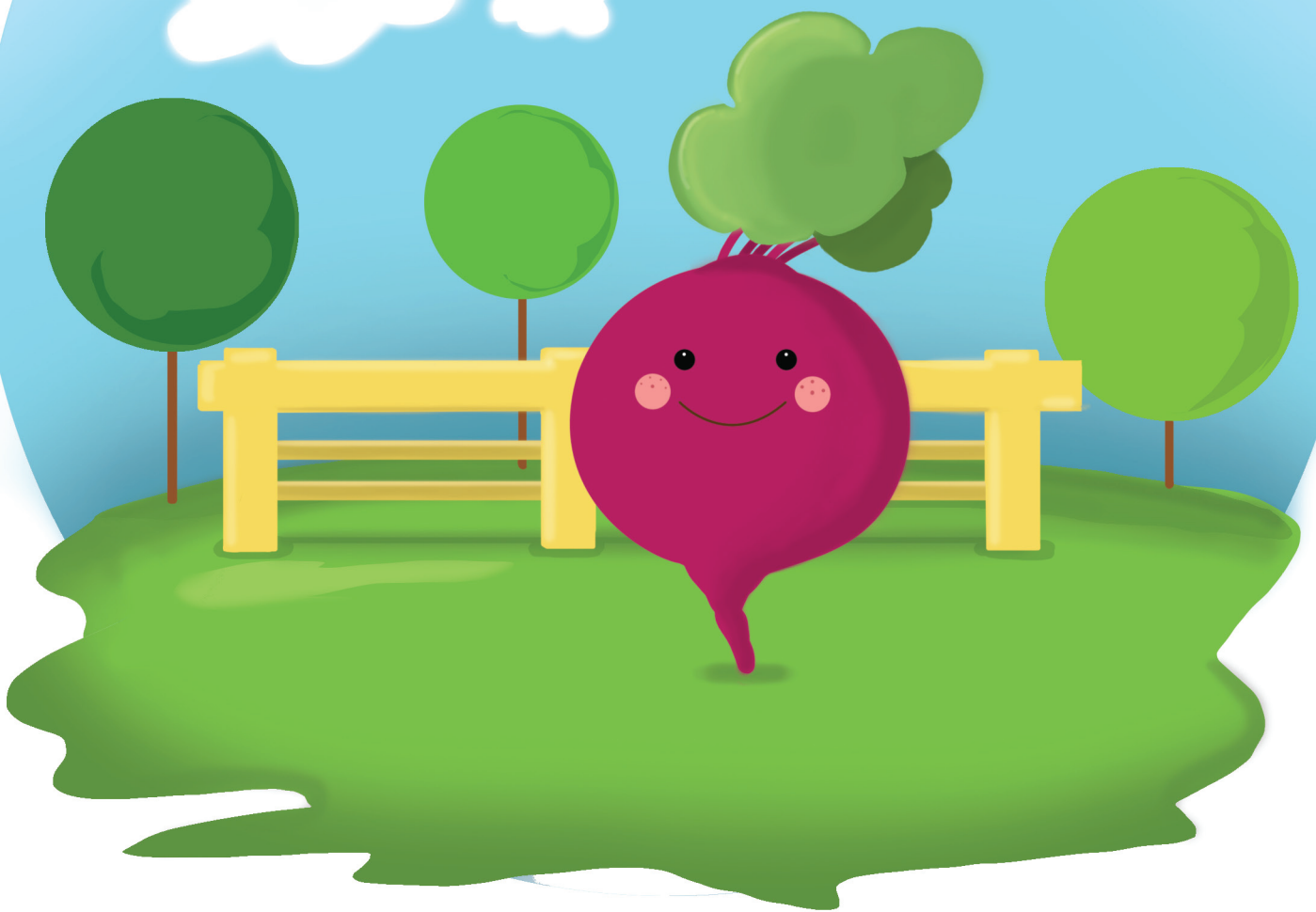


Let's See with Betsy
Pumpkins



Betsy couldn't wait for fall to come. Every year she is excited about the leaves changing color, making apple pie, and carving a Jack-o-Lantern from a pumpkin.

Betsy and her mom Mrs. Beet take a trip to Farmer Joe's pumpkin patch to pick out a pumpkin for carving. Betsy walks up and down the rows of pumpkin vines, searching for the perfect one. She sees that some pumpkins have not grown yet, they are still a flower! She keeps searching. She sees another pumpkin, it is so small she can hold it in the palm of her hand.

"This pumpkin is too small, let's leave it here to grow more" says Mrs. Beet.

At the end of a vine, Betsy sees a HUGE pumpkin! It's big enough to sit on. "This pumpkin is too big, it won't fit in our basket" says Mrs. Beet.

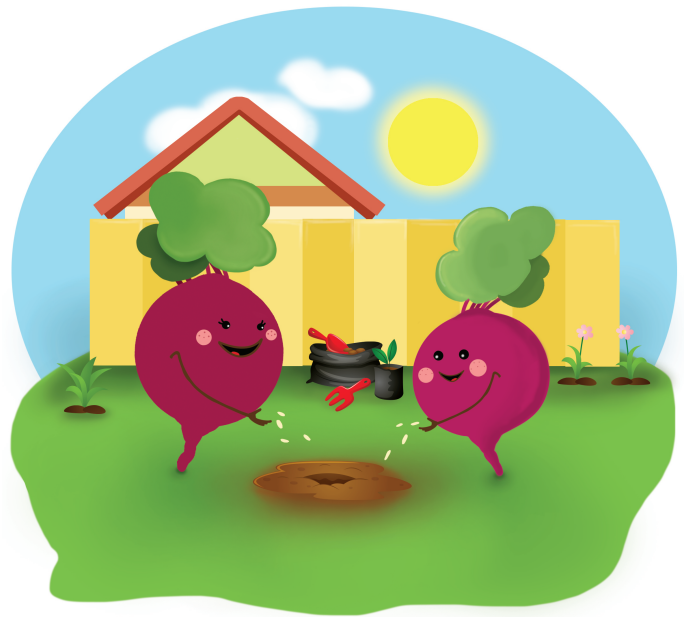
Betsy keeps walking and finds another pumpkin. It is just right! They bring it home.



Mrs. Beet uses a knife to cut open the pumpkin. Betsy helps her to scoop out the inside. She finds LOTS of seeds which she saves in a jar. They carve a silly face on the pumpkin and place it on their porch for everyone to enjoy for the month of October.

A few weeks later, Mrs. Beet tells Betsy it's time to let the pumpkin decompose. "We can leave the pumpkin in our backyard. When it decomposes, it will break down into tiny pieces and become part of the soil. When the spring time comes, we can plant some of our pumpkin seeds in the soil!" Betsy couldn't wait.

Spring time came and Betsy noticed the weather was slowly becoming warmer, and the sun was shining. Betsy and her mom decided it was time to plant their pumpkin seeds.



Some weeks later, Betsy went to play in her backyard when she noticed something, a flower growing from a vine, just as she had seen at farmer Joe's pumpkin patch! "Wow! Look! Our pumpkin seeds! They're really growing!" She said. "When a pumpkin grows, we can use it for my famous Pumpkin Pie!" Said Mrs. Beet. Thinking of the yummy pie, Betsy was again excited for fall to come. She couldn't wait to have her own little pumpkin patch.

