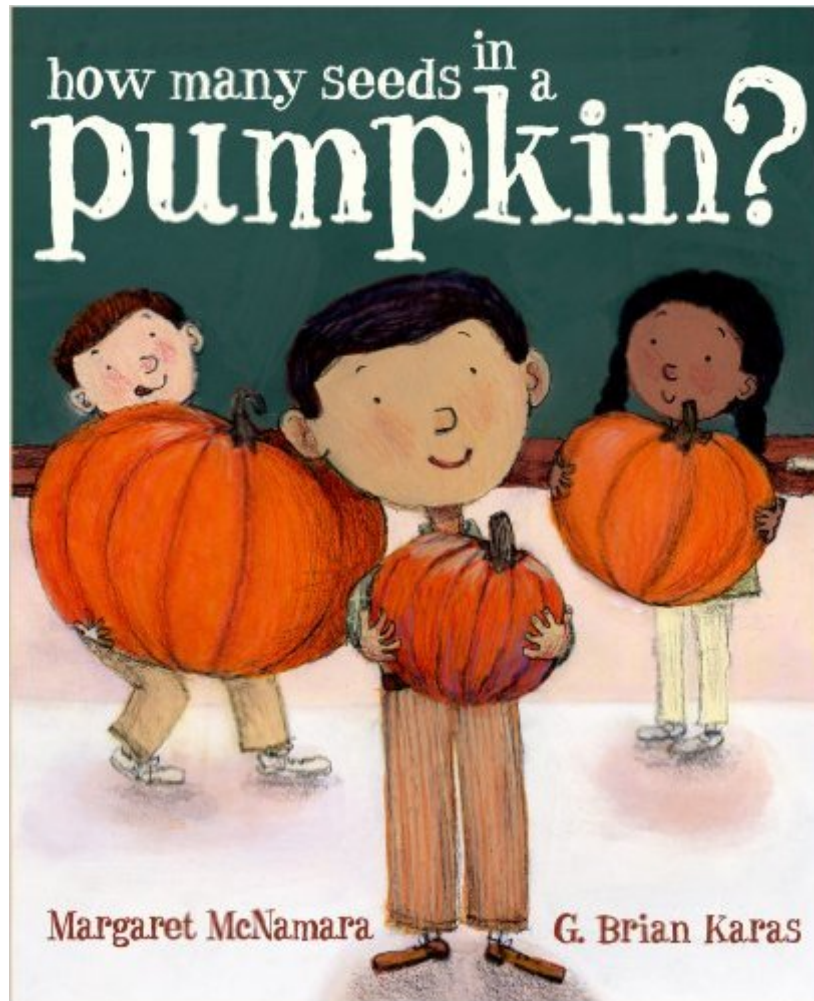


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# How Many Seeds In A Pumpkin? (Mr. Tiffin's Classroom Series)



## Synopsis

Here is an adorable picture book for curious kids, which explores skip counting and estimation in a fun pumpkin-themed classroom experiment. "How many seeds are in a pumpkin?" Mr. Tiffin asks his class as they gather around the big, medium, and small pumpkins on his desk. Robert, the biggest kid, guesses that the largest one has a million seeds; Elinor, sounding like she knows what she's talking about, guesses the medium one has 500 seeds; and Anna, who likes even numbers better than odd ones, guesses that the little one has 22. Charlie, the smallest boy in the class, doesn't have a guess. Counting pumpkin seeds is messy business, but once the slimy job is done, to everyone's surprise, the smallest pumpkin has the most seeds! As Charlie happily exclaims, "Small things have a lot going on inside of them." This book makes a wonderful read-aloud companion to any math or science curriculum, and it's a fun way to reinforce counting skills at home.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 560L (What's this?)

Series: Mr. Tiffin's Classroom Series

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Schwartz & Wade; 6th Print edition (July 10, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375840141

ISBN-13: 978-0375840142

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (39 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #10,024 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Size & Shape](#) #43 in [Books > Children's Books > Early](#)

[Learning > Basic Concepts > Counting](#) #74 in [Books > Children's Books > Holidays &](#)

[Celebrations > Halloween](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

This book was a wonderful accompaniment to counting pumpkin seeds in our first grade classroom. It would be appropriate for any of the lower grades. I read the first part before the children dug seeds out of pumpkins and counted them and allowed them to come up with their own estimates

and strategies for keeping track of the amounts. Then we returned to the book to see how the class in the book counted theirs. It included some interesting facts about pumpkins and ways to predict which have the most seeds. Along with the good mathematical thinking was a nice metaphor for the small boy in the story about the smallest pumpkin having the most seeds. Nice illustrations.

I have heard so much about this book. It does all it promises and more. There are several math concepts put into practice by the students in the story. Showing readers the application of math concepts covered in class is wonderful. Estimating, counting by 2s, 5s and 10s. Placing things in order. This book gets you wondering, Are there the same number of kernels on a cob regardless of the size? I plan to buy three sizes and investigate that soon.

As a teacher, I wondered if this book would be too primary for my fourth graders. While the concept of counting is drawn out for the little kids, this one also includes using skip counting & arrays to determine the total number of pumpkin seeds in each pumpkin - the total number of seeds is 300+ leading to arrays more advanced than  $3 \times 4$ . I plan to use it on Halloween in the classroom so that my students that are not allowed to celebrate holidays can participate in a non-Halloween activity.

Lesson plans were found for free on Scholastic's website that use this book:

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/classroom-solutions/2011/10/pumpkin-project-%E2%80%94-math-science-and-fun>

I love this book! It has so much to offer for a curious child. I bought it for my soon-to-be 3 year old son after we checked it out via the library and wanted a copy for our home. It has counting, visual stimulation, size variation, as well as helps little Charlie (the smallest kid in class) find confidence and a quiet pride about being the littlest! (No, my son is actually tall for his age but I like him to know that all sizes are great!) I recommend this for anyone who loves to read to their child and likes to have sneaky little learning moments tucked into each page! Seriously a great book for any child 2-7 years old!

You can do a lot with this book. It went over well when I read it to my grandson's third grade class. Good for home or classroom use. Reinforces skip counting, and teaches that "things are not always what they seem" and "if you want to find out, perform an experiment."

Used as a culminating read aloud after estimating seeds and heights of pumpkins and squash. The

children really loved it, plus it reinforced their own results, that the smallest pumpkin or squash did not necessarily have the least amount of seeds.

This book is about a young boy, Charlie who is shorter than all his other classmates. Charlie dislikes having to line up at school because Mr. Tiffin has his class do so by size, and Charlie is always last. Until one day Mr. Tiffin comes up with a class activity where he has the class count pumpkin seeds. There are three pumpkins, one is big, one is medium and the other is small. He has the students get into groups to count the seeds in the pumpkins. Charlie is in a group all alone and ends up with the small pumpkin. Everyone seems to think his will have the least amount of seeds because it is the smallest. Until finally the class counts and reveals how many seeds were in the pumpkins it just so happens Charlie's pumpkin had the most seeds. Charlie then comes to realize small is okay after all. Mr. Tiffin allows the class to line up after they count the seeds by smallest to largest and Charlie finally is the first in line! This is a great book to use with young children who are learning to count in groups and the illustrations also appear to represent a diverse group of students. Each of them are a little different than the other in terms of size, color and the type of clothing they wear.

I loved the math connections in this story. It was a fun way to build children's number sense. After the librarian read it to each class in our elementary school the students all participated in a school wide estimation contest with our own pumpkin. Now we are looking for math in other library books. Great things do come in small packages!

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