How to carve your pumpkin with care

What you will need:
- Marty stencil printed on A5, A4 or A3 paper
- Scissors
- Tack or sticky tape
- Black felt tip pen
- Pumpkin
- Large sharp knife
- Large metal spoon
- Pumpkin carving tools
- Tea light candle/s (battery operated recommended)

What to do:
1. Wash and dry your pumpkin, this will make sure your stencil sticks to it well
2. Ask an adult to cut off the crown using a sharp knife
3. Scoop out the seeds and some of the flesh using a large metal spoon
4. Ask an adult to help you to carefully cut out the black areas of your Marty stencil
5. Cut 1 to 2 inch slits along the edges of the paper, this will help your stencil curve around the pumpkin
6. Stick your stencil to your pumpkin using tack or sticky tape
7. Using a black felt tip pen, mark the outline of your stencil onto the pumpkin
8. Using your carving stools to carve out your design, we recommend an adult does this or closely supervises
9. Place your tea light candle in your pumpkin and place the crown back on top

Carving and safety tips:
- An adult should supervise at all times and help with cutting, deseeding and the use of any sharp equipment, specifically knives
- For really small children, painting your pumpkin can work just as well as cutting out your design
- Carve in a clean, dry, well-lit area
- Always cut away from you in case the knife slips
- Keep your free hand out of the way when carving, to avoid mishaps
- You can reconnect any broken pieces with a toothpick
- Use a battery operated tea light to light up your pumpkin, rather than a naked flame - you could also play with different coloured lights to make yours really stand out