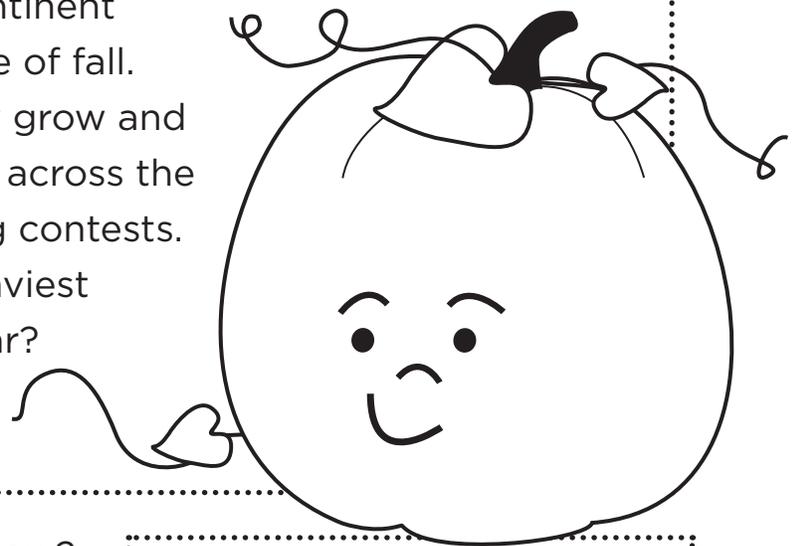


The History of the Pumpkin

Directions: Read the story and answer the questions. Underline your evidence for each answer.

What do you think of when you think of pumpkins? Maybe you think of jack-o'-lanterns, or roasting pumpkin seeds! The history of pumpkins is quite delicious! Pumpkins originally grew in Central America and Mexico as small, bitter fruits. Native Americans loved the delicious texture of pumpkins so much they bred them to grow bigger and sweeter! They were even used at the first Thanksgiving. Now, pumpkins grow on every continent except Antarctica, and are a staple of fall. They take around 120 days to fully grow and have over 500 seeds inside. Cities across the world even have pumpkin growing contests. Would you believe the world's heaviest pumpkin weighed as much as a car? Picture that next time you go to a pumpkin patch!



1. Where did pumpkins originally grow?

2. How long does it take a pumpkin to grow to its full size?

3. Which continent does NOT grow pumpkins?

Have you ever carved a pumpkin? _____

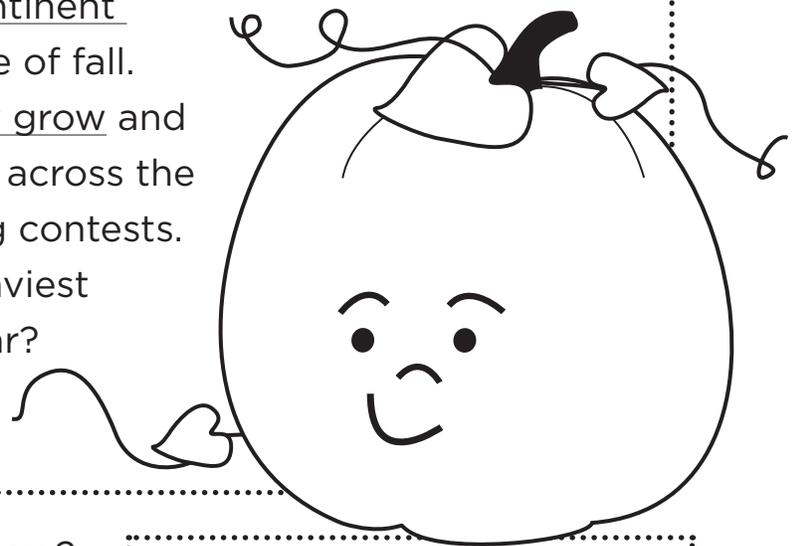
What did you carve?

Remember to fill half your plate with fruits and veggies!

ANSWER KEY

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1. Where did pumpkins originally grow?

Central America and Mexico

2. How long does it take a pumpkin to grow to its full size?

120 days

3. Which continent does NOT grow pumpkins?

Antarctica

Have you ever carved a pumpkin? _____

What did you carve?

Remember to fill half your plate with fruits and veggies!