



Fall

FAMILY EVENTS



PUMPKIN FARM OUTING

**SUGGESTED AGE RANGE:
PRESCHOOL-K5**



eastbrook
KIDS

PUMPKIN FARM OUTING

SUGGESTED AGE RANGE: PRESCHOOL-K5

Fall is a great time to continue outdoor activities with your family or even your small group. How about a trip to the farm to search for a pumpkin that is just right? The following activities can enhance your outing and help little people understand more about patience and waiting.

Here are some Pumpkin Farms in our area:

Swan's Pumpkin Farm (thepumpkinfarm.com)
Barthel Fruit Farm (barthelfruitfarm.com)
Linders Pumpkin Farm (lindnerspumpkinfarm.com)
Jim's Pumpkin Farm (jimspumpkinfarm.com)
Cedarburg Creek Farm (cedarburgcreekfarm.com)
Basses Taste of Country (bassesfarms.com)
Cozy Nook Farm (cozynookfarms.com)
Creekside Valley Farm (creeksidevalleyfarmwi.com)
Schuett Farms (facebook.com/schuettfarms)

Before you leave for your outing spend some time with your children talking over these Bible lessons of patience and waiting.

BIBLE THEME: *God wants us to be patient, to keep doing what is good and to not give up.*

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 6:9-10

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." (NRSV)

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." (NIV)

Say:

What does it mean to be patient? It means that we accept delay or wait without getting upset. This is not an easy way to behave but God says it is very good. The Bible says patience is a fruit of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Our scripture from Galatians tells us not to become tired of doing good because, eventually we will have a harvest. Much like the harvest or picking of the pumpkins today, we have had to wait for the seeds to be planted, to grow, to flower and produce the 'fruit' of the pumpkin. Then, we had to wait until that fruit turned orange and the vines dried up.

Listen to these two stories from the Bible where God's people had to have patience or wait to see the fruit. After each story I'd like you to tell me the name(s) of the people who waited and what they waited for.

Share this story of Abraham and Sarah.

Story #1: A Son Promised to Abraham and Sarah from Genesis 18: 1-15; 21: 1-7

The LORD appeared to Abraham using three men who showed up where Abraham was staying. Abraham welcomed them and fed them a very nice meal. The men asked Abraham where his wife was and Abraham told them she was in the tent. One of the men said that he would return the following year to find that Sarah had given birth to a son! Sarah was

listening and she laughed. She said to herself, 'After I have grown old and my husband is old, shall I have the pleasure?'
But, Sarah did become pregnant and did have a son! Abraham was 100 years old when Sarah gave birth to their son.

Before you ask the questions, teach the kids this simple fingerplay that reinforces the story of Sarah and waiting for their baby.

Waiting Sarah Fingerplay:

Where is Sarah? (move pointer finger side to side)
Listening in her tent. (cup both ears)
God says 'She will have a baby'. (rock pretend baby in arms)
Laughing in her tent. (cover lips and pretend to laugh)
Many, many days go by! (open/close hands with all fingers showing, do several times)
Many, many nights go by! (repeat motion)
Sarah has a baby now! (make a heart shape with both hands)
Can you hear him cry? (make a LOUD crying sound)

Ask:

- Who was waiting in the first Bible story? (Abraham and Sarah)
- What were Abraham and Sarah waiting for? (the birth of their son)
- Did Sarah complain? (yes)

Share the following story of this second set of people who were waiting. Find a Bible story picture of the baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Show them during the story time.

Story #2: Baby Jesus Presented in the Temple from Luke 2:22 –38

Once Jesus was born his parents followed the law of Moses and took him to the temple to present him to the LORD. There was a man at the temple named Simeon and he was a good man. He was told by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Messiah (Jesus). The Spirit led him to Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus and Simeon took Jesus then praised God. Simeon blessed the family of Jesus. There was another person at the Temple—a woman named Anna. She was very old (84 years old!) and never left the temple, worshiping, fasting and praying night and day. She also began to praise God and to speak about the child bringing hope to God's people.

Ask:

- Who were the people waiting in the Temple in Bible story number two? (Simeon and Anna)
- Who were Simeon and Anna waiting to meet? (the Savior)
- What good things did Simeon and Anna continue to do while they waited to see the Messiah? (obeyed God, praised God, worshiped God, fasted and prayed day and night)
- Does God want us to be patient and to do good things? (YES!)

Bible Memory: "Let us not become weary of doing good." Gal. 6:9a

Prayer Prompt: Pray for patience with each other, with friends and with those you will come in contact with while you are at the pumpkin farm.

CRAFT: Turn Taking Pumpkin Drawing

Supplies:

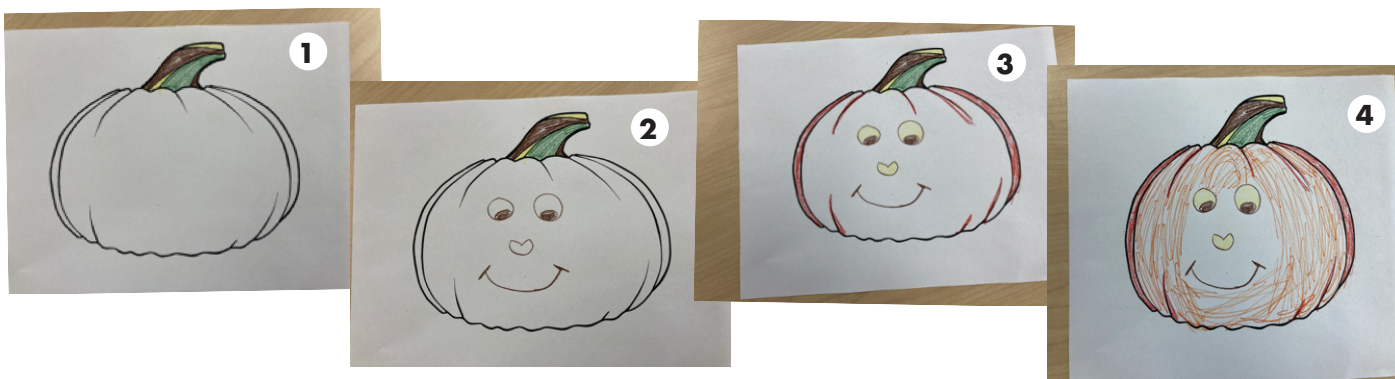
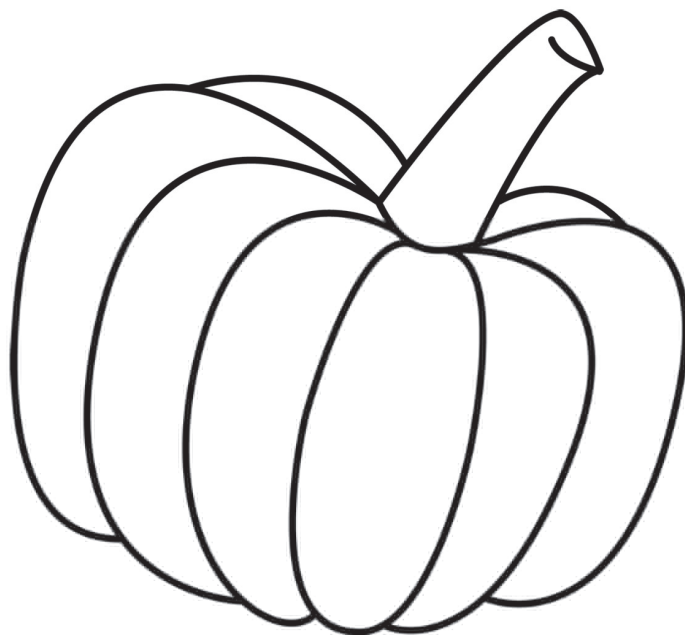
- crayons or markers in orange, black, green and yellow
- outline of the empty pumpkin (see next page)

Have children and adults form pairs. Give each pair an orange, black, green and yellow crayon/marker and one sheet of the outline of the empty pumpkin.

Talk together about how you would like to decorate or color the pumpkin page. Will you make a face? What expression? Will you color the whole pumpkin one color? What color will the stem be? Which one of you will start the coloring?

Taking turns, trace the outline and decorate the pumpkin as you discussed. Ask the child if it was easy or difficult to wait their turn before decorating the next part of the pumpkin.

Write the Galatians 6:9a verse on the bottom of the pumpkin page.



GAME: *Mother, May I?*

(This game can be played at home before or after or even AT the pumpkin farm before you actually pick a pumpkin.)

- Choose an adult or older child as the 'leader' and have the remaining group form a line facing the leader about 20 feet apart.
- Teach the 'group members' to ask the leader "Mother, may I (ask for the number of forward steps to take)?"
- The leader can say 'yes' or 'no'. Make sure that sometimes the asker has to wait for the answer or isn't allowed to take any steps.
- The game ends when someone makes it all the way to the leader.

COOKING WITH KIDS: *Pumpkin Patch Snack Mix*

Supplies:

- snack size baggies
- Golden Grahams cereal
- chocolate chips
- raisins
- pumpkin seeds
- large bowl

Allow your child to measure out ½ - 1 Cup of each item and pour it into the large bowl.

With a large wooden spoon stir the mixture

Using a soup ladle or small measuring cup, have the children fill the snack bags, seal and take along on your outing.

Take drinks of apple juice or hot cocoa along with you.