

# OCTOBER 2023



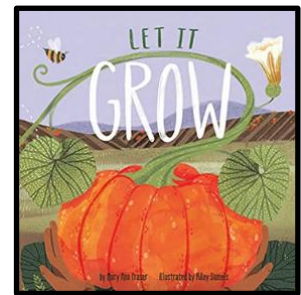
## Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

### Let it Grow

by Mary Ann Fraser

A young boy has a pumpkin seed. A very small pumpkin seed. A very small but special pumpkin seed. And what will become of this very small but special seed? He'll only find out if he lets it grow...and grow...and grow! Because sometimes the smallest things can lead to the biggest adventures! In a world full of immediacy and instant gratification, author Mary Ann Fraser plants the seed of patience in her playful picture book about the life cycle of a giant pumpkin and the rewards of letting it grow.

**To make this book more interactive cover up the cover of the book so the students do not know what the book is about. The students can guess what is growing as you read the first few pages!**



[Click here for a read aloud on YouTube.](#)

### Fun Facts:

- Scientifically speaking, pumpkins are a fruit (they contain seeds) but when it comes to cooking, they are often referred to as vegetables.
- Pumpkins likely originated in North and Central America. They were then spread across all Europe and elsewhere. People discovered the oldest pumpkin seeds in the Oaxaca Highlands of Mexico. They date back to around 7000 BC!
- A grower in Italy holds the world record for heaviest pumpkin. He grew a *2,702-pound squash* in 2021, according to Guinness World Records.
- It takes up to 120 days to produce a mature carving pumpkin. Pumpkins need a long growing season. They get planted in late May in the northern states and early July in the southern states. Each pumpkin can contain up to 500 pumpkin seeds.
- In the United States, Illinois is the largest producer of pumpkins.
- Georgia only produces a few hundred acres of pumpkins, and an estimated 80 to 90 percent of those are grown in north Georgia.

### Videos:

- [AgVentures: Rocky Hollow Farm in Floyd County](#)
- Farm Monitor: [This Variety of Pumpkin is Like No Other](#)
- Farm Monitor: [Pumpkins Used for More Than Fall Decorations](#)
- [How to Grow Pumpkins - Libby's Pumpkin](#)
- [How Libby's Canned Pumpkin Is Made | TODAY](#)
- [PUMPKIN | How Does it Grow?](#)

### Activities:

- **Recipes:** [No Bake Pumpkin Pie in a Bag](#)   [Pumpkin Fluff Dip](#)   [Pumpkin Patch Dirt Cups](#)
- **Lesson:** Pumpkins... Not Just For Halloween [K-2](#) and [3-5](#)
- **Printables:** [Pumpkin Color Page](#)   [Pumpkin Bookmarks](#)   [Halloween Bookmarks](#)
- **Science Experiment:** [Rotting Pumpkin Experiment](#)-use the [Rotting Pumpkin Journal](#)  
[Sink or Float \(use pumpkins, apples, cranberries, corn, sweet potatoes, squash\)](#)
- **Craft Ideas:** [Parts of a Pumpkin Craft](#)   [Beaded Pipe Cleaner Pumpkins](#)
- **STEM Activities:** [Build a Structure using Candy Pumpkins](#)   [Candy corn tower that will hold pumpkin candy](#)   [Pumpkin Picker](#)  
[Candy Pumpkin Catapults](#)[Exploding Pumpkin \(Use rubber bands\)](#)   [Pumpkin Launch Challenge](#)
- **Life Cycle Activities:** [Activity Page](#)   [Bracelet Craft](#)
- [Halloween Tic Tac Toe](#)- Print game card on card stock, then then place the game card and playing pieces (2 colors) in a Ziploc bag.
- [Pumpkin Patch Bingo](#)- Card for younger grades and older grades

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