

The First Thanksgiving Fact Hunt

Go to Scholastic's First Thanksgiving online activity to learn about the very first Thanksgiving and find answers to these questions.

1. Since the Pilgrims on the *Mayflower* traveled for months at sea, they needed to have food that would not spoil easily. Name six different foods that the Pilgrims ate on the ship.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

2. The master of the ship needed great math skills in order to navigate the ship. Back in the 1600s, there were no radar or navigation systems. What did the master use to keep the ship on course?

3. The *Mayflower* wasn't originally built to hold passengers, and because of that the Pilgrims faced many hardships on their voyage. What were three hardships they faced aboard the *Mayflower*?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Name: _____

4. Both the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag depended on their environment in order to live. Which items from their environment did they use to create their homes and clothing?

	Pilgrims	Wampanoag
Homes		
Clothing		

5. Name the similarities between the ways the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag dressed. Name the differences between the ways the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag dressed.

6. The East Coast of the United States is covered by woodlands and is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean. How did this location affect what the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag ate for food?

Name: _____

7. Children in the 1600s performed chores that helped their families survive. What type of chores did the children complete? Were there differences between Pilgrim chores and Wampanoag chores?

8. What was the name of the Wampanoag leader who helped the Pilgrims survive at Plimoth? What is the meaning of his name?

9. Turkey, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce are usually associated with Thanksgiving celebrations today. However, the first Thanksgiving was much different than how it is celebrated today. What did you learn about how the first Thanksgiving was celebrated? What foods did they eat at the First Thanksgiving?

The First Thanksgiving Fact Hunt Answer Key

Use this answer sheet for The First Thanksgiving Fact Hunt to assess your students' information retrieval, reading comprehension, and ability to compare and contrast.

1. Since the Pilgrims on the *Mayflower* traveled for months at sea, they needed to have food that would not spoil easily. Name six different foods that the Pilgrims ate on the ship.

1. Oatmeal
2. Peas
3. Pork
4. Fish
5. Cheese
6. Beans

2. The master of the ship needed great math skills in order to navigate the ship. Back in the 1600s, there were no radar or navigation systems. What did the master use to keep the ship on course?

The master had to measure the position of the stars and the horizon with instruments like the quadrants and the cross staff to determine the latitude of the ship.

3. The *Mayflower* wasn't originally built to hold passengers, and because of that the Pilgrims faced many hardships on their voyage. What were three hardships they faced aboard the *Mayflower*?

1. The passengers had no privacy and only a chamber pot for a toilet.
2. The rough seas caused people to be tossed about the ship.
3. People were seasick and bored.

4. Both the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag depended on their environment in order to live. Which items from their environment did they use to create their homes and clothing?

	Pilgrims	Wampanoag
Homes	<p>Woods from trees</p> <p>Thatched straw roof</p>	<p>Tree saplings</p> <p>Woven grass</p> <p>Animal skins</p>
Clothing	<p>Dyed clothing from plant, animal, and mineral sources</p>	<p>Loin cloth made of deerskin</p> <p>Deerskin moccasins</p> <p>Jewelry (clam shells, bones, wood, wampum, and cooper beads)</p> <p>Deerskin leggings</p>

5. Name the similarities between the ways the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag dressed. Name the differences between the ways the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag dressed.

Similarities: Made by hand; used elements from the environment to create clothing

Differences: The Pilgrims wore more layers; Pilgrim clothing was made from cloth not animal skins; the Wampanoag didn't wear as many layers; the Wampanoag made jewelry from the environment

6. The East Coast of the United States is covered by woodlands and is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean. How did this location affect what the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag ate for food?

Since they were so close to the ocean, the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag ate seafood like mussels, clams, and fish. The Massachusetts Bay area also provided the Pilgrims with waterfowl to eat. The Wampanoag hunted wild game in the woodlands. They ate rabbit, squirrel, turkey, and deer.

7. Children in the 1600s performed chores that helped their families survive. What type of chores did the children complete? Were there differences between Pilgrim chores and Wampanoag chores?

Pilgrims: gathered fire wood; girls were required to "muck" the garden, which meant to fertilize the soil with straw and animal droppings; used a bucket to fetch water to cook and clean with; ground corn into sap

Wampanoag: gathered food; fetched water for cooking and cleaning; buried sacks of corn for the winter; went hunting

8. What was the name of the Wampanoag leader who helped the Pilgrims survive at Plimoth? What is the meaning of his name?

The leader's name was Massasoit, which means Great Sachem or leader.

9. Turkey, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce are usually associated with Thanksgiving celebrations today. However, the first Thanksgiving was much different than how it is celebrated today. What did you learn about how the first Thanksgiving was celebrated? What foods did they eat at the First Thanksgiving?

- They ate duck, venison, seafood, cabbage, onions, corn, and squash.
- Meals were eaten throughout the colony; sometimes they ate together and sometimes separately.

Since it was a two-day walk for the Wampanoag to reach the Pilgrims' colony, the Wampanoag built their own shelters.