

Pumpkin Facts



4 Pumpkins are popular decorations
10 in autumn and for Halloween. Many
16 people make them into lanterns by
23 carving a face on them and putting
30 a candle or a small light inside.

Fun Facts

37 • The word 'pumpkin' comes from
43 a word in Greek that means
45 'large melon'.

52 • There are many different kinds of pumpkin
61 and they are not all orange! They can also
66 be white, yellow or green.

72 • Lots of people think that pumpkins
77 are vegetables but they are
83 fruits. This is because they have
89 seeds inside and they grow from
91 flowering plants.

96 • The oldest pumpkin seeds ever
102 found were from Mexico and they
107 were around 8000 years old!

114 • People used to carve turnips and potatoes
118 before they carved pumpkins.



Questions



1. Is a pumpkin a fruit or a vegetable?



2. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'cut'.



3. Why do you think people started to carve pumpkins instead of turnips and potatoes?



4. Do you think that people will continue to make lanterns out of pumpkins in the future? Explain your answer.

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Answers



1. Is a pumpkin a fruit or a vegetable?

A pumpkin is a fruit.



2. Find and copy one word which means the same as 'cut'.

**Accept any one of the following:
carve; carved; carving.**



3. Why do you think people started to carve pumpkins instead of turnips and potatoes?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that they chose to carve pumpkins because they were a fun colour and looked more eye-catching.



4. Do you think that people will continue to make lanterns out of pumpkins in the future? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that people will continue to make lanterns out of pumpkins in the future because it is a fun tradition that has happened for many years.