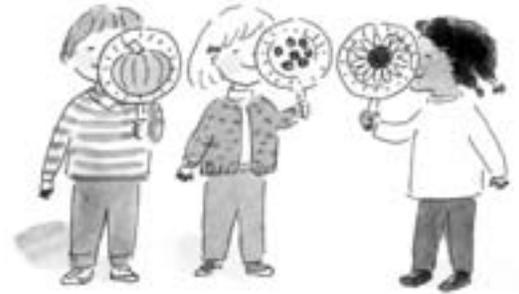


SCIENCE, LANGUAGE ARTS

"It's Harvest Time!" Mini-Play

Your young readers star as pumpkins, cranberries, and sunflowers in a mini-play that introduces the way plants grow. Give each child a copy of the play. (See page 12.) Before performing the play, make a word wall that includes key vocabulary, including *cranberries, sunflowers, pumpkins, bushes, ground, stalks, vine, harvest, seeds, and pick*. Let children illustrate the words to provide visual clues. In preparation for performing the play, let children make simple props. Children who are cranberries can cut out and color small red circles and glue them to construction-paper bushes. Children playing the part of pumpkins can color paper-plate pumpkins (glue them to craft sticks) and hold them up at the appropriate times. Sunflowers can start out with tiny sprouts, then make bigger and bigger sunflowers to display.



SCIENCE

Harvest Seed Surprise

Children play this fun game as they discover the kinds of plants that grow from different seeds.

- ☉ Provide a variety of seeds such as watermelon seeds, corn kernels, and flower seeds.
- ☉ Give each student a copy of the activity sheet. (See page 13.) Show students where to glue four different seeds, where to draw a picture of what the seed becomes, and where to write the label. Follow the illustration (above) as a guide.
- ☉ Give children time to play a peekaboo game by trying to guess what one another's seeds will become. They can lift the flaps to check their answers. Some seeds are very surprising!



Computer Connection

Family Farms
Around the World

www.disknet.com/indiana_biolab/farms.htm

Children will be surprised and excited to visit an ostrich farm in New Zealand, an onion farm in Georgia, and a virtual farm in Scotland. These are just some of the 150 farms featured in 40 states and 18 countries.

Book Break

Pumpkin Fiesta

by Caryn Yacowitz (HarperCollins, 1998)

Your students will giggle with delight at Foolish Fernando's silly ideas. But through Old Juana's careful tending of her prize crop, readers learn about planting and growing pumpkins. After sharing the story, provide different-sized pumpkins for weighing and measuring.

It's Harvest Time!

by Nancy I. Sanders

Characters

(to be played by small groups of students)

Cranberries 🌿 Sunflowers 🌿 Pumpkins **Setting:** A garden

Cranberries: We are baby cranberries,
Small and green and round.
We're growing
On green bushes
Planted in the ground.

(crouched low to the ground)

Sunflowers: We are baby sunflowers,
Small and green and round.
We're growing on
Green flower stalks
Planted in the ground.

(crouched low to the ground)

Pumpkins: We are baby pumpkins,
Small and green and round.
We're growing on
A long green vine
Planted in the ground.

Cranberries: We are growing cranberries.
We like the sun and rain.
We're growing riper every day,
But we still look the same.

(starting to stand)

Sunflowers: We are growing sunflowers.
We're having so much fun.
We're growing taller every day,
Climbing to the sun.

(low to the ground)

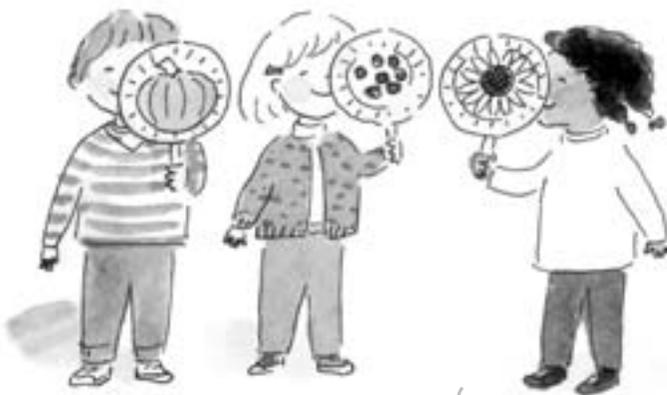
Pumpkins: We are growing pumpkins.
We're getting big and round.
We're growing fatter every day
Sitting on the ground.

Cranberries: We are bright red cranberries,
Small and sour, not sweet!
We're ready now.
It's harvest time!
Pick us all to eat.

(standing tall)

Sunflowers: We are yellow sunflowers.
Our cheerful faces say:
We're ready now.
It's harvest time!
Pick our seeds today.

Pumpkins: We are big orange pumpkins,
Just right for pies and fun.
We're ready now.
It's harvest time!
Pick us, one by one.





Harvest Seed Surprise

