

Background History for Pickin' in the Pumpkin Patch Program:

Boone Hall Plantation In 1681, Major John Boone was granted 470 acres of land as a dowry from Theophilus Patey who had received the land from the Lord Proprietors. He then expanded this land from 1681 to 1711 when he died. Boone Hall Plantation was a substantial piece of property in the Lowcountry of Carolina. From 1817 until 1935 the Horlbeck family owned the plantation. Henry and John Horlbeck were in the brick business. They expanded the plantation's brickyard and crop land to 1700 acres, increasing the slave numbers to supply workers for the plantation.

Agricultural Crops Three main cash crops were planted on this plantation between 1681 and the early 1900s. Indigo, cotton and pecan trees supplied the plantation with all of the wealth it could afford. Boone Hall Plantation did grow rice but only a small crop mainly for the consumption of its inhabitants. Today Boone Hall Plantation is one of the only working plantations left in South Carolina. Now the staple crops of the plantation are strawberries, tomatoes, peppers, and pumpkins although; grapes, blueberries, eggplant, zucchini, squash and asparagus are also grown here.

Wampancheone Creek This creek was also known as Bonne Hall Creek. By using the tides, the Boone's and many others could travel from their plantations to Charleston. Adjacent to the brick slave cabins, this creek provided fish and other seafood to supplement a slave's diet. These tidal creeks served a much higher purpose, however, in the diversity of the plant and animal life that live/lived there.

Weather Farming in general relies on the weather just as we do. Here at Boone Hall Plantation our weather station allows the farmer to keep an eye on the weather that happens here on the plantation. The weather station is connected to a computer monitor that allows the farmer to check the temperature in the fields throughout the day and night. Weather events such as frost, too much or too little rain can damage and kill plants.

Wildlife Growing vegetables and fruits on a plantation is never an easy feat when you have local wildlife that eat the foods you are trying to produce. Local White-tail deer, Raccoon and Opossum populations need to be deterred from going into the fields. Here at Boone Hall we use a variety of techniques to do this such as putting fencing or pouring hot sauce around the fields.

Program Goals:

Students will be able to:

- ▶ List the five things that all living things need to survive
- ▶ Explain how weather affects the life cycle of the pumpkins.
- ▶ Interpret the history of the pumpkin
- ▶ Identify a pumpkin flower, an unripe pumpkin and a ripe pumpkin

► Explain how people, plants and animals interact in the case of growing pumpkins

2008 South Carolina Academic Standards Fulfilled:

Science: K-1.1, K-2.1, K-2.2, K-2.4, K-2.5, K-4.3
1-2.1, 1-2.2, 1-2.3, 1-2.4
2-1.3, 2-2.4, 2-3.2
3-1.2, 3-1.3, 3-2.1, 3-2.2, 3-2.4, 3-5.1

English Language Arts: K-3.3, K-3.7, K-6.1, K-6.4, K-6.5
1-3.3, 1-6.1, 1-6.4, 1-6.5
2-3.1, 2-3.3, 2-6.1, 2-6.5, 2-6.6
3-3.1, 3-6.1, 3-6.3, 3-6.6

Vocabulary: Character Education Vocabulary

Responsibility - moral, legal, or mental accountability

Respect - the quality or state of being held in high or special regard

Self Control- control of one's own feelings and actions

Fairness – the condition of being just and honest according to what is right

Program Specific Vocabulary

Root - the part of a plant that grows into the ground (It holds the plant in place and takes water and food from the soil.)

Stem - the main part of a plant or tree that grows up from the ground and bears leaves and flowers

Leaves - any of the flat, green parts growing from the stem of a plant or tree

Fruit - the part of a flowering plant that contains the seeds

Flower - the part of a plant that bears the seeds and usually has brightly colored petals; a blossom or bloom

Pollen - the yellow powder that is found on the stamens of flowers

Seed - the part of a flowering plant that is able to grow into a new plant

Soil - the top layer of the earth, in which plants grow

Immature - not fully grown or developed (Immature fruit is not ready to be eaten.)

Frost - a covering of tiny ice crystals that forms on a surface when dew or water vapor freezes

Pre and Post Visit Activities:

Pre-Site Activities:

1. Review the vocabulary and draw a picture or act out an example that represents each word.
2. Go to the website, www.boonehallplantation.com, to learn about Boone Hall Plantation and its resources.
3. Read books and newspapers or magazines articles relating to the growing of pumpkins, the Fall Season or the Halloween Holiday.
4. Research the different colors of pumpkins and their uses.
5. Listen to a few songs or make up a song about the Fall Season or Halloween.

Post-Site Activities:

1. As a class, discuss farming and how food from the grocery stores comes from farms all over the world.
2. Make a poster a pumpkin and label its parts.
3. Decorate your pumpkins. (Use the research from pre-site #4 to help the students if needed)
4. Compare growing pumpkins in the cooler climates of the North versus the warmer climates of the South.
5. Class Project: Complete four of the following:
 - Create a new farm that you have bought for growing plants and public touring. This could be modeled after a really cool farm in your town. Some questions to answer are:
What is it called?
Where is it located?
What important features does it have (buildings such as barns and a house, rivers, lakes)?
Who lives there? (farmer, farmhands, etc.)
What animals live there (wild, domestic)?
 - Design a brochure for your new farm.
 - Sketch a picture of this new farm.
 - Make a video commercial promoting visitation to your farm.
 - Write a newspaper article as a reporter doing a story on the opening festivities of this new farm or write a story about an animal or plant on your farm.
 - Create a radio jingle to draw visitors to the activities your farm provides (picking vegetables or fruits, petting animals, milking cows, etc.).

(Make a teacher/student-made rubric to grade projects. A helpful websites are:

<http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.shtml> or http://www.teach-nology.com/web_tools/rubrics/general)

Want to Learn More?

Images of America: Boone Hall Plantation by Michelle Adams

The Biggest Pumpkin Ever (John Deere Series) by Jane Gerver

Apples and Pumpkins by Anne Rockwell

The Pumpkin Patch Puzzle (Little Einsteins Series) by Sheila Sweeny Higginson

Patty's Pumpkin Patch by Teri Sloat

Pumpkin Harvest by Martha E. Rustad

From Seed to Plant by Gail Gibbons
Farming by Gail Gibbons