

Big Pumpkin

Today in speech-language class we read the story Big Pumpkin by Erica Silverman. In the story the witch wants to bake a pumpkin pie so she plants a pumpkin seed. The pumpkin grows so big that when she wants to take it off the vine she can't. The ghost, vampire, and mummy try to help but none are strong enough. Then the bat has an idea. He's not strong enough to pull it alone, so he suggests that they all they together, and SNAP! Off the pumpkin rolls. The witch makes her pumpkin pie and shares it with everybody who helped. She then plants another pumpkin seed for next year.

Please help your child complete the checked items as home practice.

Activities to do with your child:

- Visit the public library and check out this story and others by the same author.
- Talk about things that grow from seeds.
- Shop for the ingredients and bake a pumpkin pie together.

Story vocabulary:

pumpkin seed, big, pulled, tugged, witch, ghost, vampire, mummy, bat, planted, grew, strong, idea

- Read the word list with your child.
- Listen as he/she practices creating sentences using the story vocabulary. If he/she needs help, model a sentence then let him/her take a turn with the same word.
- Take turns making sentences with one, two, or three of the words.

Sound production:

pumpkin seed, big, pulled, tugged, witch, ghost, vampire, mummy, bat, planted, grew, strong, idea

- Here are some words from the story that have the sound/s your child is practicing. Listen as he/she reads or repeats the word list in front of a mirror.
- Ask: "What letters are used for your sound in this word?" "Where is your sound? Is it at the beginning, middle, or end of the word?"
- Take turns making sentences with one, two, or three of the words.
- Have your child write 4 of the sentences on the back of this paper, underlining his/her sounds.

Language:

- Talk about what happened in the beginning, middle, end of the story
- List the characters. Describe each with at least two adjectives.
- Find five action words in the story and write a sentence using each verb.
- Look up the definition of each vocabulary word from the story. Write the definition in a sentence.
- Pretend you are a character in the story. Describe how you feel about the events in the story.
- Draw a picture about a place in the story. Describe your picture.