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# Pumpkins

Three orange pumpkins

Sitting on the ground.

The small one is

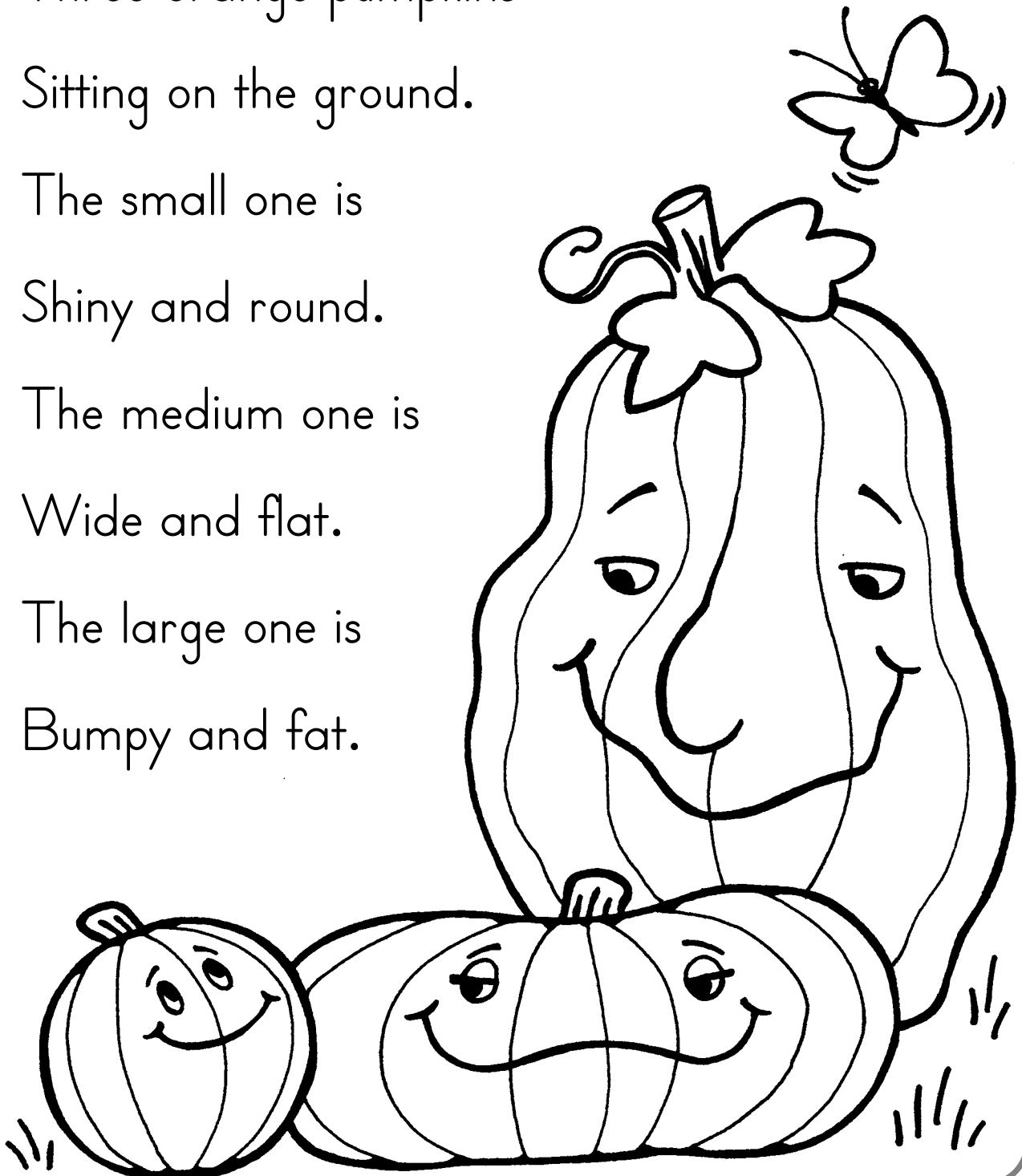
Shiny and round.

The medium one is

Wide and flat.

The large one is

Bumpy and fat.



# Pocket Chart Activities

## Monday: Introduce the Poem

Read the poem, “Pumpkins,” aloud to the children. Reread the poem, pointing to the words as you go. Invite the children to read the poem aloud with you. Ask the children to identify each of the pumpkins mentioned.

## Tuesday: Size It Up

Invite the children to help you recite the poem aloud, pointing to the words as you go. Remove the words *small*, *medium*, and *large* from the poem. Remove the pictures of the small, medium, and large pumpkins from the chart. Lay the words and pictures on the floor in front of the children. Ask the children if anyone can read any of the words on the floor. Ask a volunteer to read a word and then find the pumpkin that goes with it, placing them together on the floor. After the words and pumpkins have been matched, reread the poem, pausing where each missing word and picture belong. Ask a volunteer to find the missing word or picture and replace it as you go. When the poem has been reassembled, reread the poem together.

## Wednesday: Phoneme Deletion

Phoneme deletion involves children’s abilities to recognize a new word when a phoneme has been removed from the original word. For example:

**Teacher:** What is *flake* without the /f/?

**Students:** *Flake* without the /f/ is *lake*.

Read each of the following words from the poem in this manner (*ground*, *small*, *fat*). After each new word has been determined, ask a child to find the original word in the pocket chart, remove it, and cover the first letter with his or her hand. The class can then verify that the new word is correct by reading the remaining “new” word together.



## Thursday: Tiny to Gigantic

After the class is familiar with small, medium, and large, ask them to help you think of other words for small and large (*giant*, *tiny*, *itsy-bitsy*, *huge*). Write each word on a note card or sentence strip that has been cut into pieces large enough for one word, and hand it to the child who came up with it. After the class has contributed several options, read the poem, replacing *small* and *large* with the new words in the pocket chart. Repeat this process until all the new words have been used.

## Friday: Culminating Activity

Invite the children to bring their Pumpkin Homework Pages to the circle. Give each child an opportunity to share the small, medium, and large objects they found at home. Encourage the children to use the words *small*, *medium*, and *large* as they share. Reread the poem one more time to wrap up the unit.

Pumpkins

Three

orange

pumpkins

Sitting