

Teaching First-Grade **Nonfiction Text Features** Using *I Pick Fall Pumpkins* from the **First Step Nonfiction — Observing Fall Series**

Features that help students understand how an informational text is organized:

FEATURE

Title page
Chapter name/heading/subheading
Page number
Glossary
Index

PURPOSE

Confirms title, author’s name, and publisher
Helps students identify a main topic on a quick pass through the text
Helps students with sequence of ideas and aids in using the index
Defines new and important words
Lists the main ideas in the text, with page numbers to help students find them

Visual aids that help students understand informational texts:

VISUAL AID

Photo, drawing, or illustration

PURPOSE

Shows how something in the text looked or might have looked

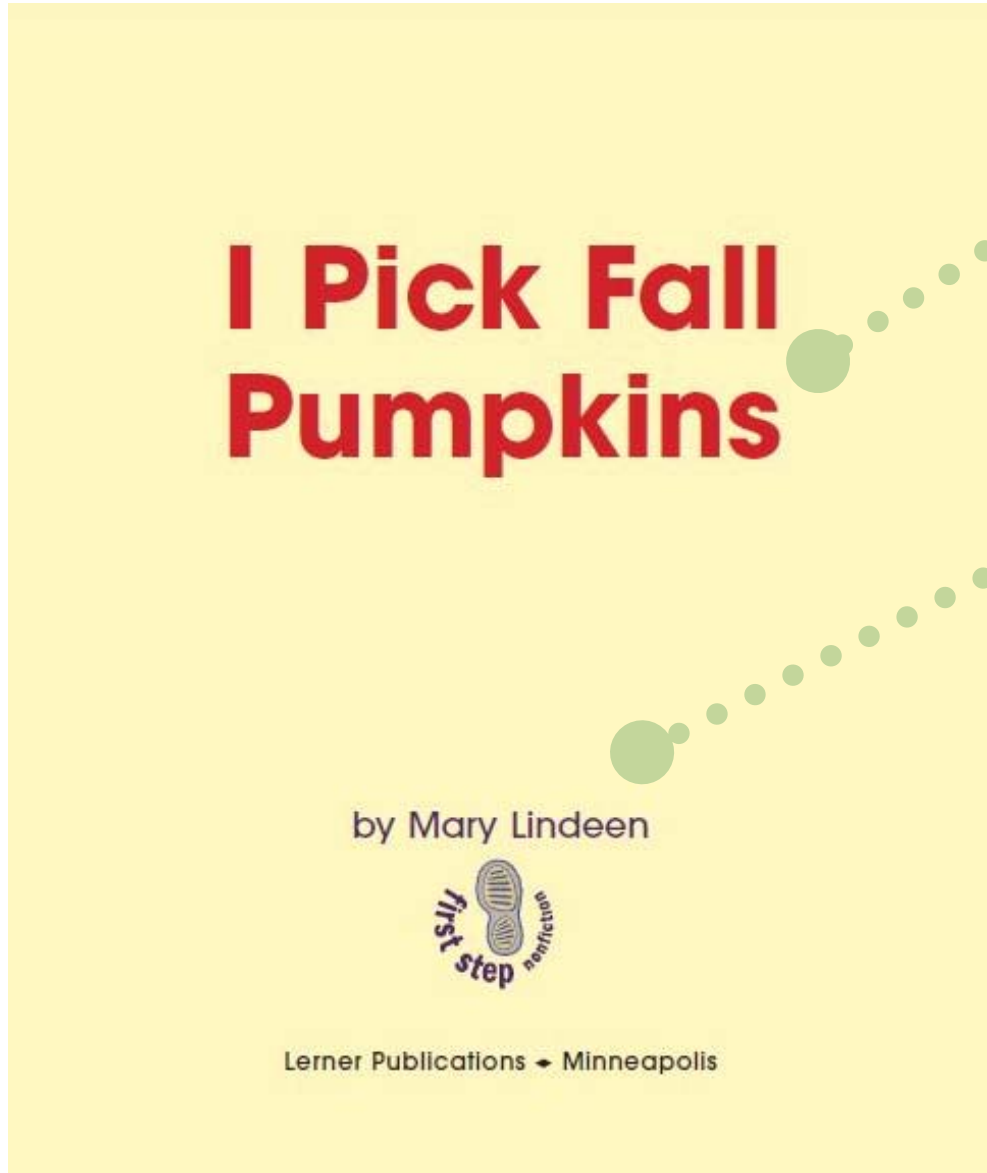
Features that point out important or additional information:

FEATURE

Bold print
Caption

PURPOSE

Tells students a word is new and important; sometimes a glossary term
Points out what’s in a photo, a drawing, or an illustration and relates it to the information text; often gives more information



TITLE

AUTHOR

TITLE PAGE: This is the first page of the book. It tells you what the name, or title, of the book is. It also tells you who wrote the book. This person is called the author.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

This list at the beginning of the book explains in what order you will read about topics. Page numbers tell where each topic starts.

Table of Contents

Picking Pumpkins	4
Pumpkin Colors	7
Pumpkin Sizes	12
Parts of a Pumpkin	16
Eating Pumpkins	20
Glossary	23
Index	24

Eating Pumpkins



Some pumpkins are for eating. This pumpkin pie is soft and sweet.

20

HEADINGS: These words separate your book into parts. Headings are usually in bigger type and are at the top of a page. A heading tells you what's to come in that part of the book.

TEXT OR MAIN TEXT:

The words on a page that describe the main ideas of the book.

PAGE NUMBERS:

Page numbers are in the lower corner of most pages in a book. They tell you how far along you are in the book. They also help you find information from the index.



They are **ripe** and ready to pick in the fall.

Pumpkin Sizes



Some pumpkins are small.

12

PHOTOS:

The photos or pictures in a book show what the words, or text, describe. Looking at photos can help you understand the meaning of the text.



The outside of a pumpkin is called the **skin**. It is hard and bumpy.

BOLD PRINT:

Words in bold print have thick, black letters. You might not know what these words mean. They are usually in a glossary, or list with meanings, at the end of the book.

GLOSSARY:

This list calls out the important words in a book. The glossary proves the meaning, or definition, of the word. You can find the glossary near the end of the book.

DEFINITION

Glossary

pulp – the soft, juicy part of a fruit or vegetable

ripe – ready to be harvested, picked, or eaten

skin – the outer covering of a fruit or vegetable

stem – a part of a plant that supports the fruit

vine – a long, winding plant that grows along the ground or climbs on a fence, tree, or other support

Index

fall - 4, 6

pumpkin pie - 20

pumpkin seeds - 19, 21

stem - 16

vine - 5, 16

INDEX: This list at the end of a book follows the order of the alphabet. The index helps you find main ideas covered in the book. The words in the index are followed by page numbers. These numbers tell you where to go in the book to find the main ideas.