



PATCH THE PUMPKIN

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

WORDS BY MAIRI NEEVES WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY ROBYN LEAVENS
FROM WORLD VISION UK



PATCH IS BACK!

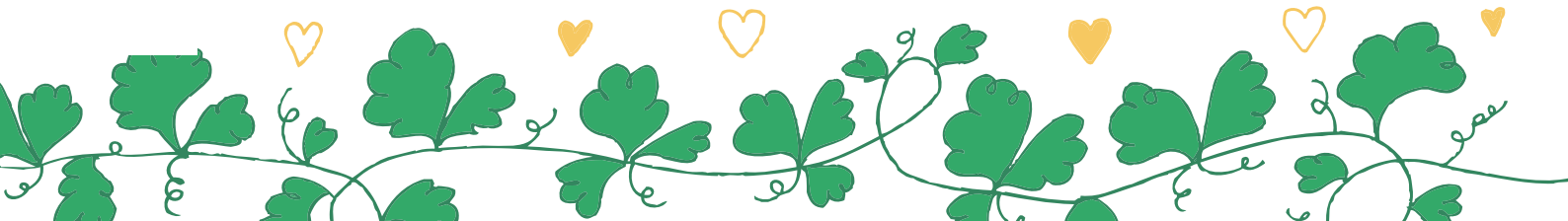
We're excited to bring to you a storybook starring World Vision's favourite warm-hearted superhero, Patch the Pumpkin. Life is full of adventures for Patch and his fellow pumpkins, and there's always plenty of fun to be had. Together with their friends, Amira and the Wise-But-Grumpy Owl, they learn lessons in how small, everyday acts of kindness and generosity can make a big difference in the world.

This book has been lovingly put together to help children learn how they can share God's love with others.

This storybook is a great companion to a Pumpkin Heroes party or anytime for a fun story with little ones. We hope you enjoy this story as you share God's love in your church and community this year.

Love, from World Vision

 © World Vision | Produced with Prospect Arts | Written by Mairi Neeves | Illustrated by Robyn Leavens



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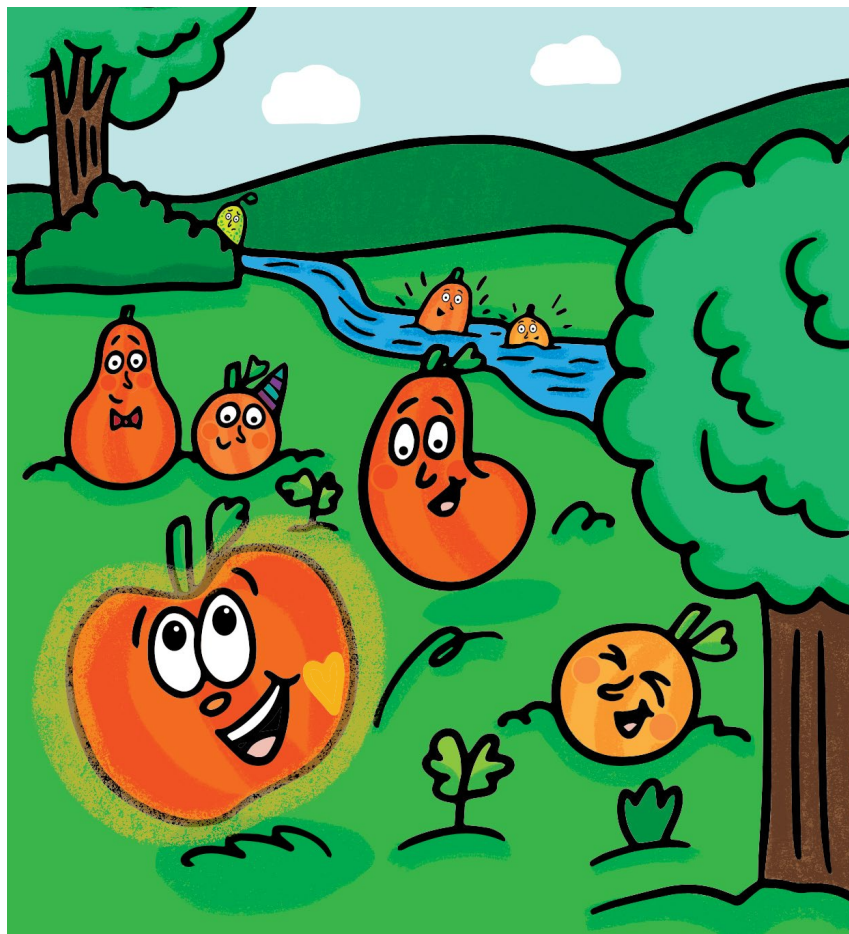


World Vision[®]
Hope and a future for all children

PRODUCED WITH PROSPECT ARTS

Patch was a cheerful and bouncy pumpkin who lived with his friends in the place where one field met the next. *Have you ever been to a place like that?* Endless space, lined with hedges, dotted with trees, and full of adventures. Patch and his friends played in the fields, and larked about in the river. They were as busy and happy as honey bees. The best of friends.

But not everyone was included. One day, Patch came upon a vegetable who did not seem as fun as the rest. Long like a banana, knobbly, and not even orange. *Have you ever seen such a thing?*



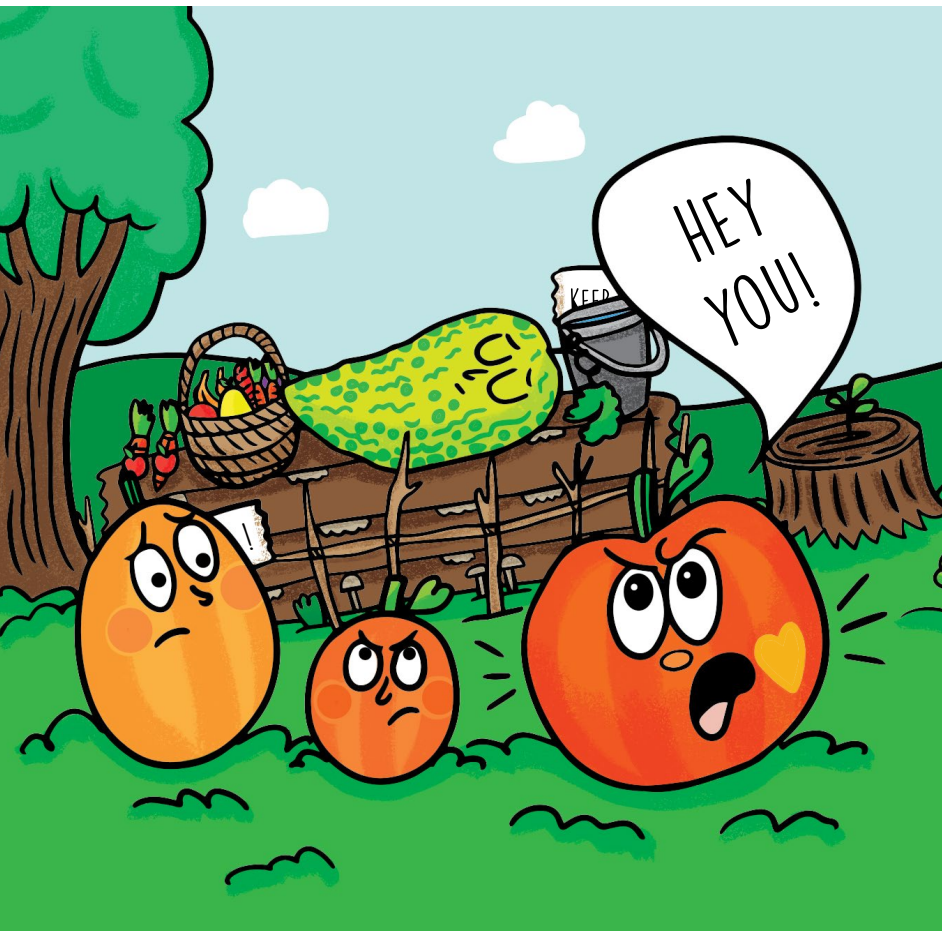
The Bitter Melon had a long face and not a happy one either. Perhaps it was Patch's imagination, but he was sure he saw a dark cloud hanging right over his head. 'Bitter Melon—that sounds about right,' thought Patch.

The worst of it was that he was sitting on the pumpkins' favourite log. It was *their* place, where everyone gathered to hang out.

Now, this strange-looking vegetable was taking up a space that was supposed to be shared! Patch's heart always glowed when he showed kindness—but now it dimmed just a little instead. Patch scowled at him, before bouncing off to tell his friends.

When they returned, things had changed for the worse. Now, there was a fence around the log. The Bitter Melon had surrounded himself with enough supplies to keep him going for many months.





*What were they going to eat?
And where would they play?*

Patch approached the Bitter Melon, thinking he would impress the vegetable with a joke or two. 'A bit of humour is all it will take,' he thought.

"Hey you—what did the tomato say to the other tomato during a race? Ketchup!"

"Go away," came the gruff, grumpy voice. It looked like the Bitter Melon was pretending to be asleep.

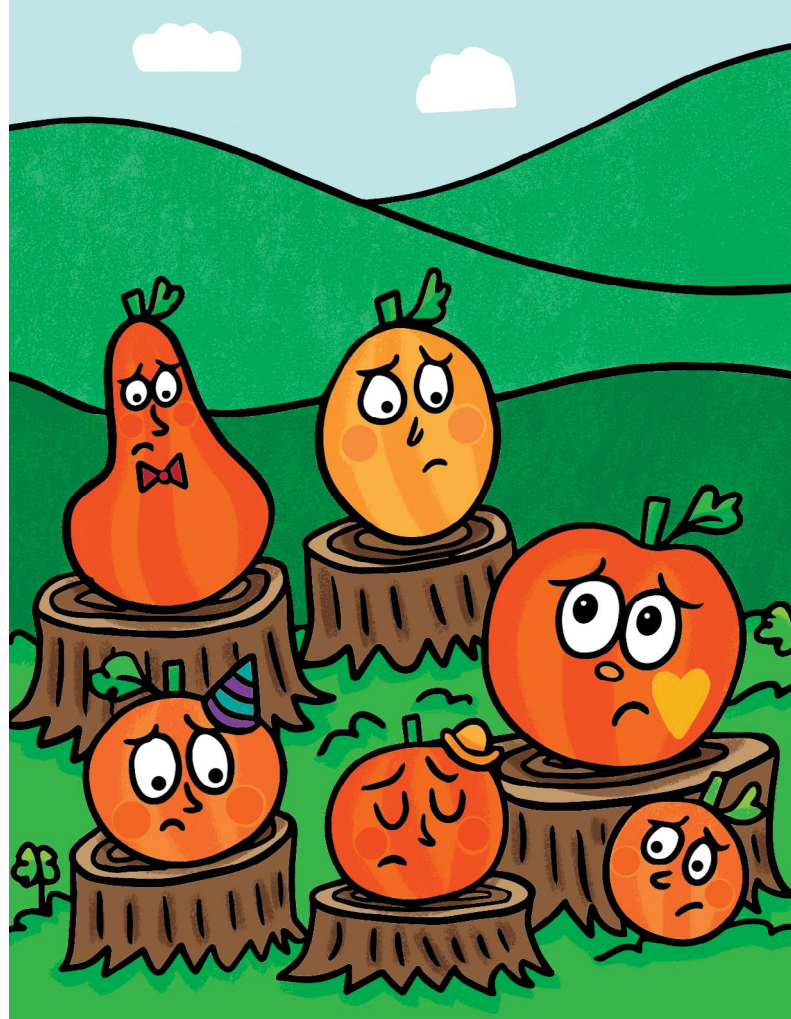
"Why did the banana win the talent show? Because he had a-peeling dance moves!"

“Leave me alone,” came the only reply. Patch couldn’t understand it. *Why wasn’t he laughing at his jokes?*

After a while, the pumpkins gave up. They found a new place to play, leaving the fence, the stockpile and the stolen log. They were sad and hungry.

Later, Patch and his friends were just about to play ‘pip pip pumpkin’, when they realised that someone was missing. It was Teeny, the tiniest pumpkin. *Where could he be?*

Patch had a wondering, so he headed off towards the log. He was right. There, behind the fence, was Teeny looking very busy.





“Hey Teeny,” said Patch. “What are you doing?”

“Sorry, Patch,” Teeny puffed. “I can’t stop. I’m helping the Bitter Melon. He needs lots of help over here.” Before he hurried on, Teeny added quickly, “And I don’t mind helping him.” But as he said it, Patch noticed Teeny looking longingly at the basket of goodies.

Patch felt a tantrum coming over him. *Why do you think he felt so cross?*

“It’s not fair,” he cried to the Bitter Melon. “You’ve stolen all the food, you’re taking up our space, and now you’re taking”—his voice wobbled a bit at this, “MY FRIEND!”

At this, Amira stepped forward. “Enough!” She implored, “Enough is Enough! This isn’t right. Everyone is equal. There’s lots of space for us all to play together. And,” she looked

at the food and then at the Bitter Melon, “There is enough food for us all too, as long as we share.”

Patch looked triumphant, “That’s right!” He agreed. But Amira wasn’t finished, “And as for you, dear Patch,” she continued, turning to him now. “You are the kindest pumpkin that I know. Surely you can find enough kindness in you to make a new friend?”

“Well I, I, I—” Patch, didn’t know what to say. With all this bouncing and yelling he had begun to look more like a tomato than a pumpkin—everything was wrong, and now he was getting told off! It was all too much. He had to be rolled away by



the others, and laid down in a furrow to recover.

When he woke up later, Amira was there, and so were all the other pumpkins.

“It’s okay now,” she said. “It’s all sorted out.”

“What did you do?” asked Patch.

“Did you send him to the chopping board?” asked the Biggest Pumpkin.

“Did you put the grater on him?” asked the Most Average-Sized Pumpkin.

“No,” she replied. “He said he would share his food, and I said he could play with us.”

“YOU DID WHAT!!!?” they all replied.

“I promised him that he could play with us. If we want him to be generous with his things, we can start by being generous with our friendship.”



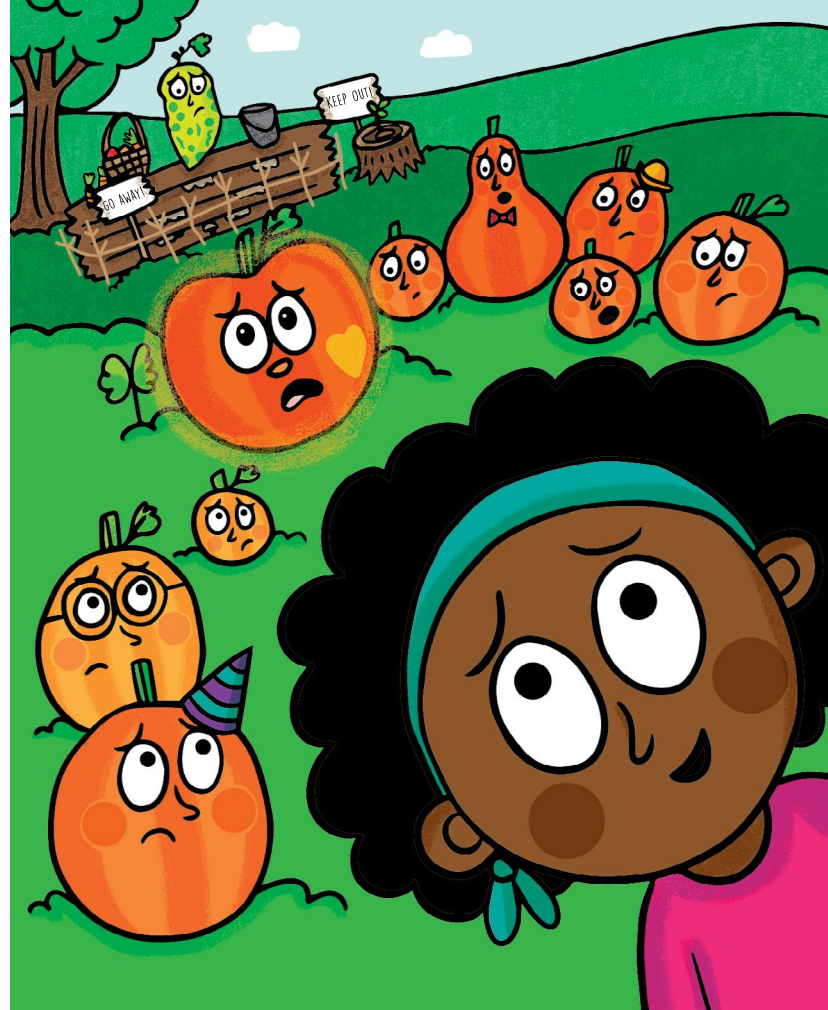
Patch understood. He'd begun to see what was going on and a flicker of kindness glowed in his heart.

"Do you think," he asked Amira, "that he might be lonely?"

"100%!" she agreed. "Lonely, and sad. All that food, and no friends to eat with. And by the way," she continued, "his name isn't Bitter Melon at all. It's Melvin."

And in the smallest of voices, Teeny added, "He's quite nice too."

Patch thought for a moment, and then his heart began to glow, as it always did when he showed kindness to others. For Patch was deciding to share. It was a tiny



difference on the outside, but a new world within his little heart.

After that, they all got to work at once. The fence came down, the log was swept, and together they tidied up the mess. Melvin turned out to be good at making funny faces, which made them all laugh. And the basket—that sweet basket of goodies... Well, there really was enough for them all to share.

That day they started a new tradition: the Parade of Plenty. Everyone in the community brought what they had, and together they shared a big feast.

Later that evening Patch sat with Amira, watching the party whilst the Wise-But-Grumpy Owl flew quietly overhead. “I think I learnt something today,” he said.

“And what was that, my friend?” asked Amira.

Patch turned and smiled to her, “I learned that there is enough to go around, if we all share.”

“You’re right,” Amira was smiling too. “Sharing is about things, places, and also people. When we show kindness and love,” she continued, “there really is no limit. There’s enough for us all.”



Parade of Plenty

HAHA!

HAHA!

HAHA!

ALL ARE
WELCOME!

CHILDREN WHO INSPIRED THIS STORY

In this story, Patch learnt about sharing friendship, places, and things! Share, make the most of what you have and trust God. There's more than enough.

Every day, where life is tough around the world,

When there's no food three-year-old cousins, Ikaru and Ekutan, eat wild palm fruit. In Kenya, there's drought (no rain) so growing food is hard.



World Vision is making sure children get enough food to eat at school and home.

So that – like you – they'll have enough energy to learn, play and grow.



In South Sudan, all Elizabeth and her friends need for their afternoon lessons is a good lunch, one that brightens up their day.

ENOUGH

END CHILD HUNGER NOW

(All photos ©World Vision)



In Malawi, like many places around the world, food brings families together.

PRAYER

Dear God,

Just as Jesus used the lunch of a small boy to feed more than five thousand people, we pray that you will use the boys and girls here today to bless everyone they meet each day.

Amen



In Bangladesh, World Vision is helping Nayon, age 6, get enough food for the whole family.

"And God can give you more blessings than you need. Then you will always have plenty of everything. You will have enough to give to every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8)

International Children's Bible



Emily, is seven and now with World Vision in Honduras, she has more nutritious food.

SCAN TO
DONATE



JOIN PATCH AS HE SAYS "ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!"



There's a new vegetable in the field, and he's causing quite a stir. Join Patch and Amira and their friends as they meet Melvin, the Bitter Melon. Is Melvin a friend? Or is he just getting in the way? Join Patch and his friends as they learn about sharing and showing kindness to others.

Patch

World Vision
Hope and a future for all children

worldvision.org.uk

At World Vision, our focus is on helping the world's most vulnerable children overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. For over 70 years, we have worked together with communities — of all faiths and none — even in the most dangerous places, inspired by our Christian faith.

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