

Greetings from the IPL! Thank you for your recent question about science projects involving pumpkin size and seed counts. I've found some resources that I believe you will find helpful.

The IPL is a great place to find ideas and resources for doing science projects. You can access the "Science Fair Project Resource Guide":

<http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace/projectguide/>

by clicking the "Science Fair" link on the left side of the IPL homepage, found at:

<http://www.ipl.org/>

Here you'll find several useful resources for project ideas, information about the scientific method, and tips for writing up reports about your experiments.

You mentioned that you had already selected your project and done some measurement, and now wanted to see if others had done the same experiment so that you could compare your results. I found one resource in particular that contains a great deal of data for comparison. The following address:

<http://www.technospudprojects.com/Projects/pumpkincount/documents/pumpkinseedfinalcount.xls>

will take you to a spreadsheet that shows the seed count and weight information for pumpkins from 147 classrooms across the country. The data was assembled as part of the "Pumpkin Seed Counting Project":

<http://www.technospudprojects.com/Projects/pumpkincount/homepage.htm>

The site also had lots of worksheets and activities related to pumpkin measurement and variety. This is one of many projects combining learning and technology that are described on the Technospud website, found at:

<http://www.technospudprojects.com/>

I found the above resource using the search term "pumpkin seed count" on the general search engine:

www.google.com/

A good example of a project similar to yours involving measurement and estimation of number of pumpkin seeds can be accessed at:

<http://www.sedl.org/scimath/compass/v01n02/pumpkin.html>

This was among a range of pumpkin-related resources that you might find helpful or interesting that were listed in the “Pumpkin Science” section of the “Science for Families” web resource:

<http://scienceforfamilies.allinfo-about.com/features/pumpkinscience.html>

By the way, if you’re interested in finding a good use for the seeds after you count them, you might want to check out this recipe I found for roasted pumpkin seeds:

<http://lowcarbdiets.about.com/od/snacks/r/pumpkinseeds.htm>

Good luck on your project! I hope this answered your question, and if you need any more information, feel free to contact the IPL in the future.