



## Planting in A Pumpkin Activity

### MATERIALS:

- A small pumpkin (roughly 3-4 pounds)
- Scooping tools (spoons or pumpkin scooper)
- Knife
- Seeds for desired plant
- Potting soil
- Water
- Small garden trowel
- Optional: Drill

### STEPS:

1. Gather all your materials!
2. Cut open your pumpkin!
  - Using a knife and with a grown-up, cut the top of your pumpkin around the stem creating a circle that will be large enough for you to scoop out the materials inside
3. Start scooping!
  - Remove the top of your pumpkin and using your scooping tools remove all the pumpkin seeds and the pumpkin fibers until your pumpkin is hollow  
*Tip: You can save your pumpkin seeds to make a delicious and nutritious roasted pumpkin seed snack!*
4. Create holes for drainage!
  - Make holes in the bottom of your pumpkin so that when you water your plant, the water has a place to escape. You can use a drill or a knife to create these holes. This is a great job for a grown-up!
5. Fill your pumpkin!
  - Using your potting soil and small garden trowel, fill your pumpkin with soil
6. Add your seeds!
  - Make a hole roughly one inch deep in your soil. Place into the hole your seed. Cover the hole with dirt. Repeat this step for each seed you would like to plant inside your pumpkin. Beans, peas, or pumpkin seeds work great to grow!
7. Add water!
  - Water your pumpkin until the soil is damp
8. Place in the sun!
  - Place your pumpkin in a sunny location
9. Plant your pumpkin outside!
  - After some time, your pumpkin will begin to naturally break down. Once this happens, it is a great time to plant your pumpkin and seeds outside. Dig a hole in the ground and place your pumpkin inside. Your pumpkin will act as great natural fertilizer for your plant.
10. Explore!
  - Make observations about how your seedlings begin to grow! Observe shapes colors and sizes of your plants stems, leaves and flowers!

**SAFETY:** Make sure a grown-up uses the sharp tools!



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