

## October is National Fire Prevention Month

This provides a terrific opportunity to involve your local community members. Invite a firefighter to your class to talk about the equipment they use, the clothes they wear, and valuable fire safety tips. If a visit cannot be arranged, write a class letter to your local fire station. What questions do the children have for firefighters? Include their questions and comments in the letter.



### Pumpkinologists

(taken from [Curriculum for Threes, Harvest Time](#))

#### Materials and Preparations:

- Pumpkins (whole and some cut open)
- Unbreakable magnifiers
- Chart paper and marker or group science journal
- Crayons/markers

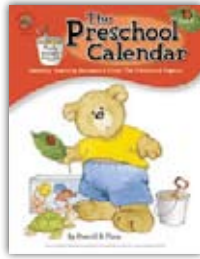
#### Learning Experiences

- Calling all pumpkinologists! Who wants to be a pumpkinologist today? Share whole and cut-open pumpkins. Encourage children to explore with unbreakable magnifiers. What do they see? smell? hear? feel? What colors do they see? What do pumpkins grow on? trees? vines? under the ground?
- Scoop out the seeds using hands and spoons and separate the seeds from the pulp as much as possible. This is fine motor and persistence building at its best! Set the seeds aside to lightly salt and then bake for a snack later.
- Record children's observations on chart paper or in a group science journal. Provide crayons/markers for children to add their own ideas. Read the observations out loud with children. This is a fun journal to have available for various science projects and for children to review on their own.

## Scary Movements

(taken from [The Preschool Calendar](#))

Have children pretend they are out on a walk on a dark, scary night. Invite children to pantomime the movement words as you say them. Some good words to use are: wiggle, shiver, creep, crawl, sneak, slither, hide, jump, and tip-toe.



## Apples, Apples Galore

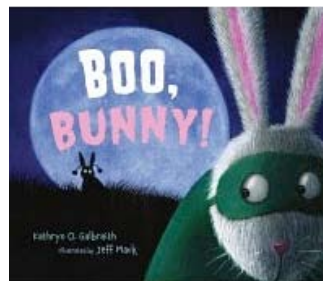
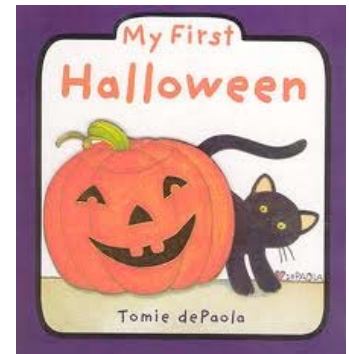
### Materials and Preparations:

- Variety of apples, such as Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, Washington Gala, Fuji, Macintosh, and Red Delicious
- Apple slicer
- Chart paper and marker
- Index cards and crayons

### Learning Experiences:

- Bring in an assortment of apples for children to taste in a variety of colors.
- On the chart paper, create two columns labeled "How Apples Look" and "How Apples Taste."
- Encourage children to describe how each apple looks. Record their observations on chart paper.
- Assist children as they carefully take turns using the apple slicer. Invite them to taste each type of apple. Ask children to describe how each apple tastes. Record their observations on chart paper.
- Create a graph with the names of the apple varieties. Invite children to write their names on index cards. For younger children, write the child's name on the card and invite him or her to decorate the card. Ask children to place their index cards next to the apple name they liked the most.
- Count the number of votes by apple variety and add to the graph. Which apple was liked the most? the least?

## Books to Share



*Fireboy to the Rescue!: A Fire Safety Book* by Edward Miller

*Stay Safe! Fire Safety* by Sue Barraclough

*What Happens at a Firehouse?* By Kathleen Pohl

*My First Halloween* by Tomie dePaola

*Boo, Bunny!* by Kathryn O. Galbraith

*The Very Best Pumpkin* by Mark Kimball Moulton

*Harvest Time* by Mercer Mayer

*Spot's Harvest* by Eric Hill

Books to Share