



## SAVED SEED PROJECT YOUTH ACTIVITY

### PURPOSE & GOAL

Work with elementary school children to introduce them to the importance of gardening using The Saved Seed book and pumpkins.

### ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

#### IN THE FALL:

- Read The Saved Seed book to children
- Clean out pumpkins; letting children help and collect seeds.

#### IN THE SPRING:

- Plant seeds in disposable cups that the children can take home

### CLASSROOM QUESTIONS

1. Do we eat pumpkins?
2. How have you eaten pumpkin?
3. What colors are pumpkins?
4. Which holidays have pumpkins as decorations?
5. How long do you think it takes for a pumpkin to grow?



### STEPS FOR FALL ACTIVITIES

1. Purchase Book from National Gardening Website  
<http://www.shopgardenclub.org>
2. Contact elementary school teachers (or other group) and share book and plans
3. Develop questions about pumpkins (see sample)
4. Schedule date for class activity
5. Purchase pumpkins
6. Pre-cut pumpkins
7. Attend class and conduct activity (we scooped out the fibrous strands of the pumpkin and allowed the students to separate the seeds from the fibers)
8. Take the seeds home
9. Clean, dry and store for use in the spring

### STEPS FOR SPRING ACTIVITIES

1. Test seeds to insure viability
2. Schedule activity with teachers
3. Develop questions about planting
4. Purchase materials (16 oz cups, soil, seeds)
5. Attend class and conduct activity