

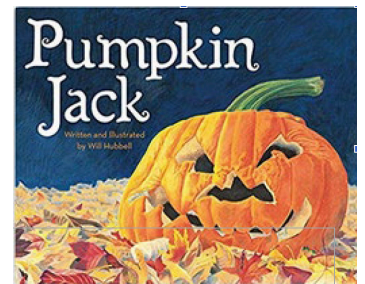


## Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

### **PUMPKIN JACK**

*by Will Hubbell*

The first pumpkin Tim ever carved was fierce and funny, and he named it Jack. When Halloween was over and the pumpkin was beginning to rot, Tim set it out in the garden and throughout the weeks he watched it change.



### **Fun Facts:**

- \* Both pumpkins and gourds are members of the cucurbit family. Other vegetables in this family include watermelons, squash, cucumbers and cantaloupes.
- \* More than 1 billion pounds of pumpkins are produced in the United States each year, and more than 495 million of those pounds are grown in Illinois.
- \* Pumpkins are a fruit and are 90 percent water
- \* Pumpkins range in size from less than a pound to over 1,000 pounds. The largest pumpkin ever grown weighed 1,140 pounds.
- \* The largest pumpkin pie ever made was 20 feet in diameter and weighed 3,699 pounds. It was made at New Bremen Pumpkinfest in New Bremen, Ohio. The crust was made of 440 sheets of dough.
- \* Georgia only produces a few hundred acres of pumpkins, and an estimated 80 to 90 percent of those are grown in north Georgia.

### **Videos**

- \* How to Grow Pumpkins-Libby Pumpkin
- \* Georgia Farm Monitor- Fall is Pumpkin Season Across Georgia
- \* A pumpkin grows-Scholastic

### **Activities**

- \* Pumpkin life cycle paper plate
- \* Pumpkin Life Cycle Bracelet
- \* Pumpkin Pie in a Bag
- \* No Bake Pumpkin Oatmeal Energy Balls
- \* Visit <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/> for more FREE pumpkin activities!!!!
- \* Visit <https://www.agclassroom.org/teacher/matrix/index.cfm> for pumpkin lesson plans
- \* How to make a Pumpkin Jack experiment in your classroom
- \* Pumpkin Jack journal