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Wendell's Pumpkin Predicament

a story-based mini unit



Rewards

Come along with Wendell as he discovers the amazing world of pumpkins ... and then help him whip up some delicious pumpkin treats!

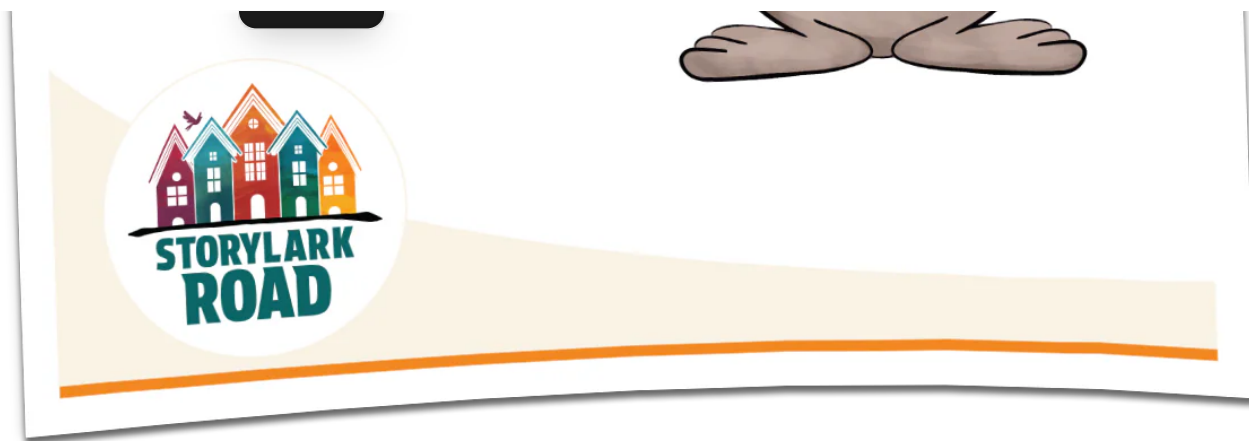
What You'll Find Inside

- Four story pages
- Pumpkin recipe links
- Crossword puzzle activity
- Pumpkin booklet activity



STARRING
MR. WENDELL
TUSKLEY





FREE Pumpkin Mini Unit

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Includes:

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What You'll Find Inside

Wendell wonders what his pumpkin bars will taste like with freshly grown pumpkins. However, he soon learns this will require hard work and patience. This FREE printable includes four pages of journal entries and two activities.

FROM THE JOURNAL OF MR. WENDELL TUSKLEY, PCE (PASTRY CHEF EXTRAORDINAIRE)

THE PUMPKIN PREDICAMENT

Dear Journal,

Oh, dear, my whole life is a twist! A customer just asked me what kind of pumpkins I use in my famous pumpkin bars, and I said I didn't know because they come from a can. But now I am thinking it **WOULD** be kind of nice to know more about the pumpkins that go in my pumpkin bars. After all, I can't let my reputation as Mr. Wendell Tuskley, pastry chef extraordinaire, crumble like a bad pie crust. What a predicament!

So today I vowed to grow my own pumpkin... although I must admit I don't exactly have a green thumb. I dusted the covers off my gardening book, *Growing Plants When You Don't Know How To Grow Plants*, but was immediately disappointed. Not only do pumpkins take 90 to 120 days to grow... but you're supposed to plant the seeds in late May to early July and in OCTOBER! I was really trying to have my own homegrown pumpkin by the end of the week. Humpf. I'll just have to mark my calendar with a big orange circle and bide my time.

I'm not a very patient walrus, but I'm sure it will all be worth it to taste a delicious pumpkin bar with pure from my own homegrown pumpkins!

- Mr. Wendell Tuskley (growing pumpkins trained)



VOCABULARY NOTES

PREDICAMENT

difficult or embarrassing situation

GREEN THUMB

natural talent for growing plants

EXPEDITE

accomplish more quickly



A LONG-AWAITED DAY

Dear Journal,

Pumpkin growing party: 1

It's here, it's finally here! Today was planting day! I dug some holes, placed my pumpkin seeds into the ground one by one, and covered them with soil—sort of like topping a pie with a delicate crust. My gardening book mentioned that I should leave two to five feet between each seed since pumpkins need a lot of room to grow.

I can't wait to see the seeds sprout! Alas, for now I must wait. Will it expedite the process if I read to the seeds? I've heard it helps, and it certainly can't hurt... so I'll begin by reading my favorite recipes aloud. Maybe it will make them hurry up and grow?

- Mr. Tuskley
(the pumpkin chef-chef)



No More Doubts... We Have Sprouts!

Dear Journal,

Pumpkin growing party: 6

Ding! Like the timer going off for a cake in the oven, today was the day my pumpkin seeds have sprouted!

I've checked on my seeds every day now for a whole week. I was beginning to worry that they were never coming and thought that reading them recipes was not a good idea after all. However, here they are! Tiny green shoots are poking through the soil, stretching toward the sun.

I can hardly contain my excitement! I'm nurturing them with care, making sure they get just the right amount of water and sunshine.

Soon, my little pumpkin plants will produce their first set of "true leaves"—and in a few months my garden will be bursting with pumpkins!

- Farmer Wendell (since that name)



GIANT PUMPKINS?!

Have you heard about giant pumpkins? Giant pumpkins, specifically the *Cucurbita maxima* variety known as Atlantic Giant, can grow to weigh over 1,000 pounds! That would be the picking up two walrus!

These giants are grown for competitions and can measure more than 18 feet in circumference.

That sure sounds interesting... but for now, with my tiny seedling garden giving me enough of a workout, I think I'll stick with my tiny pumpkin. They may be smaller, but I know they will be delicious!



VOCABULARY NOTES

TRUE LEAVES

the second set of leaves to grow on a plant that look and function like the first leaves of the plant

SOUFFLÉ

light, fluffy, baked egg dish; originating in France that is light and fluffy and can be either a dessert or a main dish

Yip Tzee!

Dear Journal,

Pumpkin growing party: 30

What a yip-tzee day! My little plants have developed! Yip! We're a few weeks in now and I'm as happy and light as a strawberry soufflé.

I've been caring for my pumpkin plants with compost and love, giving them the best possible ingredients to thrive. I've learned that just like with baking, patience is key! I admit I struggle a bit with that!

I can almost taste those pumpkin bars already!

- Wendell Tuskley (the vine trained)

MOST POPULAR PUMPKIN TREATS

As pumpkin pie (and other pies) are popular, many people have created the "pumpkin" theme.

Which treat do you like best?

Pumpkin Pie

Pumpkin Bread

Pumpkin Soufflé

Pumpkin Bars



PUMPKINS

Dear Journal,

It's been six weeks now!

Yellow flowers are away...

Sometimes beginning tangles of...

They are no longer rather harvest. I see my pumpkin!

- Mr. Tuskley

VOCABULARY

ANTICIPATION

expectation; the act of looking forward to a pleasant event

CAMOUFLAGED

hidden; disguised

UNCHARTED

not mapped or surveyed

PUMPKINS TYPE OF G

Did you know that you actually eat a type of green? Pumpkins include squashes, butternuts, acorns, and a...

This winter green is a vegetable derivative pumpkin species called Greenhouse!



the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased by 1.5 million, from 2.5 million in 1980 to 4 million in 1995. The public sector has also become an important employer of women, with 60% of public sector employees being women in 1995, compared with 50% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with disabilities, with 10% of public sector employees being people with disabilities in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people from ethnic minorities, with 10% of public sector employees being people from ethnic minorities in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people from the lower social classes, with 10% of public sector employees being people from the lower social classes in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low qualifications, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low qualifications in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low income, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low income in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low skills, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low skills in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low motivation, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low motivation in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low commitment, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low commitment in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low loyalty, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low loyalty in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low integrity, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low integrity in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low honesty, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low honesty in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low respectfulness, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low respectfulness in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low politeness, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low politeness in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low kindness, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low kindness in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low generosity, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low generosity in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low compassion, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low compassion in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980. The public sector has also become an important employer of people with low empathy, with 10% of public sector employees being people with low empathy in 1995, compared with 5% in 1980.

