

# Pumpkin Book Character Contest 2023

**It's Harvest Time! Let's enjoy a crop of sweet stories and share our bounty with others!**

In celebration of National Book Month this October and the arrival of fall, all Salt Brook Elementary School students in grades K-6 will have the option to participate in a festive book project. With books and pumpkins everywhere this season, students are encouraged to share their harvest in a creative way! All interested students are invited to decorate a pumpkin or gourd as one of their favorite fictional book characters. This year the decorated pumpkins and gourds will be displayed both at school and virtually as part of a [Salt Brook Storybook Pumpkin Patch Padlet](#)! All pumpkins must be posted to the Padlet by **Monday, October 30, 2023**. *Once the pumpkin has been posted to the padlet, the student may bring the pumpkin to school and put it on display.* The winning pumpkins in each category will be announced and awarded a prize no later than Friday, November 3rd. Have Fun!



The task is simple:

- ❖ **Decide if you will enter as a STUDENT PUMPKIN, FRIEND PUMPKIN, or as a FAMILY PUMPKIN.**
  - **STUDENT** should be all/mostly done independently by the individual student, and will compete with other students in their grade level.
  - **FRIEND PUMPKINS** may be done with no more than 4 Salt Brook friends working together on one pumpkin character, or a group of pumpkin characters. Friend group pumpkins will compete with other Friend group pumpkins.
  - **FAMILY PUMPKINS** may be done as a family with students and parents working together on one pumpkin character, or a group of pumpkin characters. Family pumpkins will compete with other family pumpkins.
- ❖ **You may use a real pumpkin or gourd, or a craft pumpkin or gourd of any size.**
  - Individual student and Friend Group pumpkins being entered by grade level may **NOT** be carved.
  - Family pumpkins may be carved with the help of an adult.
- ❖ **Select and decorate a pumpkin/s or gourd/s as a favorite fictional book character/s.**
- ❖ **To decorate, use materials such as: paint, googly eyes, yarn, felt, feathers, construction paper, pipe cleaners, fabric, buttons, pompoms, wigs, props (glasses, jewelry, crowns, etc.).**
  - **Tips:**
    - Do not paint an entire fresh pumpkin, as it will spoil too fast. Leave the bottom unpainted.
    - Permanent markers or acrylic paint work best. Watercolors tend to just smear.
    - Embellishments like hats, hair, mustaches, glasses, and jewelry add life-like qualities.
- ❖ **Pumpkins **MUST** be posted to the [Salt Brook Storybook Pumpkin Patch Padlet 2023](#).**
  - **Padlet Link and Instructions for Posting to Padlet**
    - **PADLET:**  
<https://npsdnj.padlet.org/mdemich1/salt-brooks-pumpkin-book-character-contest-2023>
    - **LOGIN & INSTRUCTIONS FOR POSTING**
    - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1znsdOZbdWZ6ll0Ufe5sWcvI3oqfwlf-cDdMH6sSibBs/edit>
  - **In the "Title" of the Padlet:**
    - Include first name/s, and the first letter of each student's last name, and homeroom
    - Family Pumpkins should include the Family Last Name and the homeroom of one of the students
  - **In the "Write something ..." section add the following details:**
    - Include Book Title/Author
    - Include name/s of the book character/s

- ❖ Post a photo of the pumpkin (Include the book in the photo with the pumpkin, if available).
- ❖ **Bring the Pumpkin to SB and put it on display for all to enjoy!**
- ❖ Check out previous Pumpkin Book Character Contests for ideas!

➤ **Examples:**

- <https://npsdnj.padlet.org/mdemich1/salt-brook-s-pumpkin-book-character-pumpkin-patch-2022-146rxs2lzh21gvmp>
- <https://npsdnj.padlet.org/mdemich1/pumpkincontest2021>
- <https://padlet.com/mdemich/pumpkincontest2020>