



Pumpkin Piñata

These easy paper bag piñatas, filled with toys and treats, will be a “hit” at your classroom Halloween party!

MATERIALS

- ⊙ paper lunch bags
- ⊙ tempera paints and brushes
- ⊙ crayons or markers
- ⊙ tissue paper, wiggle eyes, and other decorating materials (optional)
- ⊙ scrap paper or newspaper (or recycled packing “peanuts”)
- ⊙ scissors
- ⊙ yarn
- ⊙ colored tissue paper
- ⊙ small toys and wrapped candies
- ⊙ green yarn
- ⊙ cardboard gift wrap tube
- ⊙ scarf (to serve as a blindfold)

Literacy Link

Let the word *piñata* be the first word on a Spanish word wall! What other Spanish words can your students add? Invite children to contribute to the wall by writing Spanish words, along with their English translation, on pumpkin-shaped cards.

Safety Note

Make sure the rest of the class is at a safe distance from the piñata when children are swatting at it.

1 Divide the class into small groups. Give each group a paper lunch bag, paints and brushes, and crayons or markers. Invite children to paint the lower three-quarters of the bag orange and the upper quarter green. Let the paint dry.

2 Have children paint or draw a pumpkin face on the front and back of the orange portions of the bag. They may decorate them with wiggle eyes, tissue paper and fabric scraps, yarn, crepe paper streamers, and so on.

3 Give each group plenty of scrap paper or newspaper to tear into small strips. Also provide an assortment of small toys and wrapped candies and a piece of green yarn. Tell children to stuff the bags, up to the green portion, with the paper strips, toys, and candies. To give the pumpkin a rounder shape, they can poke in the bottom corners of the bag.

4 Show children how to twist the green portion of the bag to make a stem and then tie the bag closed with the green yarn “vine.”

5 Tie the pumpkins to a clothesline strung across your classroom. Let children in each group take turns donning a blindfold. Then hand them an empty cardboard gift wrap tube, and invite them to try their luck at breaking open the piñata and spilling out the toys and treats.

