

Fabric Pumpkins All Ages

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Lesson

While it may not feel like fall down here in South Florida, we can still decorate for it. Did you know that Illinois grows 80-90% of our pumpkins? While Pumpkins are edible, they became main stream in use as decoration for Halloween. Jack-o-lanterns started in Ireland, but they carved turnips and potatoes instead, and when the Irish immigrated to the United States they found pumpkins worked much better.



Questions For Students

What kind of fruit is a pumpkin?
What is the heaviest pumpkin ever grown?
How long does it take to grow a pumpkin?

Links For More Info on Pumpkins

<https://www.history.com/news/pumpkin-facts-halloween-jack-o-lantern>

<https://www.britannica.com/story/why-do-we-carve-pumpkins-at-halloween>

Links For Videos About Pumpkins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7qmmN8NawQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2THmioxU8b4>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AB-dfi_OTsQ



Materials

Fabric for pumpkin & leaf (any color you want)
Plastic bags/news paper/cotton stuffing
Good Scissors
Hot glue gun & Glue
Wine Cork
Twine
Stapler or Markers



Instructions



1. Get your fabric picked out, keep in mind Resource Depot has a lot of fabric to choose from. You can make your pumpkins whatever color you want.
2. The size of your fabric will determine the size of your pumpkin, you can start with a rectangle or square.
3. Decide how much stuffing you can fit based on how large or how small your piece of fabric is.
4. Bunch up fabric around stuffing material & tie off at the top with twine. (Use a stapler if your fabric is too short to bunch.) Leave twine extra long for vine effect.
5. For smaller pieces, glue a cork over the area you stapled for the stem.
6. Tie another loop of twine on the bunch and start to wrap around the "stem". Continue to wrap until desired length or until fabric ends.
7. If you'd like, you may add a dot of hot glue at the end and wrap back down. Add a knot at the bottom. Trim fabric stem if needed.
8. Cut leaf out of other fabric. Bunch a hole in the top and add to twine at the stem, or glue on at the base of the stem.
9. If you can sew a face on the pumpkin or draw one with permanent marker for a Jack-o-lantern.



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