



Summary:

A pumpkin grows from seed to fruit throughout a year.

Science Topics:

- Life cycle of a plant
- Basic needs of plants

Questions to Discuss:

- What did the pumpkin need to survive and grow?
- Where else have you seen seeds?
- How can people help plants successfully grow through the cycle?
- How did the seed/plant change throughout the year?

Related Activities:

- Plant your own seeds and watch it grow!
- Observe plants growing nearby. How does it change from week to week?
- Check out the workbooks at

gardenclub.org/kids-publications-and-activity-books

Keep Reading:

PreK-K

- A Grand Old Tree by Mary Newell DePalma
- The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle

1-2

- The Amazing Life Cycle of Plants by Kay Barnham
- A Tree Grows Up by Marfe Ferguson Delano

3+

- Plant Life Cycles by Mara Grunbaum
- A Seed is Sleepy by Dianna Hutts Aston

The Saved Seed

Work with your local library: Donate books to the library and ask them to promote the book with a special display. When the book is checked out, provide a bag, the book, the activity sheet, and a giveaway item. The child can keep the activity sheet and giveaway item but return the book and bag to be checked out by another child.

Give a gift to your child/grandchild/neighbor: Book, Activity Sheet, and Giveaway

Hold a neighborhood activity and ask the garden club to help. Use the opportunity to promote your garden club (most of us are always looking for new members) and use the books and activities as a prize for a fun child-friendly contest.

Pick a day to host an activity for children, grandchildren, and neighbors of garden club members. Get together to read the book and discuss the questions. Follow up with a group activity.

Consider starting a junior garden club with the children you've met.

Meet with a group of parents/children to discuss and work on a community project.

Make or purchase a bag for carrying the book, activity sheet and project.

The Saved Seed sells for \$10 and is ordered on the National Garden Club web site.

Give Away Ideas: Seed packet. Seed growing kit. Watering can.

Bean Baby Project – Jo Sellers - NCA

Plastic baggie, Wet paper towel, bean seed, yarn

Wrap the bean in the damp paper towel, put it in the baggie, punch a hole and thread yarn through it. Tie the string ends together to make a necklace. Wear the necklace and watch the bean baby grow.

Planting Day – Ask your Garden club to provide small containers, potting soil, small annuals.

Bring garden gloves, watering cans, trowels. Let the children fill the container with soil, pick out an annual and plant it. Give them a flag for their plant where they can write the name of the plant and list the requirements to keep the plant growing – water, light, soil. Use this opportunity to promote your garden club.

So, let's get started. These are just a few ideas, but you can challenge your club to come up with others. The focus is to reach children as well as their parents on the importance of saving our environment for the future and advancing the **GO GREEN - PLANT AMERICA** goals for a Greener, Cleaner and Healthier World!