



### Halloween Pumpkin Farm

The night before Halloween on a pumpkin farm,  
An old red barn sits quietly, causing no harm.

Suddenly the sky becomes dark red,  
And the sun turns from yellow to orange above your head.

Gray clouds suddenly appear moving fast across the sun.  
A black cat stands on the brown fence watching someone.

Six orange pumpkins are waiting to celebrate Halloween day.  
It is a busy cold night on the Pumpkin Farm; be very quiet this is no time  
play.

## **Halloween Pumpkin Farm** **(Grade Level: PreK- Kindergarten)**

**Materials:** Overhead Projector, or SMART Board, copies of the pumpkin drawing activity and crayons. **\*Note\*** If you choose to use the SMART Board you may go to ***Mightybook.com*** and pull up the lesson online.

**Goal of Activity:** The rhyming poem can be used as an additional resource to reinforce rhyming words, and listening skills. Students will also discuss colors and do some counting.

- 1. Picture Walk:** Using the Overhead or SMART Board, first begin with a picture walk. Ask students what they see in the picture. For example, "What do you see in the picture? What color is the sun? What is in front of the sun?" Make sure to open up discussion about colors in the picture, names of each item, the number of pumpkins, etc.
- 2. Discuss Title:** Discuss the title of the poem. What is a Halloween Pumpkin Farm? Many students have probably been to a pumpkin farm. Allow them to tell you their stories about what they did as well as what they saw there. There will be very entertaining stories. Tell them to keep them stories short. Ha! It's worth a try.  
**\*Teacher Note\*** *The poem was written as a creative tool to open discussion about pumpkin farms and items students might see there.*
- 3. What is Poetry:** It's the beginning of the school year, and you might have a lesson for poetry later in the year. Most likely your students are not familiar with poetry and rhyming sounds at this level. You will want to treat this section as an introduction to rhyming poetry. Tell students you will read a rhyming poem about a pumpkin farm. Then, ask students if they know what a rhyme is. Below are two examples that you may want to use to discuss with them.
  - **Rhyming Poems:** Use repetition of the same or similar sounds for two or more words at the end of the lines. Give students an example, such my hat is very fat or the rat played baseball with a bat. This should help them begin to think about rhyming. Come up with a few other rhyming words to warm up their brains.
  - **Poems:** When people juggle their words, patterns and rhythms together to make them exciting. They come in many different forms and can be about anything you want. You might add that songs start as poems, etc.

**\*This is an Optional Lesson for further discussion about Poems\***

You might want to check out a book of poetry for kids at the library. There are many great poetry books that you may be familiar with. Two recommendations are, *The Random House Book of Poetry for Children*, and *Ride a Purple Pelican* by Jack Prelutsky. This is a book full of exciting rhymes that are fun and age appropriate.

- Ask students if they know what a poem is. You might explain that poems are fun when you juggle your words, patterns and rhythms together to make them exciting. They come in many different forms and can be about anything you want. Below are a few examples of poetry types to discuss with your students.
  - **Rhyming Poems:** use the repetition of the same or similar sounds for two or more words at the end of the lines.
  - **Free Verse Poetry:** written in either rhyming or unrhymed lines that have no real rhythm or pattern.
- If you decided to check out a book, this is a great time to read one very short poem (for this age group) to your students. This way you can get their brain juice valves warmed up for rhymes.

4. **Rhyming Poetry Warm-Up:** Reinforce that “*Halloween Pumpkin Farm*” is a rhyming poem as you’ve discussed. You might say, for example, “this means that we will look and listen for rhymes at the end of each line in the poem.” You may need to give a brief example.
  - First, choose a simple word to write on the Overhead or SMART Board. Then ask students for a word that rhymes with the one you wrote. For example, you may write “bat.” A student might answer with “cat.”
  - Pick two more words that you make up and repeat the step above. Or have your students make up rhyming words that you write down.
  - Make sure to call on students whose hands are not raised in case they need a little extra support with the activity.
5. **Read Poem:** Using your Overhead or SMART Board, read “*Halloween Pumpkin Farm*” and ask students to follow along with you. Pause at the end of each line for a few seconds and look around the room to see if students are following along.
6. **Students Repeat Rhyming Words:** Using your Overhead Projector or SMART Board, Ask students to repeat each rhyming word after you. Then, underline the words for them to see.
7. **Poem Discussion:** Discuss the poem with students by asking many questions.

***Here are a few sample questions you might use to open discussion:***

- What was this poem about?
- What rhyming words did you hear? Were there other words in the poem that described the picture?
- How many pumpkins are in the picture? What do you think the cat is looking at?

8. **Matching Activity:** Work with your students to match the rhyming word pairs. Use your Overhead or SMART Board to review the rhyming words you've underlined. For this group you will need to two rhyming words a few times to see if they can hear the rhyme. Then, when students hear the rhyming words draw a line to the rhyming word pair.

9. **My Pumpkin Farm Drawing Activity:** Pass out the pumpkin drawing activity. Tell students to be creative. Using crayons, students will draw a picture of their very own pumpkin farm. They can include pumpkins, hay rides, apple picking, playgrounds, etc. Explain that it should be a detailed picture with many fun things to do. It's their picture and they can put anything they want on their farm. Have fun!

10. **Be a Show-Off:** A few ideas. Place the completed pictures on the bulletin board where others can view them. Use a banner above the pictures to label them as, "Our Class Pumpkin Farms," etc. You might even have something written up about the pumpkin farms near their pictures that explain a few things on the about their pictures. Be creative, show off their work and you and your friends will be very proud.

**\*\*\*When "Halloween Pumpkin Farm" activity is completed: Tell students to kiss their brains and give themselves a pat on the back!**

**\*\*\* Great Work Today!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## "Halloween Pumpkin Farm"

### Matching Activity

Use a crayon to match the rhyming word pairs.

red

farm

sun

head

play

day

harm

someone

## My Halloween Pumpkin Farm

By \_\_\_\_\_