



Youth Gardening Rules for National Contest

PUMPKIN OR GOURD

You must send in registration form as soon as you apply for the contest. Each club or sponsoring mentor may set up their contest and follow the progress any way they wish. Clubs can end their contest whenever and however they choose. Set your time and date, then invite families to this meeting of recognition, celebration and/or rewards. Provide enough time for each youth to talk about their gardening experience and answer questions. All paperwork for national is due **OCTOBER 15, 2024**. Mail your completed paperwork to the Youth Gardening National Chair: Cheri Kessen, 1205 Limberlost Trail, Rome City, IN 46784 or goafortwayne@gmail.com. Mail the three required digital photos (one from each phase) to goafortwayne@gmail.com. We need large-format photos for good reproduction; please label the photos with the youth's name and age.

Pumpkin/Gourd Records and Reports

My name _____

My age _____

PHASE ONE: Planting Time

1. Why did you decide to grow pumpkins or gourds?
2. What was the specific name of your seeds and from what seed company?
3. What did you do to prepare the soil and space for planting your seeds?

While you are waiting for your seeds to sprout and start growing, read a book or an article about pumpkins or gourds in a newspaper, magazine or the web. Have someone read to you if you can't read.

- A. Name of story and author of what you read: _____
- B. Briefly tell about the story:
- C. What is something you learned from reading this?
- D. What did you like about what you read?

PHASE TWO: Growing Time

1. How are your pumpkins or gourds changing?
2. Describe what you did or are doing to help your plants grow strong and healthy.
3. What kind of insects and/or animals have you seen around your plants?
4. List ways you can use your pumpkin and its seeds as foods to eat.
5. List ways you can use your pumpkin and its seeds as decorations.
6. List ways you can decorate your gourd or use it as a decoration.

PHASE THREE: Harvesting and End of Season

1. What problems or disappointments did you have?
2. What surprises did you have?
3. Explain what you learned by growing pumpkins or gourds.
4. Share what was the most fun about your garden this year.
5. I succeeded because _____ helped me.

Find this form and other Youth Gardening news and ideas at gardenersofamerica.club.