

AFTER SCHOOL SPECIAL

What's fall without sinking your teeth into a deliciously sticky caramel apple? Below you'll find the instructions to kick off the fall season the right way with one these creations.

Instructions:

1. Rinse and dry the apples, stick a lollipop stick in the top center of each apple, and place the apples in the fridge until you are ready to use them.
2. Place the toppings in different bowls or a large muffin tin. (To crush different candies and cookies, place them in plastic zipper bags and use a rolling pin to crush.)
3. Unwrap all the caramels and place them in a large microwavable bowl. Add the evaporated milk and melt in the microwave in thirty second intervals
4. Dip an apple in the caramel, and then again in your choice of topping.
5. After you've dipped an apple, place it on the wax paper to set.



[Recipe from Momtastic](#)

Supplies:

- 2 -14 oz. bags of individually wrapped caramels
- ½ cup evaporated milk
- Granny Smith apples
- Lollipop sticks
- Assorted toppings (crushed Oreos, sprinkles, crushed candy etc.)
- Large microwave-proof mixing bowl
- Wax paper-lined cookie sheet
- Bowls or large muffin tin

Inside This Edition:

- Learn about physics while racing balloons
- Create contemporary pumpkin art and learn about color theory
- Discover the sweetness of chemical reactions
- Find a new book to read!

Caramels vs. Caramelization

Caramels are the chewy candy you are familiar with. They're made by cooking sugar, cream, corn syrup, and butter to 245° F. Their brown color comes from a reaction between the sugar and the protein in the cream. This chemical reaction is called the Maillard reaction, after the French scientist who discovered it.

Caramelization is what happens to pure sugar when it reaches 338° F. Try caramelizing sugar for a fun science experiment!

1. Evenly sprinkle 1/4 cup of sugar on the bottom of a saucepan. Heat it slowly over low to medium heat. You'll notice the sugar first begins to melt, then gradually becomes a molten syrup.
2. As the sugar gets hotter, you'll notice that it starts to turn from a light to dark brown color. Remove the pan from the heat when the sugar is almost a deep caramel color.
3. If you have a candy thermometer, you can record the temperatures at which you notice each change taking place!



Turkey Balloon Race

From: [STEAM Powered Family](#)

Directions:

1. Blow up your balloon and use a clip to close off the end so the air doesn't escape while you are decorating your balloon. It's best to twist the end before adding the clip to make it really airtight.
2. Decorate your balloon however you like!
3. Set up your race course. To do this you need two anchor points, such as two chairs.
4. If your straw is a bendy straw, clip off the bendy part. Or if it is really long, cut it in half. You only need about 4 inches of length. Place the straw on a piece of string and tie it to each of the anchor points.
5. Pull the straw back to your starting point on your string (whichever anchor point you want to be the starting line), then tape your turkey to the straw.
6. When you are ready to race, remove the clip while keeping the end firmly pinched in between your fingers to prevent air getting out. Then on the count of three, let go and watch your turkey race to the finish!
7. To reset, carefully blow your Turkey back up, pull it back to the start, and release again!

What would happen if you held the balloon really straight before releasing it? What happens if you pull down on the turkey tail a bit before releasing? What if you pulled it to the side?

Supplies:

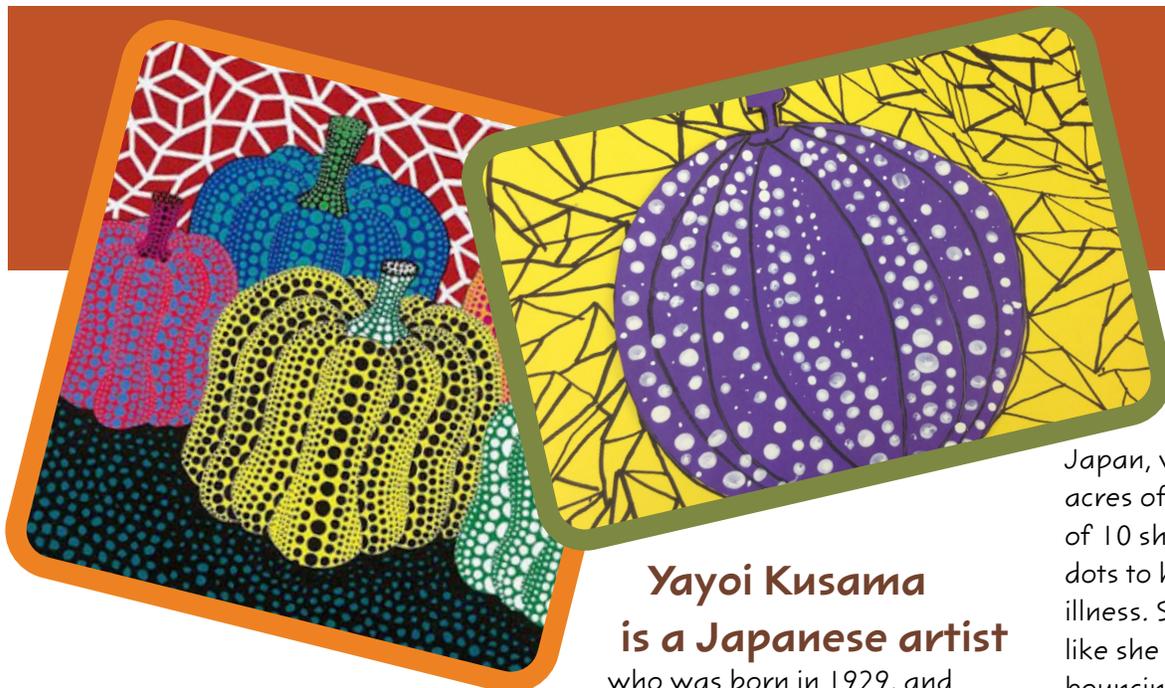
- Balloons
- Crafting supplies to decorate your turkey (googly eyes, feathers, craft foam etc.)
- Glue
- String
- Straws
- Tape
- Scissors
- Bag or binder clips
- Anchor points – could be chairs, tables or even people holding the string

Newton's Third Law of

Motion - When you blow up the balloon you are filling it up with air that is under pressure. When the air escapes from the balloon the escaping air exerts thrust or force on the balloon which propels it forward. The air escapes backward – the balloon races forward. Action – reaction. Or more formally known as Newton's Third Law of Motion.

Yayoi Kusama: Polka Dot Pumpkins

From: [Candice Ashment Art](#)



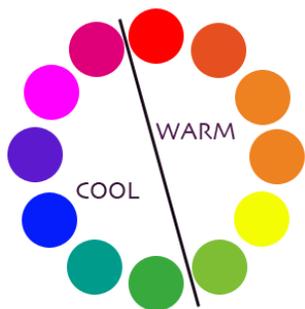
Yayoi Kusama is a Japanese artist

who was born in 1929, and pumpkins and polka dots have been a theme in her art for almost 70 years. Kusama grew up in a mountainous region of central

Japan, which was surrounded by acres of pumpkins. Around the age of 10 she began painting with polka dots to help deal with her mental illness. She says she sometimes feels like she lives in a world made up of bouncing dots, and her work has often tried to re-create that strange feeling for its audience. Her art can be seen in cities around the world.

Materials:

- Colored construction paper in warm and cool colors
- Black and white crayons
- Pencil
- Black and white paint
- Scissors
- Glue

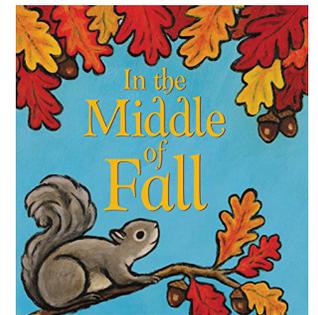
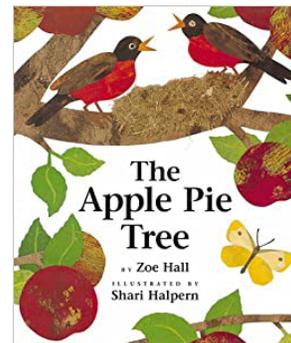
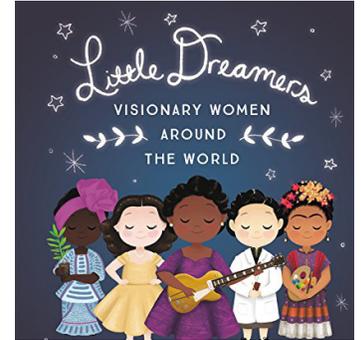
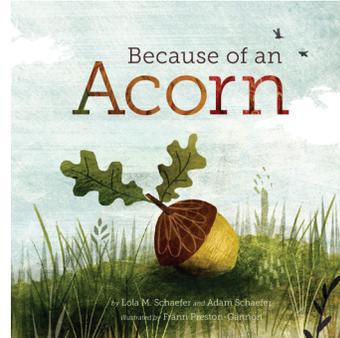
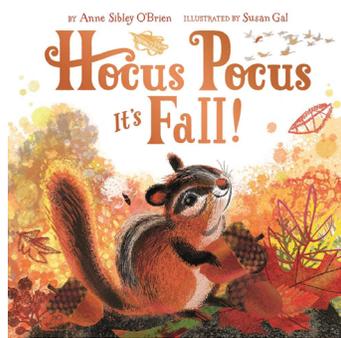
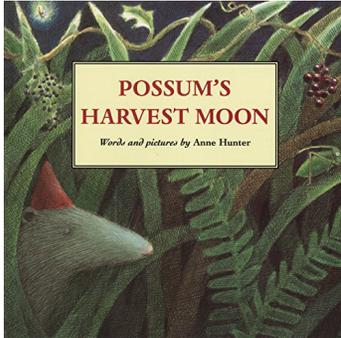


If you divide the color wheel in half, you will split the colors into warm colors and cool colors. Can you name all of the warm and cool colors? How do you think of warm and cool colors? What words and associations do you have for each group?

Directions:

1. Pick either a warm or a cool colored paper, and draw a pumpkin outline on it with a black crayon.
2. If you picked a warm color for your pumpkin, then you will be painting black dots. If your pumpkin is a cool color, then you will be painting white dots.
3. Start in the middle of each pumpkin section and use your thumb to make large dots with paint. Then, use a pencil eraser top to add more dots to the left and right of the larger dots. Lastly, use a pencil tip to add small dots to the outside of your medium dots.
4. While your pumpkin is drying, work on your background. If you choose a warm color for your pumpkin, you will be using a cool color paper for the background. If you choose a cool color for your pumpkin, you will be using a warm color paper for your background.
5. Draw a triangle design on your background with a crayon that is the opposite color crayon of your dots. (If your dots are black, use a white crayon. If your dots are white, use a black crayon.)
6. Once your pumpkin is dry, cut it out and glue it to your background!

BOOK SUGGESTIONS



Pumpkin Broom Race

From: [The Spruce](#)

This is a race that can be run as a one-against-one game or relay-style when you have several players to divide into teams. Either way, the goal of each racer is to roll a pumpkin from the starting line to the finish line. Sounds easy? Well, not when you have to push your pumpkin with a broom, guiding it to try and stay on course as it rolls off to one side or gets caught up on its stem. The first player or team to get their pumpkin across the finish line wins.

