

The Kindergarten Chronicles

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Realia and English Learners

Providing hands-on realia makes key content concepts and key vocabulary come alive for English learners. The purpose of using realia (three-dimensional items, illustrations, and photos) is to enable English learners to develop a clear and precise understanding of any unknown word or unclear concept. Using realia brings concepts to life for students and helps build their background knowledge on a concept.



pumpkin flesh



pumpkin seeds

Pumpkins

RL.K.5 - Recognize common types of texts (poem).

Pumpkins **by** the barn.
 Pumpkins by the house.
 Pumpkins **by** the wagon.
 Pumpkins by the mouse.
 Pumpkins by the fence.
 Pumpkins by the cat.
 Pumpkins by the scarecrow.
 Pumpkins by the hat.
 Pumpkins by the table.
 Pumpkins by the chair.
 Pumpkins by the door.
 Pumpkins everywhere!

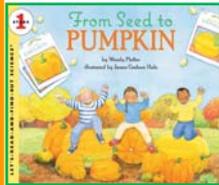
L.K.1e - Use the most frequently occurring prepositions (by).

RF.K.3c - Read common high-frequency words by sight (the).

Don't forget Print Concepts as you track the print and chorally read the poem with your class!

RF.K.1a - Follow words from left to right and top to bottom.

RF.K.1c - Understand that words are separated by spaces in print.



From Seed to Pumpkin by Wendy Pfeffer

How does a tiny seed turn into a big pumpkin? This book explains what a pumpkin seed needs to help it grow! This K-1 read-aloud informational text supports the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NVACS) as well as the Next Generation Science Standards. To see a video of the book, click [here](#).

Check out the list of "12 Perfect Pumpkin Books for Kids" at kcedventures.com



Nevada Day

In honor of Nevada Day, read aloud the book, *Sis for Silver: A Nevada Alphabet* by Eleanor Coerr. This alphabet book showcases the wildlife (the desert bighorn sheep and the desert tortoise) and pioneers (the builders of the Hoover Dam) who shaped Nevada's landscape and character.

Check out the websites below to learn some interesting facts to share with your kindergarten students.

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/nevada/> This website has printouts of the state flag and desert tortoise that students can label.

<http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/nevada.html> This website contains facts about Nevada, including "things to know" and "famous Nevadans."

<http://nevadafun.facts.co/nevadafunfactsforkids/nevadafunfacts.php> This website contains "weird, fun, and amazing" facts about Nevada as well as video clips.

<http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/minipage/id/16286/rec/8> The Mini Page website has an entire edition on the Silver State containing Nevada facts from A to Z.

Pumpkin Pie High Frequency Word Practice

Those of you who attended the Active Learning Adventures Conference heard Dr. Jean Feldman share her "Stinky Cheese" game, an all-time favorite with kindergarten students! If you'd like to learn how to create this easy game to use in your classroom, click [here](#) to visit Dr. Jean's blog. I "harvested" a new version of the game to play during the months of October and November. The new version is called "Pumpkin Pie." Cut triangles out of orange construction paper. These are the pie slices. On five of the slices, write "pumpkin pie." On each of the other slices, write one high frequency word from your word wall. These are words you have explicitly taught your students. Put the triangles in a lunch sack and shake it up. One child at a time takes the sack and pulls out a triangle. The child reads the high frequency word on his pie slice. If he chooses "pumpkin pie," he rubs his stomach (if he likes pie) and says, "Yum! Yum! Pumpkin pie!" and puts all his cards back in the bag. If he doesn't like pie, he holds his nose and says, "Pee-yew! Pumpkin pie!" and puts his cards back in the bag. In addition to high frequency words, you can write letters, numerals, or whatever skill you want to practice on the pie slices.



RF.K.3c

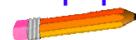
Volume 11, Issue 2

October 2015

Regional Professional Development Program



www.rpd.net



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