

History of Veterans' Day

Armistice Day Becomes Veterans Day

World War I officially ended on June 28, 1919, with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. The actual fighting between the Allies and Germany, however, had ended seven months earlier with the armistice, which went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. Armistice Day, as November 11 became known, officially became a holiday in the United States in 1926, and a national holiday 12 years later. On June 1, 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor all U.S. veterans.



Larry Blackmer, photographer

In 1968, new legislation changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

Tomb of the Unknowns

Official, national ceremonies for Veterans Day center around the Tomb of the Unknowns. To honor these men, symbolic of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars, an Army honor guard, the 3d U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), keeps day and night vigil.

At 11 a.m. on November 11, a combined color guard representing all military services executes "Present Arms" at the tomb. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a presidential wreath and the playing of "Taps."

More History . . .

From <http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp>

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” – officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."

Veterans' Day

The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11 a.m.

The United States Congress officially recognized the end of World War I when it passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, with these words:

Whereas the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the people of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and **Whereas** it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and

Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.

An Act (52 Stat. 351; 5 U. S. Code, Sec. 87a) approved May 13, 1938, made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday - - a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as "Armistice Day." Armistice Day was primarily a day set aside to honor veterans of World War I, but in 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

Later that same year, on October 8th, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first "Veterans Day Proclamation" which stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible."



Larry Blackmer, photographer



Veterans' Day

On that same day, the President sent a letter to the Honorable Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs (VA), designating him as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee.

In 1958, the White House advised VA's General Counsel that the 1954 designation of the VA Administrator as Chairman of the Veterans Day National Committee applied to all subsequent VA Administrators. Since March 1989 when VA was elevated to a cabinet level department, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has served as the committee's chairman.

The Uniforms Holiday Bill (Public Law 90-363 (82 Stat. 250)) was signed on June 28, 1968, and was intended to insure three-day weekends for Federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. It was thought that these extended weekends would encourage travel, recreational and cultural activities and stimulate greater industrial and commercial production. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holidays on their original dates.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.



Veterans' Day

President Eisenhower's letter to Harvey V. Higley, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, designating him Chairman, Veterans Day National Committee

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

October 8, 1954

Dear Mr. Higley:

I have today signed a proclamation calling upon all of our citizens to observe Thursday, November 11, 1954 as Veterans Day. It is my earnest hope that all veterans, their organizations, and the entire citizenry will join hands to insure proper and widespread observance of this day. With the thought that it will be most helpful to coordinate the planning, I am suggesting the formation of a Veterans Day National Committee. In view of your great personal interest as well as your official responsibilities, I have designated you to serve as Chairman. You may include in the Committee membership such other persons as you desire to select and I am requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch to assist the Committee in its work in every way possible.

I have every confidence that our Nation will respond wholeheartedly in the appropriate observance of Veterans Day, 1954.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER



Larry Blackmer, photographer



Veterans Day, 1954

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION
3071

Whereas it has long been our customs to commemorate November 11, the anniversary of the ending of World War I, by paying tribute to the heroes of that tragic struggle and by rededicating ourselves to the cause of peace; and

Whereas in the intervening years the United States has been involved in two other great military conflicts, which have added millions of veterans living and dead to the honor rolls of this Nation; and

Whereas the Congress passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926 (44 Stat. 1982), calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies, and later provided in an act approved May 13, 1938 (52 Stat. 351), that the eleventh of November should be a legal holiday and should be known as Armistice Day; and

Whereas, in order to expand the significance of that commemoration and in order that a grateful Nation might pay appropriate homage to the veterans of all its wars who have contributed so much to the preservation of this Nation, the Congress, by an act approved June 1, 1954 (68 Stat. 168), changed the name of the holiday to Veterans Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon all of our citizens to observe Thursday, November 11, 1954, as Veterans Day. On that day let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us reconsecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain.

I also direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all public buildings on Veterans Day.

In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to wish to join hands in the common purpose.



Veterans' Day

Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this eighth day of October in the Year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-ninth.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER



Larry Blackmer, photographer



Internet Resources

Veterans Day

<http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/>

Experiencing War: Stories from the Veterans History Project

<http://www.loc.gov/vets/stories/themes.html>

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

<http://www.nchv.org/>

American Women in Uniform, Veterans Too!

<http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb/>

Veterans Affairs Canada - History

<http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/general/sub.cfm?source=history>

Associations on the Net

Disabled American Veterans

<http://www.dav.org/>

Vietnam Veterans of America

<http://www.vva.org/>

Veterans of Foreign Wars

<http://www.vfw.org/>

Veterans Day Activities

A collection of activities for Veteran's Day - coloring pages, crafts for kids, word searches

www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/veterans-day/index.html

Kids for Our Troops

Here are just a few ideas to help raise awareness and donations for our severely disabled veterans.

www.kidsforourtroops.org

Kids Domain Salute to Veterans

Get the history behind Veteran's Day as well as links and even a lesson plan for the educators.

www.kidsdomain.com/kids/links/Salute_to_Veterans.html



Veterans' Day

VA KIDS

VA Kids Web site dedicated to educating Kids about veterans and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

www.va.gov/kids

Veterans Day

Child of a World War II veteran created this site in honor of all veterans.

www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/2855/dadvday.html

Veterans Day: Surfing the Net with Kids

The best Veterans Day sites for kids, teachers and families

www.surfnetkids.com/veteransday.htm

The Story of Veterans Day (reference)

This simple story defines Veterans Day for young children or English as Second Language students.

www.teachervision.fen.com/veterans-day/history/3204.html

What Is Veterans Day? (lesson-plan)

This lesson familiarizes English as second language students with the American holiday Veterans Day. Can also be used with younger children.

www.teachervision.com/lesson-plans/lesson-3211.html

Craft Stick Veterans Day Pins

Fun crafts and other activities for kids and their computer. Dozens of free downloads.

www.makingfriends.com/veteransdaypins.htm

Veterans Day

Provides short historical background of Veterans' Day, an overview of the wars in which the United States has taken part, and related links.

www.infoplease.com/spot/veteransday1.html

John's Word Search Puzzles: Veterans Day

This site has many word search puzzles on many different topics...

www.thepotters.com/puzzles/veterans.html

Veterans' Day

A lesson plan designed to present activities to be used at a variety of grade levels and classroom situations in order to enhance student understanding of the Veterans Day observance. (grades 6-12)

http://www.patriotism.org/veterans_day/page2.html



Thanksgiving

The first Thanksgiving in America was celebrated less than a year after the Plymouth colonists settled in the New World. The corn harvest brought celebration and Governor William Bradford decreed that a three-day feast be held.

Thanksgiving Day is a day set aside in the United States and Canada for giving thanks. People give thanks with feasting and prayer for the blessings that they have received during the year. The first Thanksgivings were harvest festivals, or days for thanking God for plentiful crops. For this reason, the holiday is associated with fall - a time of harvesting the crops.

In the United States, Thanksgiving is usually a day celebrated with big dinners and family reunions. Thanksgiving is also a time for religious reflection, church services and prayer. Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November the National Thanksgiving holiday in 1863. He proclaimed it "a day of thanksgiving and praise to the beneficent Father." Thanksgiving was celebrated on that date for 75 years until President Roosevelt set the day one week earlier in 1939. He wanted to lengthen the shopping period between Thanksgiving and Christmas to help businesses. Congress finally ruled in 1941 that the fourth Thursday in November would be the legal National Thanksgiving Day holiday.

In Canada, the day used to be celebrated on the last Monday in October. In 1957, the Canadian government proclaimed the second Monday in October for the national holiday.



The first Thanksgiving Day in Canada after Confederation was observed on April 15, 1872, to celebrate the recovery of The Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) from a serious illness.

There are three traditions behind our Canadian Thanksgiving Day.

- 🌐 European farmers in Europe held celebrations at harvest time to give thanks for their good fortune of a good harvest and abundance of food. They would often fill a curved goat's horn with fruits and grains. This was known as a cornucopia or horn of good plenty. When Europeans came to Canada it is thought to have become an influence on the Canadian Thanksgiving tradition.
- 🌐 Around 1578 English navigator Martin Frobisher held a ceremony, in what is now called the province of Newfoundland to give thanks for surviving his [journey](#) there. Other settlers later arrived and continued these "thankful" ceremonies. This was also thought to be an influence on the Canadian Thanksgiving tradition.

Thanksgiving

- 🌐 The third influence happened in 1621 in what was to become the United States. Pilgrims celebrated their first harvest in the "New World". Around 1750 this celebration of harvest was brought to Nova Scotia by American settlers from the south. At the same time, French settlers arriving were also holding feasts of "thanksgiving". These celebrations and offerings of "Thanks" influenced the Canadian Thanksgiving.

At the same time, French settlers, having crossed the ocean and arrived in Canada with explorer Samuel de Champlain, also held huge feasts of thanks. They even formed "The Order of Good Cheer" and gladly shared their food with their Indian neighbors.

After the Seven Year's War ended in 1763, the citizens of Halifax held a special day of Thanksgiving.

The Americans who remained faithful to the government in England were known as Loyalists. At the time of the American Revolution, they moved to Canada and spread the Thanksgiving celebration to other parts of the country. Many of the new English settlers from Great Britain were also used to having a harvest celebration in their churches every autumn.

Eventually in 1879, Parliament declared November 6th a day of Thanksgiving and a national holiday. Over the years many dates were used for Thanksgiving, the most popular was the 3rd Monday in October. After World War I, both Armistice Day and Thanksgiving were celebrated on the Monday of the week in which November 11th occurred. Ten years later, in 1931, the two days became separate holidays and Armistice Day was renamed Remembrance Day. Finally, on January 31st, 1957, Parliament proclaimed.... *"A Day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed... to be observed on the second Monday in October."*

Did You Know?

Americans did not invent Thanksgiving. It began in Canada. Frobisher's celebration in 1578 was 43 years before the pilgrims gave thanks in 1621 for the bounty that ended a year of hardships and death. Abraham Lincoln established the date for the US as the last Thursday in November. In 1941, US Congress set the National Holiday as the fourth Thursday in November.

Frobisher and early colonists, giving thanks for safe passage, as well as pilgrim celebrations in the US that began the traditions of turkeys, pumpkin pies, and the gathering of family and friends.

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/thanksgiving/index.html#aboutthanksgiving>



Mayflower Myths

The reason that we have so many myths associated with Thanksgiving is that it is an invented tradition. It doesn't originate in any one event. It is based on the New England puritan Thanksgiving, which is a religious Thanksgiving, and the traditional harvest celebrations of England and New England and maybe other ideas like commemorating the pilgrims. All of these have been gathered together and transformed into something different from the original parts.



- James W. Baker, Senior Historian at Plimoth Plantation

Myth: The first Thanksgiving was in 1621 and the pilgrims celebrated it every year thereafter.

Fact: The first feast wasn't repeated, so it wasn't the beginning of a tradition. In fact, the colonists didn't even call the day Thanksgiving. To them, a thanksgiving was a religious holiday in which they would go to church and thank God for a specific event, such as the winning of a battle. On such a religious day, the types of recreational activities that the pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians participated in during the 1621 harvest feast--dancing, singing secular songs, playing games--wouldn't have been allowed. The feast was a secular celebration, so it never would have been considered a thanksgiving in the pilgrims' minds.

Myth: The original Thanksgiving feast took place on the fourth Thursday of November.

Fact: The original feast in 1621 occurred sometime between September 21 and November 11. Unlike our modern holiday, it was three days long. The event was based on English harvest festivals, which traditionally occurred around the 29th of September. After the Plymouth colonists completed that first harvest, Gov. William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving and prayer, shared by all the colonists and neighboring Indians. In 1623 a day of fasting and prayer during a period of drought was changed to one of thanksgiving because the rain came during the prayers. Gradually the custom prevailed in New England of annually celebrating thanksgiving after the harvest.

During the American Revolution the Continental Congress suggested a yearly day of national thanksgiving. In 1817 New York State adopted Thanksgiving Day as an annual custom, and by the middle of the 19th century many other states had done the same. In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln appointed a day of thanksgiving as the last Thursday in November, which he may have correlated it with the November 21, 1621, anchoring of the *Mayflower* at Cape Cod. Since then, each president has issued a **Thanksgiving Day proclamation**. President Franklin D. Roosevelt set the date for Thanksgiving to the fourth Thursday of November in 1939 (approved by Congress in 1941).

Thanksgiving

Myth: The pilgrims wore only black and white clothing. They had buckles on their hats, garments, and shoes.

Fact: Buckles did not come into fashion until later in the seventeenth century and black and white were commonly worn only on Sunday and formal occasions. Women typically dressed in red, earthy green, brown, blue, violet, and gray, while men wore clothing in white, beige, black, earthy green, and brown.

Myth: The pilgrims brought furniture with them on the Mayflower.

Fact: The only furniture that the pilgrims brought on the Mayflower was chests and boxes. They constructed wooden furniture once they settled in Plymouth.

Myth: The Mayflower was headed for Virginia, but due to a navigational mistake it ended up in Cape Cod Massachusetts.

Fact: The Pilgrims were in fact planning to settle in Virginia, but not the modern-day state of Virginia. They were part of the Virginia Company, which had the rights to most of the eastern seaboard of the U.S. The pilgrims had intended to go to the Hudson River region in New York State, which would have been considered "Northern Virginia," but they landed in Cape Cod instead. Treacherous seas prevented them from venturing further south.

<http://www.history.com/minisites/thanksgiving/viewPage?pageId=874>



Thanksgiving

Internet Resources on Thanksgiving



Library of Congress Links

Primary Source Set

Thanksgiving

A variety of primary sources available within your classroom.

http://memory.loc.gov/learn/community/cc_earlyamerica_kit.php

Thanksgiving in American Memory

A feature presentation from the Learning Page

<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/thanks/thanks.html>

Thanksgiving Timeline

A timeline of the history of Thanksgiving in the Americas

<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/thanksgiving/timeline/1630.html>

Today in History: November 25

A sampler of historical information about the U.S. Thanksgiving celebration

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/nov25.html>

Links Outside the Library of Congress

Mayflower Compact

Includes the text of this document and the names of those who signed it

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/amerdoc/mayflower.htm>

The History of Thanksgiving

From History Channel

<http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/thanksgiving/>

Thanksgiving – Living, Breathing History

From Plimoth Plantation

<http://www.plimoth.org/learn/history/thanksgiving/thanksgiving.asp>

Presidential Press Releases

George Bush – November 16th, 2001

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/11/20011116-3.html>

In this proclamation George W. Bush speaks of defending the enduring principles of freedom that formed the foundation of our Republic. Abraham Lincoln revived this annual tradition of issuing a presidential proclamation of Thanksgiving during the Civil War.

Source: White House Online



Thanksgiving

George Washington - October 3rd, 1789

<http://www.night.net/thanksgiving/kwash-11.html>

Although the language sounds different, it's based on the same principles. Washington assigns "Thursday, the 26th day of November next" as the official day of Thanksgiving and signs it with "Given under my hand, at the City of New York, the 3rd day of October, A.D. 1789." His proclamation recognizes a higher power, blessing this nation with a sound government and protected freedoms denied to most of the rest of the world.

Source: Not Just for Kids!, An American Thanksgiving

Reading Level: Moderate **History of Thanksgiving**

General Historical Information

<http://www.2020tech.com/thanks/>

Learn about The Fourth World Documentation Project and The Center for World Indigenous Studies in the section titled "The Plymouth Thanksgiving Story." Read the Plymouth Thanksgiving Story, or a prayer from the Iroquois (Seneca) people, or browse recipes from the Woodland Culture area. Links to Thanksgiving articles, the very first Thanksgiving Proclamation, and a few recipes are also included.

Source: 20/20 Technologies

Reading Level: Advanced

American Memory - Today in History

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/nov22.html>

Find out about the Pilgrims, their harvest, feasting, fasting, the gold rush, and presidential proclamations. Listen to music, view photos and more.

Source: The Library of Congress

Reading Level: Moderate

Thanksgiving in American Memory

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/features/thanks/thanks.html>

Check out a timeline, as well as the sections titled "Thanksgiving Remembered, In Celebration of Thanksgiving," stories, and poems, or click on features and activities to find lesson plans.

Source: The Library of Congress

Reading Level: Moderate

Macys Thanksgiving Day Parade: 2002

<http://www.ny.com/holiday/thanksgiving/parade.html>

Read the history of this event which first appeared in 1927, get parade tips and links to more.

Source: NYC MediaBridge.com

Reading Level: Moderate

76th Annual Classic

http://www.nyctourist.com/macys_menu.htm



Thanksgiving

Take a parade photo tour, find out what the 'big balloon inflation' is, read about the parade's history, or see the parade map. Get cool wallpaper and links to attractions such as Broadway, museums, and tours of New York City.

Source: NYC Tourist.com

Reading Level: Moderate

Plymouth History

Historical Reference Center

<http://pilgrims.net/plymouth/history/>

Search these facts about Plymouth, its history, and its people. There's information on the Mayflower with a passenger list, and information about the Mayflower Compact, pilgrims, and the Wampanoag Tribe.

Source: Media 3, Technologies

Reading Level: Advanced

Plimouth Plantation

<http://www.plimoth.org/Library/Thanksgiving/firstT.htm>

This museum of 17th Century Plymouth includes the pilgrims in American culture, references for the first Thanksgiving, alternative claims, the 1621 Bill of Fare, and a list of who attended the first Thanksgiving. Learn how to recreate your own pilgrim Thanksgiving worship service.

Source: Plimouth Plantation, Inc.

Reading Level: Advanced

Plymouth Memorial Site

<http://www.state.ma.us/dem/parks/plgm.htm>

Visit the place where over one million people a year come from all over the world to see... where the first Europeans made their home in 1620 New England!

Source: Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Reading Level: Moderate

Pilgrim Hall Museum

<http://www.pilgrimhall.org/thanksg2.htm>

Check out America's Museum of Pilgrim Possessions. This covers the first Thanksgiving and the Pilgrims with primary sources. Find out who was at the harvest celebration of 1621. Review the Evolution of the Modern Thanksgiving, go Beyond the Pilgrim Story, and see collections and exhibits.

Source: Pilgrim Hall Museum

Reading Level: Moderate

Classroom Resources



Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving in North America

<http://www.si.edu/resource/faq/nmah/thanks.htm>

From local harvest to national holiday, see the evolution of Thanksgiving complete with sources and a transcription of George Washington's proclamation.

Source: Encyclopedia Smithsonian

Thanksgiving Tab

<http://eleaston.com/thanksgiving.html>

You'll find a history of Thanksgiving from The Protestant Reformation to William Bradford, with sections organized by topic at this website. There is also a study exercise highlighting people, places, and dates connected to Thanksgiving. Activities include quizzes, songs, poems, prayers, and stories.

Source: Eva L. Easton

Giving Square

<http://www.thanksgiving.org/2us.html>

The Center for World Thanksgiving brings you The Pilgrims First Harvest Feast, New World with many cultural influences, a timeline of the American Thanksgiving holiday, and Thanksgiving traditions.

Source: Thanks-Giving Square Foundation

Q & A Online Newshour

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/thanksgiving/>

This PBS Online forum answers questions about sustaining old traditions, food for thought and what our foods say about America. Link to puzzles for adults and children and information on the Mayflower Compact.

Source: P.B.S.

http://www.classbrain.com/artholiday/publish/thanksgiving_day_learning_links.shtml



Thanksgiving in Canada

Kids' Turn Central - Thanksgiving

<http://www.kidsturncentral.com/holidays/thanksgiving.htm>

The purpose of Kids' Turn Central is to give youth a safe place to talk, share and learn. It's the kids turn to participate and build a site they want. The loyal visitors at Kids' Exchange have joined me to build that place. Visit this link to find information and activities about Thanksgiving.

Proud Canadian Kids

<http://proudcanadiankids.ca/Canadian%20Thanksgiving%20Truth.htm>

How much do you know about the Candian Thanksgiving? Visit this site to investigate the history, find recipies, see photos, etc.

Canadian Thanksgiving

<http://www.kidzworld.com/site/p2614.htm>

Canada First

http://www.canadafirst.net/our_heritage/thanksgiving/





Thanksgiving Books

Below you will find a thematic book list for Thanksgiving or a unit study about the Pilgrims.

Barth, Edna	<u>Turkeys, Pilgrims, and Indian Corn: The Story of the Thanksgiving</u>
Bateman, Teresa	<u>A Plump and Perky Terky</u>
Crane, Carol	<u>P is for Pilgrim: A Thanksgiving Alphabet</u>
Gibbons, Gail	<u>Thanksgiving Day</u>
Goodspeed, Judy	<u>Perky Turkey's Perfect Plan</u>
Greene, Rhonda G.	<u>The Very First Thanksgiving Day</u>
Jackson, Alison	<u>I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie</u>
Knight, James E.	<u>Jamestown</u>
Markes, Julie	<u>Thanks for Thanksgiving</u>
McGovern, Ann	<u>If You Sailed on the Mayflower in 1620</u>
McGovern, Ann	<u>Pilgrim's First Thanksgiving</u>
Metaxas, Eric	<u>Squanto and the Miracle of Thanksgiving</u>
Penner, Lucille R.	<u>Eating the Plates: A Pilgrim book of Food and Manners</u>
Rylant, Cynthia	<u>In November</u>
Swamp, Jake	<u>Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message</u> <u>Symbols</u>
Thomas, Marlo	<u>Thanks & Giving : All Year Long</u>
Waters, Kate	<u>On the Mayflower</u>
Waters, Kate	<u>Samuel Eaton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Boy</u>
Waters, Kate	<u>Sarah Morton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl</u>
Waters, Kate	<u>Tapenum's Day: A Wampanoag Indian Boy in Pilgrim Times</u>
Wing, Natasha	<u>The Night Before Thanksgiving</u>

My Tree of Gratitude

Create this autumn tree of gratitude. Write something that you're thankful on leaves. Add as many leaves as you can.

