

# Kid's Corner

## Pumpkin Patch Fun

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Fall is in the air! Cooler days and chilly nights mean one thing...it's pumpkin season! Did you know that Illinois is the Pumpkin Capital of the World? Our state grows 90-95% of all the pumpkins used for processing. Most of that processing takes place near Morton, Illinois and the counties of Tazewell, Mason, Wayne, Peoria, and Stark grow the majority of the pumpkins!

It's a great time of year to visit a local pumpkin farm, too. Most pumpkin patches grow both ornamental and pie pumpkins. Carving is a great way to teach kids about the different parts of a pumpkin. Did you know that the lines on a pumpkin are called the ribs? The greater the number of ribs on a pumpkin, the more seeds that are inside! This fall when you are carving pumpkins, let your kids or grandkids, guess how many seeds are inside before you open it. For the younger ones, divide the seeds into groups. It is a fun way to practice skip counting (10, 20, 30...). You will be surprised how high the kids will count!

To learn more about how pumpkins grow, visit our Popular Pumpkins video on You Tube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cgysc2yyu8c>

Happy Fall!

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Winnebago-Boone Ag In the Classroom

S O  
E O  
E X  
W X N C D N I  
V A R I E T Y S R D B  
V D C A R V E O C C Q G Y  
G O U R D B P O G A S U F  
H V I N E E U A R J P T N H S  
A B L O S S O M I K I E M T S  
N R G Q A U T U M N T M L T Z  
L I Z R V J M M M V A U B A A  
N P P U L P I Y G L C E A  
D I P O L L I N A T E E C  
E O R A N G E Q L O S  
I U G C U T W

### WORD LIST:

AUTUMN  
BEES  
BLOSSOM  
CAPITAL

CARVE  
GOURD  
ORANGE  
PIE

POLLINATE  
PULP  
RIND  
SEEDS

STEM  
VARIETY  
VINE