



November

The Virtue of Thankfulness

P. Evans & E. Jackson

So much to be thankful for
Though few take time to be
So caught up in the tides of life
They forget the simple things

It's easy to become so blind
As we hurry on our way
But if we stop just a little while
What we see would bring a smile

The never-ending gifts of love
From our family, friends and God above
The beauty in nature still abounds
If you stop and look, you'll be amazed

Oh, how pretty the sights you'll see
The sound of music everywhere
As birds sing sweetly in air
A heart of praise cannot but rise

Oh, be thankful, for you are truly blessed
Make time to enjoy the splendor of it all
God's magnificent power is everywhere
Thankfulness is a virtue, be aware and hold it dear





Thanksgiving Word Search

Name _____

Date _____

S P O R C L K T P G B U C C X
T H A N K S G I V I N G O S B
Z F U B H M L V D W Y N L N U
C Q E I T G I Z J S Z A O A N
N H P S R D I N N E R T N I H
H S X I K C W U S Y R I I D S
M J M Y M J E T I J H V S N I
U S U F A C Z L R T L E T I K
H P G K A D N Q E F I N S L Q
W R X L W M I R D B J Q X Z Y
N J C G F W I L G E R V L E S
Q E D O K B G L O J X A K X W
L A V I T S E F Y H A R T R Y
B S X I W Q I S X J U G B E W
U X M U L X V Z R T H V O I M

CELEBRATE
INDIANS
NATIVE
SHIPS

DINNER
COLONISTS
CROPS
THANKSGIVING

HOLIDAY
FESTIVAL
PILGRIMS
TURKEY





Thanksgiving Word Search Key

Name _____

Date _____

S P O R C L K T P G B U C C X
T H A N K S G I V I N G O S B
Z F U B H M L V D W Y N L N U
C Q E I T G I Z J S Z A O A N
N H P S R D I N N E R T N I H
H S X I K C W U S Y R I I D S
M J M Y M J E T I J H V S N I
U S U F A C Z L R T L E T I K
H P G K A D N Q E F I N S L Q
W R X L W M I R D B J Q X Z Y
N J C G F W I L G E R V L E S
Q E D O K B G L O J X A K X W
L A V I T S E F Y H A R T R Y
B S X I W Q I S X J U G B E W
U X M U L X V Z R T H V O I M

(Over,Down,Direction)

CELEBRATE(6,6,SE)

COLONISTS(13,1,S)

DINNER(6,5,E)

FESTIVAL(8,13,W)

INDIANS(14,8,N)

PILGRIMS(9,1,SW)

THANKSGIVING(1,2,E)

CROPS(5,1,W)

FAMILY(4,8,SE)

HOLIDAY(10,13,NW)

NATIVE(12,3,S)

SHIPS(6,2,SW)

TURKEY(10,15,NE)





Thanksgiving Picture Dictionary

Name_____

Date_____

Create a simple picture dictionary using words that relate to thanksgiving. The first two are done for you:



pilgrim



pumpkin



Thanksgiving Alphabetical Ordering

Name: _____

Date _____

Arrange the words below in alphabetical order:

Pilgrim	1.
land	2.
Indian	3.
New World	4.
crops	5.
ships	6.
holiday	7.
grains	8.
kindness	9.
Native American	10.



Thanksgiving Alphabetical Ordering

Name: Key Date

Arrange the words below in alphabetical order:

Pilgrim	1. crops
land	2. grains
Indian	3. holiday
New World	4. Indian
crops	5. kindness
ships	6. land
holiday	7. Native American
grains	8. New World
kindness	9. Pilgrim
Native American	10. ships



Thanksgiving Nouns

Name _____

Date _____

Directions: Write a noun for each of the letters that spell Thanksgiving.

T	_____
H	_____
A	_____
N	_____
K	_____
S	_____
G	_____
I	_____
V	_____
I	_____
N	_____
G	_____



Extension - Take those nouns and use them to write a story about a special Thanksgiving. Share your story with a classmate or your class.



Thanksgiving Nouns

Sample

Name: Sample

Date

Directions: Write a noun for each of the letters that spell Thanksgiving.

T thankfulness

H holiday

A America

N Native American

K kindness

S ships

G God

I invitation

V voyage

I Indians

N New England

G gifts



Extension - Take those nouns and use them to write a story about a special Thanksgiving. Share your story with a classmate or your class.



Pilgrims' Homonyms

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct homonyms:

1. In 1620 the Pilgrims decided they would pack their _____, _____ the door to _____ their houses and board the Mayflower for a long journey to America. close
clothes
2. On the deck of the Mayflower a long thick rope was tied in a huge _____. Sometimes the crew could _____ untangle it. not
knot
3. The Pilgrim children were _____, while on _____ the Mayflower. board
bored
4. Playing games kept the children happy. _____ day a Pilgrim boy set fire to a rope and no one _____ that day. one
won
5. At worship the Pilgrims rejoiced by singing a _____ to _____. Him
hymn





Pilgrims' Homonyms

Name: Key

Date _____

Fill in the blanks with the correct homonyms:

5. In 1620 the Pilgrims decided they would pack their clothes, close the door to their houses and board the Mayflower for a long journey to America. close
clothes
6. On the deck of the Mayflower a long thick rope was tied in a huge knot. Sometimes the crew could not untangle it. not
knot
7. The Pilgrim children were bored while on board the Mayflower. board
bored
8. Playing games kept the children happy. One day a Pilgrim boy set fire to a rope and no one won that day. one
won
5. At worship the Pilgrims rejoiced by singing a hymn to Him. Him
hymn





The Celebration of Thanksgiving

When was the first Thanksgiving Day observed?

It seems there is some discussion about this particular event. One account states that the first Thanksgiving took place on August 9, 1607 in Popham Colony, Phippsburg, Maine. The other date and place was December 3, 1619 at Berkeley Plantation, Charles City, Virginia. A popular account for the New England celebration was the Plymouth Colony's three-day festival in early autumn of 1621.

What was the purpose of Thanksgiving Day as the colonists celebrated it?

The colonists celebrated the yield of their harvest. When the Plymouth Pilgrims settled in Massachusetts, they had to rely on the food they carried with them on the ship. They planted the seeds they had, and luckily, they were helped by local Native Americans. The first harvest was a poor crop of peas, wheat, and barley. William Bradford decided to celebrate thanks to God for what they had been able to do. There was a continuation of Thanksgiving festivals in various colonies. Each set their own dates.

Did the colonists celebrate Thanksgiving before they came to the New World?

Yes, they celebrated harvest festival in Europe where it is still celebrated today. The celebrations would take place on Sunday, or, in our church, on Saturday. Today, in England, throughout the week preceding harvest festival, the church family will bring in food produce such as fresh vegetables and fruits, grains and baked goods. The religious leader of the community will bless the bounties of harvest, and then the food would be given to the poor and the sick. A similar celebration is practiced in the United States and Canada today.





Thanksgiving Stage

Let's Give Thanks

Characters

Judy (Pre-school age)	George – Jim's 1 st Grade classmates
Jim, (Judy's brother)	Ray, A 1 st Grader with magic powers
Ann	Indians
Chorus of Others	Paul & Priscilla, Pilgrim Children
Pilgrim Father	Pilgrim Mother
Other Pilgrims	

Time: The present. The day before Thanksgiving.

At Rise: Judy is waiting for her brother Jim outside the Walden School. The first grade is just being dismissed.

Judy: (Calling) Jim! Jim! Mother said I could walk over to school to meet you.

Jim: (Running on from school) Hi, Judy! Yippee! We don't have to go to school tomorrow.

Chorus of 1st Graders: It's Thanksgiving! Tomorrow's Thanksgiving! Good old Thanksgiving Day! A day to give thanks!

Ann: Our teacher, Miss Davis, told us about the first Thanksgiving.

Judy: I'm not old enough for first grade. But Mother already told me about Thanksgiving.

George: But you don't know about the Pilgrims and the Indians.



Monthly Activities - November



- Judy: No, but I know that Mother's making a lot of food. She made pumpkin pies, too. Grandma and Grandpa are on the way to our house, to eat a big, big dinner with us tomorrow.
- Jim: Yea boy! I can hardly wait.
- Ray: We won't have to do our Number Books. We can play all day.
- Ann: Yes, but Miss Davis said it was only right that we should go to church first to thank God.
- Chorus: She said we should thank God for all we have.
- George: What if we don't have anything to be thankful for? I don't.
- Chorus: Oh George! Why, you do so!
- Ann: Miss Davis said we all had hundreds of things. We even made a long list – remember?
- Jim: Homes, schools, churches, mothers, dads, good food, warm clothes – I can't remember half the things on that list.
- Chorus: You have more than the Pilgrims did, George.
- George: (Determined to be contrary) I don't know about that. I'd just like to see some and find out.
- Chorus: Oh George!
- Judy: I'd like to see some, too. I don't even know what they look like.
- Ann: Sometime you can see a Pilgrim play on TV.
- Jim: Miss Davis showed us pictures of Pilgrims and of the first Thanksgiving.
- Ann: You can always see Pilgrim pictures at the library. (She points toward it.)
- Ray: They don't need TV, Miss Davis, or the library. I'll show them Pilgrims, Indians, and the first Thanksgiving. Did you forget I was the Magician Boy?
- Chorus: There goes Ray acting silly again. Magician Boy! He can't even do his number work in school.
- Ray: Well, this is different. Maybe I can't do number work, but I can count to three. All I have to do is snap my fingers (He does so), count to three, (Counting) One, two, three, and just you look what you will see!
- (The scene darkness, with present-day children in dark sidelines, while Paul and Priscilla, a Pilgrim boy and girl, stand in the spotlight.)
- Ann: (From sideline darkness) Why, he can work magic.



Monthly Activities - November



Judy: Who are they?

Ray: Shh! Shh!

(The Pilgrim Children move, then speak.)

Paul: We are Pilgrim Children.

I am Paul and this is my sister, Priscilla.

Priscilla: We came over to America in the Mayflower. The ship rocked in the sea and tossed on the waves. Often this made us sick.

Paul: After two months we were glad to see Plymouth Rock and the shores of New England, even though they were icy and cold.

Jim: (From sidelines darkness) George thinks you had more to be thankful for than he has.

George: (Stammering) Well – I – I – maybe I was wrong –

Paul: I think you're wrong, George. On the boat we had to eat hard, dry biscuits. There wasn't much besides. Then even in the new country we often went hungry that first winter. Do you ever go hungry?

Priscilla: Our log houses were cold, too. And we were always afraid of unfriendly Indians. Are you cold and afraid, George?

Paul: At first our seeds didn't grow for us. But with the warmer days we planted more seeds. Friendly Indians showed us how to plant corn. That first fall we had a good harvest.

Priscilla: Four men went hunting and brought back many wild turkeys.

Paul: Then we truly thought we should set aside a day to thank God for all that we had.

Priscilla: We invited the Indians who had helped us. They brought deer meat to the feast.

Paul: Many more Indians came than the ones invited. (Laughing) But we had food for all!

(Spotlight off)

Judy: (From the sidelines) Oh – wasn't it wonderful to see a real Pilgrim boy and girl.

Ray: You haven't seen everything yet. Just wait _ (Snapping fingers) One, two three!

(Spotlight comes on. The Pilgrims gathered around a long table, apparently laden with food. Indians, yodeling, are approaching but not yet on the scene.)

Pilgrim Father:(Shading eyes, and looking off toward sound) Here come our guests.

Priscilla: I'm afraid.



Monthly Activities - November



Pilgrim Father: These are good Indians.

Paul: Some of them helped us plant our corn.

Mother: (Pointing) They brought this deer meat for us to roast for our feast.

Pilgrim Father :(Welcoming Indians) Come, our friends, join us in feasting and in giving thanks to God.

Indian: Ug- Ump- thank you, White Friend. White man our brother, big, kind, love. (Reaching for food) Now big, good eat!

Pilgrim Father :(Raising arms in benediction) First let us bow our heads in prayer. Let us be ever mindful of all that God has done for us. He brought us to a new land – a land of freedom and plenty. Let us always thank him for every blessing –

(The spotlight goes off Pilgrim Scene, and normal light returns to original scene.)

Judy: (Clapping her hands) Why, I didn't know I was going to see real Pilgrims – real Indians, too.

Jim: And the first Thanksgiving.

Ray: (Important) Anything you children ever want to see – just let me know.

Ann: Why, Ray, you really are a magical boy.

Chorus: Maybe you can't do number work, but that magic's better.

Ray: What did I tell you?

George: Thank you, Ray. I do have as much to be thankful for as those Pilgrim kids. More, I guess.

Jim: (Laughing) We've all got plenty to be thankful for. Right now I'm heap-big thankful for that food Mother's making.

Chorus: (As they run off) Goodbye! Yea, Thanksgiving! Good old feast day! Pilgrim day! Wonderful Thanksgiving!





Thanksgiving Craft Ideas

1. Thanksgiving Centerpiece

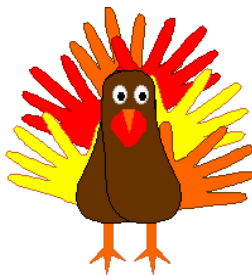
Materials needed: poster board, cardboard toilet paper tube, glue, glitters, cones, acorn cups, assorted nature items, dried weeds or flowers

- Procedure:**
1. Cut a six to eight inch circle from poster board.
 2. Cover the cardboard toilet paper tube with glue and roll in glitter.
 3. Glue the glittery tube upright in the center of the poster board circle.
 4. Take the small pine cones, acorn cups and assorted nature items and glue around the base of the centerpiece.
 5. Glitters can be sprinkled all over nature items if desired.
 6. Place the dried weeds or flowers in the tube of the centerpiece. The completed centerpiece can be used to decorate the classroom.

2. Hand and Foot Turkey

Materials needed: construction paper (varying colors), brown construction paper, white background paper.

- Procedure:**
1. Trace and cut several hand prints of students on the different colored construction paper.
 2. Trace and cut one foot print per student on the brown paper.
 3. Use the hand prints as the feathers of the turkey.
 6. The foot print can be used as the body/face. Be creative and use your imagination to complete your turkey.



Adapted from <http://www.childfun.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=25>