

Pumpkin Time!

From Seed to Pumpkin

This is how pumpkins grow.

Fall is here. It's time to pick pumpkins. Read the steps to learn the life cycle of a pumpkin.

(1) Seed



Kate Eisemann for Weekly Reader

Pumpkins begin as seeds. The seeds are planted in the ground in May and June.

(2) Sprout

After about 10 days, a **sprout** grows. A sprout is a tiny plant.

(3) Vine



Sharon Meredith/Shutterstock

The sprout grows into a **vine**. A vine is a long stem. It can grow more than 20 feet long!

(4) Blossom



Arlete Shaeffer/Weekly Reader

Soon, yellow flowers called **blossoms** grow. At the bottom of some blossoms is a tiny pumpkin.

(5) Young Pumpkin



*John Kaprielian/Photo
Researchers, Inc.*

Tiny green pumpkins start to grow. They grow bigger and bigger.

(6) Full-Grown Pumpkin



Mark Edward Atkinson/Photo Library

By October, it's time to pick big, orange pumpkins. The seeds inside can be used to grow more pumpkins.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Answer the following four questions based on the information in the passage.

1. What is the first step in the life cycle of a pumpkin?

2. What color are pumpkins when they start to grow?

3. If seeds are planted in September, will they be full-grown pumpkins by October? Why or why not?

4. What is the main idea of the passage?

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

A pumpkin needs time to grow from May to October so that it is ready by Halloween.

What? a pumpkin

5. (needs) What?

6. When?

7. Why?

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

A full-grown pumpkin has seeds inside it, _____ it can be used to grow more pumpkins.

- A but
- B because
- C so

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **vine** (vine): a plant that has a long stem.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **vine**.
- a. The vine of a pumpkin can grow more than 20 feet long.
 - b. Some vines are so long and strong that you can swing from them.
 - c. A vine may wrap around a tree and kill the tree.
 - d. Grapes are one of the most common plants that grow on a vine.
 - e. We have vines growing around our house that almost block the windows.
10. Which of the following pictures shows vines?

