin parts, and discover how a pumpkin grows from a seed.

These two preschool activities build science vocabulary, visual matching, sequencing, and fine motor skills. Use them in a sensory bin or as tabletop matching activities.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Parts of a Pumpkin mat
- 4 pumpkin-part picture circles: stem, rind, flesh, and seeds
- Pumpkin Life Cycle mat
- 6 life cycle picture pieces: seed, sprout, vine, flower, green pumpkin, and orange pumpkin
- Teacher directions for each activity
- 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

1. Choose an activity and place its mat beside the sensory bin.
2. Hide the matching picture pieces in the filler.
3. Find a piece and name it together.
4. Match it to the picture on the mat.
5. For pumpkin parts, follow the lines to locate each part on the pumpkin. For the life cycle, start at the seed and follow the arrows to name the stages.

MORE WAYS TO PLAY

- Pumpkin Parts: Guess the Part, What's Missing?, and Look at a Real Pumpkin.
- Pumpkin Life Cycle: Tell the Story, What's Missing?, and Plant a Seed.

SKILLS PRACTICED

- Identifying pumpkin parts
- Understanding a simple plant life cycle
- Science vocabulary and oral language
- Sequencing and storytelling
- Visual matching and memory
- Observation and comparison
- Following visual directions
- Fine motor coordination

PERFECT FOR

- Preschool, pre-K, and kindergarten
- Pumpkin and fall themes
- Science and discovery centers
- Sensory bin activities
- Small group learning
- Homeschool activities

PREPARATION

Print the mats, picture pieces, and direction cards. Laminate for durability, if desired, and cut out the picture pieces. Add one activity's pieces to a shallow layer of filler and place its mat beside the bin.

Begin with two picture choices and name them together. Add more as children become familiar with the activity. For a challenge, name pumpkin parts before matching or sequence the life cycle pieces without the mat.

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

Happy Teaching :)

Sensory Bin Setup & Safety

Explore pumpkin parts and how pumpkins grow through hands-on matching and 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%.
- Laminate for repeated use, if desired, and cut out the picture pieces.
- Add a shallow layer of plain dried chickpeas to a tray or sensory bin.
- Partly hide the pieces for one activity, leaving some visible.
- Place the matching mat and How to Play guide beside the bin.
- Model finding a piece, naming it, and matching it to the mat.

SETTING UP EACH ACTIVITY

- Parts of a Pumpkin: Use the pumpkin mat and four picture circles. Begin with two parts if needed. Help children follow the lines to locate each part on the pumpkin.
- Pumpkin Life Cycle: Use the life cycle mat and six picture pieces. After matching, start at the seed and follow the arrows to talk about how a pumpkin grows.
- Keep the two sets of pieces separate when introducing the activities.

CHOOSING A FILLER

Plain dried chickpeas are shown in the activity photos. Keep the filler shallow so children can find the pieces easily. Children can use their hands or suitable tweezers or tongs.

Both activities can also be used on a tabletop or in a tray without filler. Containers, fillers, and tools are not included.

EXTRA MATERIALS FOR EXTENSION PLAY

- Look at a Real Pumpkin: Provide a pumpkin that an adult has cut open.
- Plant a Seed: Provide a pumpkin seed for planting, potting soil, water, and a pot with drainage holes.

STORAGE AND CARE

Store each mat, its picture pieces, and direction cards together in a labeled bag, wallet, or container. Use the included storage labels to keep the activities organized.

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

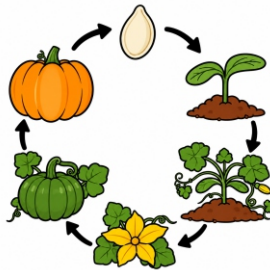
Happy Teaching!

STORAGE LABELS



PARTS OF A PUMPKIN

SENSORY BIN

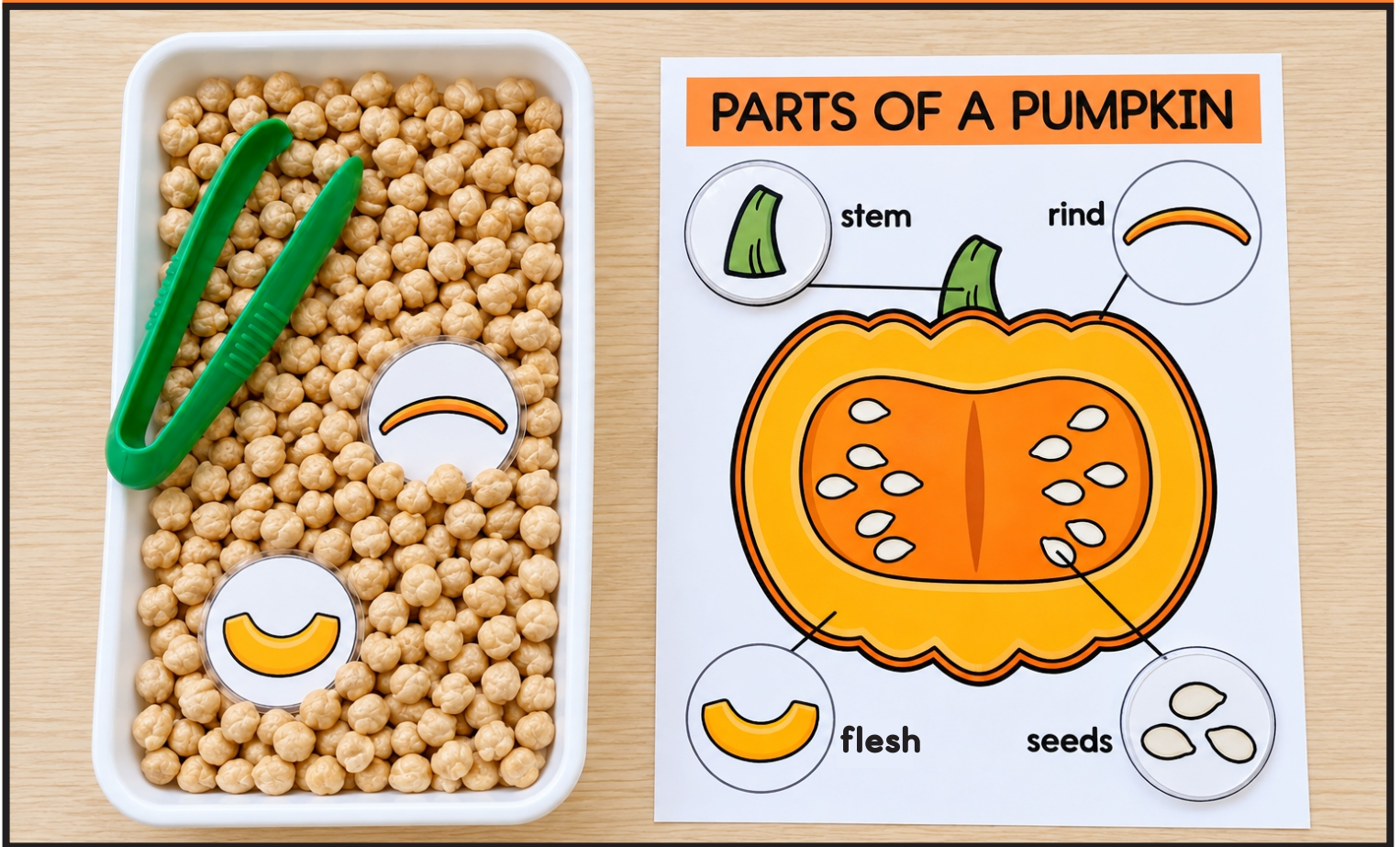


PUMPKIN LIFE CYCLE

SENSORY BIN

PARTS OF A PUMPKIN

Teacher Directions



YOU WILL NEED

- Parts of a Pumpkin mat
- Four picture circles
- Shallow sensory bin
- Plain dried chickpeas
- Optional tweezers or tongs

PREPARATION

1. Print and laminate. Cut out the picture circles.
2. Hide the circles in the filler.
3. Place the mat beside the bin.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Find a picture circle in the bin.
2. Name the part together.
3. Match it to the picture on the mat. Follow the line to find it on the pumpkin.
4. Match all four. Check and play again.

DIFFERENTIATION

Begin with two parts and name them together. For a challenge, name each part and point to it on the pumpkin before matching.

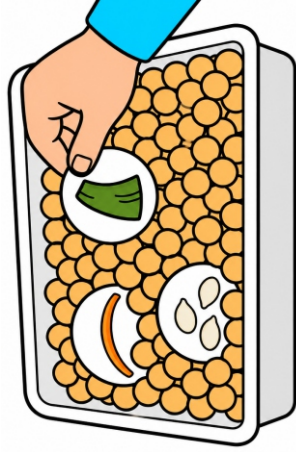
LEARNING FOCUS

Pumpkin parts • Vocabulary • Visual matching • Fine motor skills

PARTS OF A PUMPKIN

How To Play

1



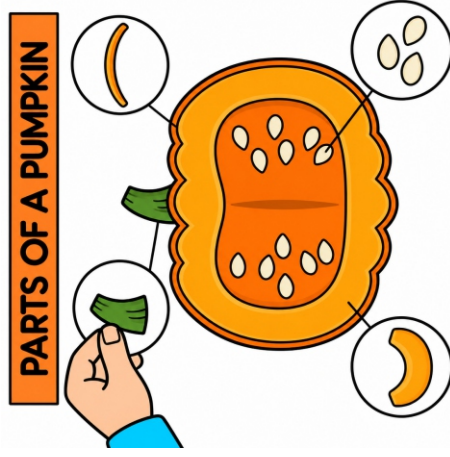
Find a picture.

2



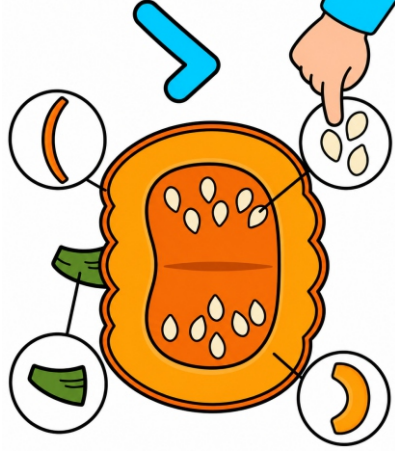
Say its name.

3



Find its match.

4

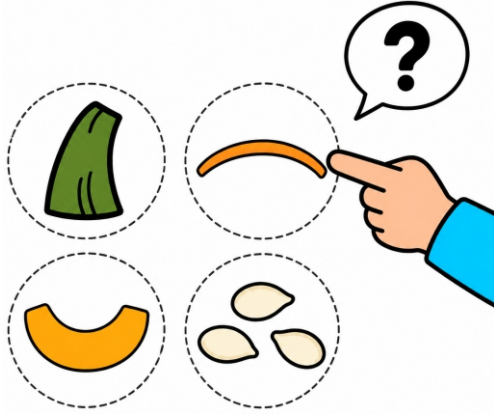


Check and
play again.

PARTS OF A PUMPKIN

More Ways to Play

1



GUESS THE PART

1. Spread out the picture circles.
2. Listen to a clue: "This covers the outside."
3. Find the part. Say its name.

2



WHAT'S MISSING?

1. Look at the four circles. Name the parts.
2. Close your eyes while an adult hides one.
3. Look again. Which part is missing?

3



LOOK AT A REAL PUMPKIN

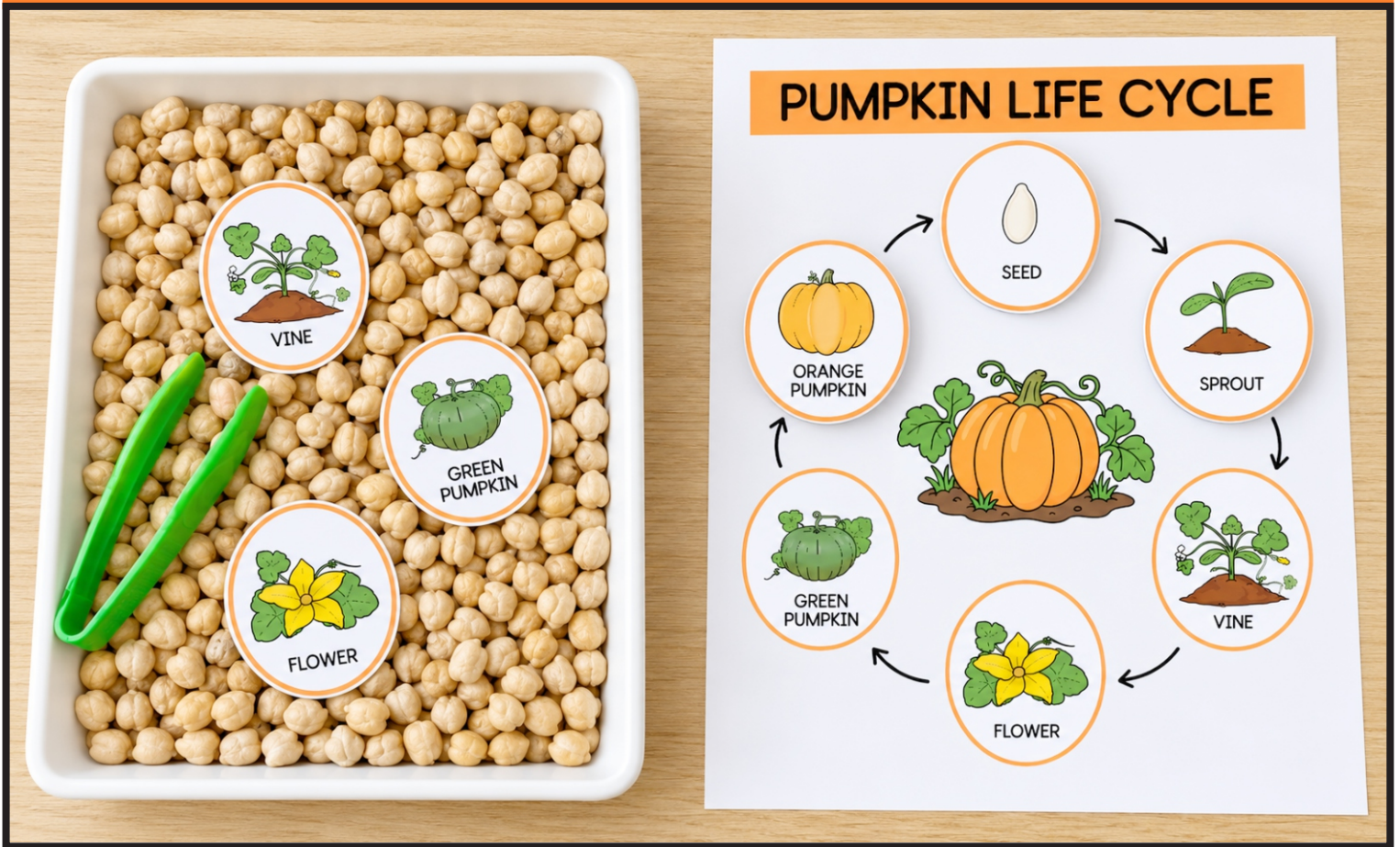
1. Explore a pumpkin an adult has cut open.
2. Choose a picture circle.
3. Find that part on the real pumpkin.

TEACHER TIP

Use simple clues: the stem joins the pumpkin to the vine, the rind covers the outside, the flesh is the thick part inside the rind, and the seeds can grow into new plants. Begin What's Missing? with two circles.

PUMPKIN LIFE CYCLE

Teacher Directions



YOU WILL NEED

- Pumpkin Life Cycle mat
- Six life cycle picture pieces
- Shallow sensory bin
- Plain dried chickpeas
- Optional tweezers or tongs

PREPARATION

1. Print and laminate. Cut out the picture pieces.
2. Hide the pieces in the filler.
3. Place the mat beside the bin.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Find a picture piece in the bin.
2. Name it together and find its match.
3. Match all six pictures.
4. Start at the seed. Follow the arrows and name each stage.

DIFFERENTIATION

Begin with two picture choices. Name them together. For a challenge, put all six pieces in order without the mat.

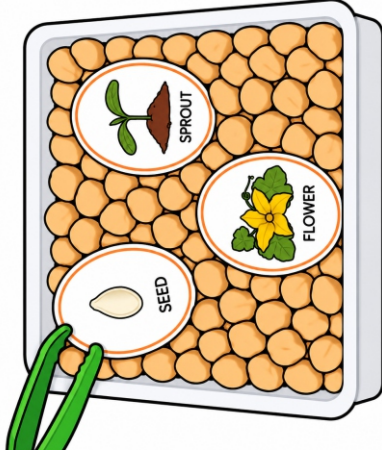
LEARNING FOCUS

Life cycles • Sequencing • Vocabulary • Visual matching • Fine motor skills

PUMPKIN LIFE CYCLE

How To Play

1



Find a picture.

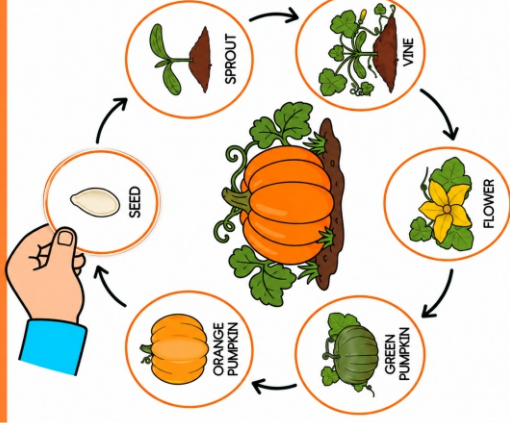
2



Say its name.

3

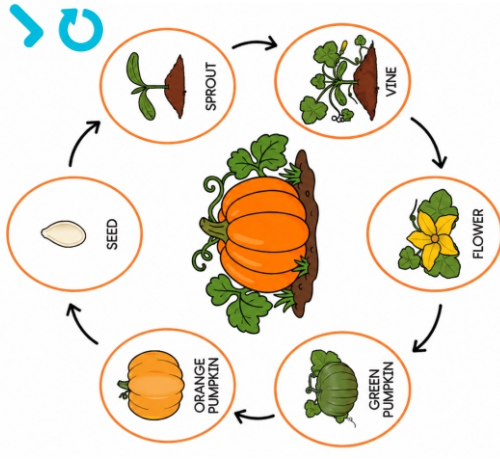
PUMPKIN LIFE CYCLE



Find its match.

4

PUMPKIN LIFE CYCLE

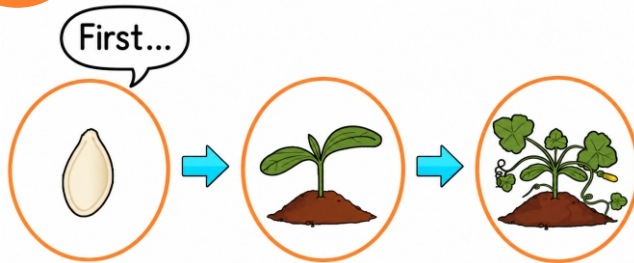


Check and
play again.

PUMPKIN LIFE CYCLE

More Ways to Play

1



TELL THE STORY

1. Start at the seed.
2. Follow the arrows.
3. Tell how a pumpkin grows. Use "first," "next," and "then."

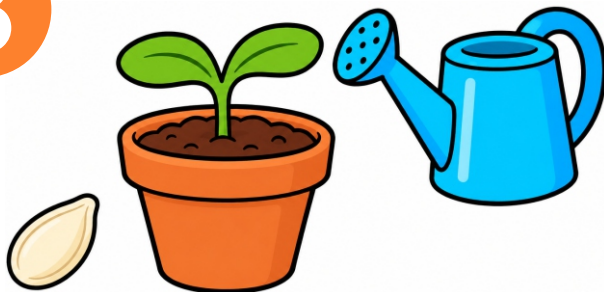
2



WHAT'S MISSING?

1. Look at three pictures. Name them.
2. Close your eyes. An adult hides one.
3. Look again. Which one is missing?

3



PLANT A SEED

1. Plant a pumpkin seed in a pot of soil.
2. Water it gently. Put it in a sunny spot.
3. Watch it grow. Find the matching picture.

TEACHER TIP

Model the story. Explain that pumpkins hold seeds that can grow into new plants. Begin What's Missing? with two pictures. For Plant a Seed, use a real planting seed, potting soil, water, and a pot with drainage holes.