Each fall the Dallas Arboretum features 90,000 pumpkins, squash and gourds for our Autumn at the Arboretum festival. Because a single pumpkin plant can grow over 20 feet long, we don’t have room to grow them at the garden. They come from Pumpkin Pyle in west Texas.

The largest pumpkin pie ever baked was in 2005 and weighed 2,020 pounds!
There is actually no difference between a pumpkin, gourd or squash – these are just common names for any plant in the gourd family. But, people usually call the edible fruits pumpkin or squash and the inedible, or un-tasty ones, gourds!

Pumpkins are believed to date back over 7500 years, with the oldest domesticated seeds found in Oaxaca, Mexico. The first pumpkins, though, were small, hard and bitter – but they could be stored for a long time.
All of the squash and pumpkins featured in this journal are super tasty to eat! Research each variety to decide which you'd like to try first!