Lords of the Gourds Guided Notes
 Submitted by Jennifer Waters and used in cooperation with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

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Pursuit of Excellence: Lords of the Gourds

Directions: For those of you who have seen the chicken video and loved it, you will also like this one! You will be meeting some crazy pumpkin people who love their large pumpkins and grow them for the competition for the Largest Pumpkin Competition.

1. Can you actually see pumpkins grow?

2. What sweet substance did the woman spray on her pumpkins to make them grow?

3. During peak growing season, how many pounds can a giant pumpkin grow per day?

4. What was the purpose for the farmer developing a pumpkin hammock for his pumpkins?

5. According to the farmers, what is the key to growing the largest pumpkin?

6. Are pumpkins a fruit or a vegetable?

7. What mineral is milk high in that is supposed to aid in pumpkin growth?

8. When should you plant pumpkins?

9. How many gallons of water per day are used to water the pumpkins in July-August?

10. What will happen if the pumpkins grow too fast?
11. Name three enemies to a pumpkin:

12. What activity causes the pumpkins to start losing weight?

13. How do they lift and load the heavy pumpkins?

14. Where was the pumpkin festival held?

15. Did Bernie the 82 year old man reach his goal of raising a 1,000 pound pumpkin?

16. Who won the competition – Craig or Joe? How much did the heaviest pumpkin weigh?