

## Oozing Pumpkin



Ages: 5-16

*Safety Precautions: Hydrogen Peroxide can irritate your skin and eyes, be sure to wear safety goggles, gloves and to ask an adult for supervision.*

Try this activity towards the end of October, after you carve your pumpkin or once your pumpkins begin to rot. This is a jack-o-lantern that oozes foam out of its mouth, nose and eyes.

### **Materials List**

- Jack-o-lantern
- 4-5 drops of food coloring
- ½ cup Hydrogen peroxide
- 1 tablespoon of dry yeast
- 3 tablespoons of warm water
- 1 tablespoon of dish soap

### **Procedure**

1. Perform this activity outdoors. You can use a plastic bag to lay on the floor to make clean up easier.
2. Carve a Pumpkin with any design you desire.
3. Open up the top of your pumpkin and pour in 1 tablespoon of dish soap.
4. Drop in 8-10 drops of food coloring.
5. Pour in ½ cup of hydrogen peroxide
6. Mix 1 tablespoon of dry yeast and 3 tablespoons of warm water for about 30 seconds to 1 minute. If the mixture is too thick, add a little more warm water to thin it. The yeast needs to pour quickly so you want it runny.
7. Quickly and carefully pour this mixture into one of the holes in the jack-o'-lantern. Then, watch your pumpkin begin to ooze! It may take a few seconds, but once the reaction starts, the foaming, spooky result is well worth the wait. Keep experimenting! Try doubling the recipe or using a jack-o'-lantern with smaller or bigger holes

## Pumpkin Volcano



This activity works because baking soda is a base and vinegar is an acid. When these two substances mix, they create a chemical reaction that releases carbon dioxide gas. Adding the dish soap makes the reaction last longer, because the soap bubbles hold air longer than the liquid vinegar alone.

### **Materials List**

- 1 mini pumpkin
- Baking Soda
- Red Food Coloring (or any color works)
- Vinegar
- Dish Soap

### **Procedure**

1. Carve the top of the pumpkin to create a pumpkin lid
2. Place the pumpkin on a tray or plate
3. Fill the inside of the pumpkin with vinegar
4. Add a few drops of dish soap
5. Add baking soda to the pumpkin and watch the reaction!
6. Keep adding baking soda until the bubbling stops.

## **Toddler Friendly Pumpkin Art Activities** **Pumpkins Needed: 3 Orange Small Pumpkins**

### **Paint a Pumpkin**



Use tempera paint or washable paint and have your toddler paint a pumpkin. To help the paint adhere to the pumpkin, make a 50/50 mixture of glue and paint (otherwise the paint will flake off after it dries). This activity is a great messy, sensory activity with paint and textures. Children can learn about colors and mixing colors.

### **Sticker Pumpkin**



Decorate the Pumpkin with Stickers, this is great for motor skills. You can take this activity a step further and use dot stickers to practice letters, numbers, shapes, colors, etc. With a sharpie marker, write letters or numbers on the pumpkin and write the same letters or numbers on the dot stickers. Have your toddler match the sticker to the letter or number on the pumpkin.

### **Glitter Pumpkin**



This is a messy activity, make sure to do it outdoors and place a piece of cardboard or paper on a table before starting this activity. Have your child use a paintbrush to spread glue all over the pumpkin, then sprinkle glitter! You can glue almost anything to a pumpkin using tacky or craft glue (pomp poms, googly eyes, buttons, feathers, rhinestones, etc).