

## First Grade Pumpkin Book Reports

We had a terrific Pumpkin Book Report Day and the children enjoyed learning about their peers' book selections. I just finished a class about the importance of types of assessment in reading, writing and word study, and this project is a great way to begin "book talk" and comprehension conversations about a text. Through this arts integration project, the children and their families built amazing character pumpkins, and then the children presented their pumpkins and their books to the class. Each child talked about their book and character. It was a super way for me to see how "into a book" a child dives. I later read the books the children selected and they were able to help me read their texts. They knew about their characters and had details to share with their peers about the book of choice, not about the process of making the pumpkin. Engaging in this type of comprehension conversation helps children become thoughtful and responsive readers.

