



# School-Home Connection

Your child has been reading “Pumpkin Fiesta” by Caryn Yacowitz. In this folk tale, Juana always wins a special pumpkin crown at the big fiesta for her fine large pumpkins. Foolish Fernando uses all her tricks but fails to grow pumpkins as big. He steals her best three pumpkins and enters them in the festival. However, Juana shows proof that they are really hers. Then she teaches Fernando how to grow his own beautiful pumpkins.

I have tried some of the activities.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

You may want to do some of these activities with your child.

## Pumpkin Patch

Discuss with your child the things needed to grow plants (good soil, water, air, and sunlight). Talk about what might happen if the plant does not have one of those things. Then invite your child to draw two pictures, one showing a thriving pumpkin and the other showing a shriveled pumpkin.

## Guessing Game

You can use the word cards to reinforce your child’s understanding and recognition of vocabulary. Spread the cards face up on a table. Create clues for each word. As an example, for *crown* you could say: “I rhyme with *town*” and “I am worn on top of the head.” When your child picks the right word, ask him or her to move the vocabulary card to a new pile. The game ends when all the cards are gone.



### TIME TO READ

Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day.

boasted  
crept  
crown  
village  
vines

