

RILEY'S WORLD

NEWSLETTER



Fall Fun!



It's time to put away the swimsuits and boogie boards. I'm always a little sad to see the temperatures get colder and the days get shorter, but there are lots and lots of good things about fall, too!

My family and friends pick apples, visit the pumpkin patch to find the perfect pumpkin, and in November, we get together for a big Thanksgiving dinner.

In New England where I live, the leaves change color and fall off the trees. I asked my mother why some of the trees in our yard turn yellow, some orange, and one of them even turns bright red. She said the color the leaf turns before it falls to the ground depends on the chemicals in the leaves of each type of tree.

We went around the yard and took a brightly colored leaf from each tree, then made a fall leaf scrapbook. It was my job to find out, by studying the shape of the leaf, what type of tree it belonged to.

Our scrapbook has the names of all the deciduous trees in our yard, next to dried samples of their colored leaves. (Deciduous means "to fall off", which is what the leaves do on deciduous trees. Evergreen trees, such as pine trees, keep their leaves year round.) We found oak, maple, elm, birch and dogwood trees in our yard.

Next year, we are going to go hiking at the local state park and collect more leaves for the scrapbook.



News From Around the Neighborhood

The Fall Fair at my school had a contest this month. We had to guess the weight of the giant pumpkin from Mr. Lotz's pumpkin patch, and the person who was the closest would win the prize – a new scooter! The pumpkin was as big as me and my sister Sophie put together.

I had a plan for guessing the weight. I weighed myself on the scale at home and found out that I weigh 48 pounds. Then, I put Sophie on the scale and found that she weighs 22 pounds. When I added those

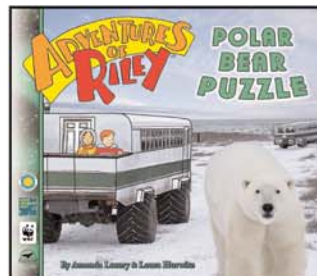
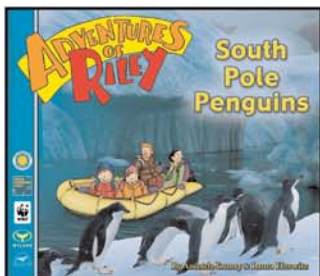


numbers together, I got 70 pounds, and that's what I guessed the pumpkin would weigh.

I wrote my answer on a piece of paper and put it in a jar next to the pumpkin. I was almost exactly right! The pumpkin weighed 72 pounds! I was happy when I won the contest.

My new scooter is silver with red wheels. It has been fun to ride it around the neighborhood. My dad wants me to mention one thing here: when you ride a scooter, always, always remember to wear a helmet!

Go Pole to Pole With Riley this Fall!



This October, join Riley, Alice, Uncle Max and Aunt Martha as they travel to the South Pole to study penguins and the North Pole to study polar bears!

For being a Riley's World member, you will receive **10% off** when you purchase **Adventures of Riley: South Pole Penguins** or **Adventures of Riley: Polar Bear Puzzle** on the Eaglemont Press website! Author **Amanda Lumry** will also autograph your books! Just have your parents go to www.eaglemont.com and enter in coupon code **RWNEWSLETTER** when prompted during checkout.



Paper Bag Pumpkin



Remember to use recycled products whenever possible!

My mother likes to help with the decorations for the school's Fall Fair. One craft I like to help her with are paper bag pumpkins. You can make baby pumpkins using small paper lunch bags, or big pumpkins with paper grocery bags.

You will need:

- Flat-bottomed brown paper bags
- String or yarn (green is best) 18"-24" in length
- Newspaper for stuffing and for a work surface
- Orange washable acrylic paint
- Black washable markers or crayons

First, take the bag and fill it up almost to the top with crumpled up newspaper. Have fun

crumpling the newspaper! Ask an adult to help you wrap the yarn or string around the top of the bag and then tie it up tightly. Green yarn or string is best, because it makes the top look like a pumpkin stem, but you can always color or paint the yarn green.

Be sure to shape your paper bag pumpkin so that it is round like a real pumpkin! Place the "pumpkin" on a newspaper and using washable paint, paint it orange (or skip this step for the natural look). Let the paint dry, then decorate it so it looks like a jack-o-lantern. I made both a small one and a big one, and put a big smile on both.

Nutty Harvest Goop

Here's a healthy apple dip. Eat this with a glass of milk for a nutritious and different fall breakfast.

- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/4 cup yogurt-covered raisins
- 1/4 cup crispy rice cereal
- 2 large apples

Get a small bowl and mix the peanut butter, yogurt-covered raisins and crispy rice cereal together so that they form a gooey, chunky paste.

Take two apples. Tart green apples, like

Granny Smiths, are my favorites. Ask a grown-up to cut and slice the apples vertically so you can hold them for dipping.

Arrange the apple slices on a plate around the bowl of goop and eat up! This is enough for two hungry kids.



Ask the Authors!

We asked Amanda Lumry and Laura Hurwitz, the authors of the **Adventures of Riley** series, an important question:

What is your favorite Riley book?

Amanda Lumry: I think of the Riley books like I think of my kids: I love them equally, perhaps for different things, but I couldn't say I love one more than another.

Laura Hurwitz: I love all the Riley adventures, but I have a soft spot for "Mission to Madagascar." I think it's a cool location, a great life lesson, and the animals are amazing. Plus, Alice the Movie Star in a feather boa is just the best.

Did You Know?

Turkeys aren't just for Thanksgiving dinner! They are one of North America's most popular birds. In fact, Benjamin Franklin wanted to make the turkey the national bird of the United States instead of the bald eagle!

On a Road Trip With Riley!

Want to be in a future newsletter?

Send Riley a photo of you reading one of his books or completing your favorite Riley activity. Digital photos are preferred. Original photos will not be returned. Send your photo to info@eaglemont.com or to the address below. Be sure to include your name, age and the state you live in.



www.adventuresofriley.com

EagleMont Press • 13228 NE 20th St., Suite 300 • Bellevue, WA 98005 • (425) 462-6618

