

30 Days Of



Thanks & Giving

It came to me one day that I needed to spend the entire month of November revolving around Thanksgiving. As that thought tumbled around my head I liked the sound of Thanks & Giving. of concentrating fully on giving thanks and why Thanksgiving is so important to Americans. The idea wasn't to play down the roll of the Pilgrims and the Indians, but rather to play it up. After all, the Pilgrims and Indians originally had a feast that lasted far longer than one evening. They spent days preparing and thanking God for their survival through a winter harsher than anything they'd ever endured.

While my children will never fully understand how rough that winter was, they can understand, in bite sized bits, what things have been rough for them in a year and learn to thank God for their "survival" of each challenge. With those thoughts in mind, and wanting to keep the month light hearted and focused I came up with the 30 days of Thanks and Giving.

The idea in mind was to do something each day that had a Thanksgiving theme to it. Be it a craft, a game, or looking more closely at a certain aspect of the Thanksgiving Story. We, at the Aussie Pumpkin Patch, have opted to share this compilation of resources with you so that you can have as much fun celebrating the beginning of America's Story as we do!

Please feel free to download and print the ebook for your own personal use, but please don't sell it or post it directly on your blog, website, facebook, or twitter account. Rather, we at the Aussie Pumpkin Patch would be grateful if, when telling others, you'd simply link back to us for downloading and printing purposes.

Wishing you & your family a very Happy Thanksgiving!



30 Days Of Thanks & Giving

1. Start [Thankful Journals](#); work on the each day; Make [Thanksgiving Cards](#) to send to family & friends.
2. Make [Chinese Lanterns](#) in brown paper. Then apply paper feathers, paper eyes, paper headbands, and other decorations to turn it into a Native American Lantern. Hang from your ceiling or display on a table.. Example [here](#).
3. Print [Blessings Turkey](#) and color in to hang up. Play Pin the Feather On the Turkey. Let each person write at least 1 thing they are thankful for on their feather before pinning it on.
4. Make and play [Thanksgiving Bingo](#), 4 more boards [here](#).
5. Make [Turkey Paddle Balls](#)
6. Play [Sailing On The Mayflower](#); [explore](#) the Mayflower and see what life was like on it, and even take a [journey](#) on it!
7. [Explore life](#) in the Plymouth colony
8. Enjoy a [Thanksgiving Cyberhunt](#) with your family!
9. Put on a [Thanksgiving Puppet Show](#) (or make it a play), if you practice enough you might be able to have fun doing this for family on Thanksgiving day!
10. Make some [Pilgrims](#) & [Indians](#) today; More [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).
11. Put the [important facts](#) to the Thanksgiving Story on paper turkey feathers. Make a turkey and attach them. Or, use the pattern [here](#). (Second craft down.)
12. Make a [Give Thanks Banner](#) to hang up for Thanksgiving.
13. Make some simple and cute [Harvest bookmarks](#) to give away on Thanksgiving Day. More bookmarks [here](#).
14. Go for a nature walk and collect some pinecones, then come home and make [these fun turkeys!](#)
15. Decorate candles to go on the table for Thanksgiving. Cut felt/wool bands just slightly shorter then each candle. Cut out the letters to spell Thanks, Giving Thanks, Thanksgiving, or any word(s) that your family would enjoy seeing! Use fabric glue or spray adhesive to adhere letters to felt and to tighten bands around candles. See [here](#) for a picture.

16. Make Candy Corn Cupcakes or turkey cupcakes today. If you freeze them before decorating you can give them to your guests on Thanksgiving to take home in these cute little boxes. Another one here.
17. Color some placemats to use for Thanksgiving. More here, here, & here.
18. Have fun making and playing with a Fact Or Fiction Thanksgiving cootie catcher.
19. After discussing the Mayflower Compact why not make your own for your home/school. It's a great way to discuss the rules of your home too.. Or you could let your children make one for their bedrooms.
20. Thanksgiving Day is getting closer, have fun making some table place makers for your guests. Not hosting Thanksgiving? You can still use them for your own family at breakfast on the "big day" or you could use them all week/month. You'll find patterns here, here, here, here, and here.
21. Get out the napkins and make some napkin rings to go on your festive table for Thanksgiving Day! So many to choose from, which ones will you pick? Find them here, here, here, & here.
22. Play Thanksgiving Memory & make a Thanksgiving Mobile. You could draw your own pictures of historical events that led up to Thanksgiving day or use the cute printables: Memory here, here & here. Thanksgiving Mobile: here.
23. Make & Play Turkey Sticks. You could also graph the results of each person playing for a fun math lesson. Make sure to play it on Thanksgiving Day with everyone too! While you wait for your turkey sticks to dry, have fun filling in this story!
24. Make the Mayflower and set your pilgrims in it. You can place it in the middle of the table for Thanksgiving. Set your Indians near teepees on the table for fun too! Have fun reading this Rebus about the Pilgrims first Thanksgiving while your boat dries.
25. Are you making cranberry sauce today? This fun printable has a craft and math lesson to go with it, not to mention science! You can find cranberry sauce recipes here, here, and here. Have you decorated your frozen cupcakes yet?
26. Happy Thanksgiving Day! Make a variety of hats for your guests to wear on Thanksgiving (or let your guests help make them too). Turkey Hats, Pilgrim Hats & here, Indian Headbands, & here. Don't forget to play pin the tail on the turkey, & all your other fun homemade games! Round out your table settings with this fun cutlery holder!

27. Did you take a family photo on Thanksgiving of all the guests? Use these fun free printable frames to tuck the photo into. You could even send some to others who were in the photo. Frames [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).
28. Make your own trivia game up all about Thanksgiving. Write down questions about the important people, facts, and dates you've learned about. Got the answers on the back. Index cards work well for this. Award each correct answer 5 points. You could make some cards with more than one answer worth an extra 5 points. Have fun playing this game with your siblings, parents, and friends.
29. November is nearly over, did you have fun learning about the Pilgrims, Indians, and the Plymouth Plantation this year? Put all your fun crafts and projects into a special box. You can make any box special by decorating it with drawings, stickers, and stamps. Next November you can pull the box out again and remember all the fun things you did. If you'd rather make your own book, you could take pictures of all the fun things you've made and done and tuck them in a scrapbook, notebook, or any empty book. Write something down next to each picture. Add stickers, glitter, and stamps to the pages to make your book extra special!
30. This is it, the very last day of November. Gather up the family and spend some time together watching a great movie. You can print [tickets](#), [popcorn buckets](#), and [drink sleeves](#) to go with it. You could choose a Thanksgiving film, or even a film to kick off the Christmas Season. Either way, make it an evening worth remembering!



Additional Resources & Links:

All links directly posted in the previous 30 days worth of crafts are also typed out here so should you find them not linking you can simply come to the resource section to find the typeable link. I've also included a few extra links & resources back here that were just too good to pass up!

1. http://www.currclick.com/product_info.php?products_id=21359&it=1&affiliate_id=23996 <http://home.comcast.net/~whaleym2/turkeyhandprint.pdf>
2. <http://crafts.kaboose.com/lantern1.html> http://kindergarten2.homestead.com/files/turkey_quilt.jpg
3. http://www.holdthatthought.com/crafts/Turkey_Blessings.pdf
4. http://www.makingfriends.com/fallcrafts/thanksgiving_bingo.htm, http://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/search.cfm?txt_search=Thanksgiving+Bingo
5. http://www.makingfriends.com/fallcrafts/turkey_paddle.htm
6. <http://printables.scholastic.com/printables/f.jsp?id=37397>, http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/voyage/index.htm, http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/voyage/journey.htm
7. http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/daily_life/index.htm
8. <http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=3750848>
9. <http://printables.scholastic.com/printables/f.jsp?id=37815>
10. <http://www.makingfriends.com/friends/f+pilgrim.htm>, http://www.makingfriends.com/friends/f+native_american.htm, <http://printables.scholastic.com/printables/f.jsp?id=28172>, <http://www.dltk-holidays.com/thanksgiving/crafts-pilgrims.htm>, <http://www.dltk-kids.com/world/native/index.htm>
11. <http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/ThanksgivingStory.html>, <http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/thanksgiving.htm>
12. <http://www.parents.com/holiday/thanksgiving/crafts/a-banner-thanksgiving/>
13. <http://home.howstuffworks.com/thanksgiving-crafts13.htm>, http://www2.scholastic.com/content/collateral_resources/pdf/b1/b1mark_thanksgiving.pdf



14. <http://familyfun.go.com/crafts/tiny-tams-661426/>
15. <http://www.countryliving.com/cm/countryliving/images/thanksgiving-table-4-de.jpg>
16. <http://iheartcuppycakes.com/2008/10/15/candy-corn-cupcakes/>, <http://www.bettycrocker.com/recipes.aspx/turkey-cupcakes/e0455083-540d-49a0-97ef-79b2948e1a68>, <http://messageboard.pccrafter.com/upfiles/17469/E1C77370B6CE43098410C377D51381CE.jpg>, <http://melissaesplin.com/home/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/cupcakeboxtemplateandinstructions.pdf>
17. http://www.janbrett.com/place_mats/thanksgiving_coloring_place_mat.htm
<http://www.theholidayspot.com/thanksgiving/decorations/placemats.htm>,
<http://www.bhg.com/holidays/thanksgiving/crafts/thanksgiving-place-mats/>,
<http://www.daniellesplace.com/Images19/ThanksgivingPlaceSettingSheetPat.gif>
18. <http://printables.scholastic.com/printables/f.jsp?id=37760>
19. <http://printables.scholastic.com/printables/f.jsp?id=37399>
20. <http://www.hgtv.com/holidays-and-entertaining/printable-thanksgiving-place-cards/index.html> <http://familycrafts.about.com/ad/thanksgivingprintables/a/prthnksplcds.htm> <http://familyfun.go.com/thanksgiving/thanksgiving-printables/thanksgiving-printable-decorations/place-cards-for-thanksgiving-dinner-704258/> <http://familyfun.go.com/printables/turkey-place-cards-for-thanksgiving-704310/> <http://family.go.com/entertainment/craft-ff-23609-more-pilgrim-place-cards-t>
21. <http://family.go.com/entertainment/craft-ff-26033-indian-corn-napkin-rings-t/>
<http://family.go.com/entertainment/craft-ff-23457-turkey-napkin-rings-t/>
<http://familycrafts.about.com/ad/thanksgivingprintables/a/prthnksnring.htm>
<http://www.clipartandcrafts.com/printables/Cards/pages/acorn-napkin-bands.pdf>
22. <http://www.familyshoppingbag.com/thanksmemory334.jpg> <http://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/thanksgiving-matching-game-coloring-page/> <http://www.abcteach.com/free/t/thanksgivingmemory.pdf>
<http://www.familyshoppingbag.com/thanksmobile1a.jpg>
23. <http://www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/thanksgiving/pickup/turkstix.htm>
<http://familyfun.go.com/thanksgiving/thanksgiving-printables/thanksgiving-printable-activity-pages/a-thanksgiving-fill-them-in-tale-704245/>

24. <http://familyfun.go.com/thanksgiving/thanksgiving-kids-table-fun/thanksgiving-table-decorations/mayflower-centerpiece-664344/> http://www.abcteach.com/free/r/rebus_pilgrimsfirstyear_bw.pdf
25. http://printables.scholastic.com/printables/detail/?id=37752&Na=0&Ne=172&Ntt=Thanksgiving&query=Thanksgiving&Ntk=Printables_S99&N=240&Nty=0&N=fff <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/tyler-florence/cranberry-orange-sauce-recipe/index.html> <http://www.recipezaar.com/Delicious-Cranberry-Pineapple-Sauce-145383> <http://www.mealsmatter.org/recipes-meals/recipe/7561>
26. <http://familyfun.go.com/thanksgiving/thanksgiving-turkey-crafts/turkey-hat-663812/> <http://crafts.kaboose.com/pilgrim-hat-for-boys.html> <http://www.lovetolearn.net/pilgrimhats/> <http://www.pacon.com/projects/IndianHeadbandCraftProject.htm> <http://emmabradshaw.blogspot.com/2009/07/cowboys-and-indians.html> <http://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/corn-place-setting-coloring-page/>
27. <http://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/thanksgiving-frame-coloring-page/> <http://www.familyshoppingbag.com/thanksgiveframe1cd.jpg> <http://www.familyshoppingbag.com/thanksgiveframe1dc.jpg> <http://www.familyshoppingbag.com/thanksframe33.jpg> <http://familyfun.go.com/printables/fun-photo-frame-for-thanksgiving-704254/>

Note: 28 & 29 have no links so they are not listed here. I've skipped straight to 30 in order to avoid confusion over which links go with which days.

30. <http://familyfun.go.com/printables/family-movie-night-tickets-704382/> <http://familyfun.go.com/printables/family-movie-night-popcorn-holder-704385/> <http://familyfun.go.com/printables/family-movie-night-drink-wrap-704388/>

Additional Resources:

Parents.com Offers some fun printables, you'll have to register, but it's free: <http://www.parents.com/holiday/thanksgiving/printables/thanksgiving-printables/>

Evan Moor History Packet Plymouth Colony: http://www.currclick.com/product_info.php?products_id=16085&it=1&affiliate_id=23996 This is an awesome resource where children make a giant book with pockets loaded with information about Plymouth Colony. Everything but the paper needed to make the book is included!

Evan Moor History Packets Native Americans: http://www.currclick.com/product_info.php?products_id=16087&it=1&affiliate_id=23996 Yet another awesome Evan Moor History Packet book. This one covers many different Indian Tribes!

Evan Moor November Packets: http://www.currclick.com/product_info.php?products_id=15821&it=1&affiliate_id=23996 This one has a whole packet all about Thanksgiving.

Jimmie's Thanksgiving Lens: <http://www.squidoo.com/thanksgivinglapbook> She lists many resources, freebies, and activities.

Free Thanksgiving Lapbook from Lilliput Station: <http://stores.lulu.com/lilliputstation>

Life & Learn Press has a free Thanksgiving lapbook, but you must be a member of their yahoo group in order to obtain it: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LiveAndLearnPress/> Being a member is well worth the 76 page book!

Free Cranberry Thanksgiving Lapbook from Homeschool Share: http://www.homeschoolshare.com/resources_cranberry.php Which goes along well with the Five In A Row Unit Study on Cranberry Thanksgiving.

Magic Tree House, Thanksgiving On Thursday Lapbook is available through CurrClick: http://www.currclick.com/product_info.php?products_id=26165&it=1&affiliate_id=23996

Hubbard's Cupboard has fun Thanksgiving Plans for your little ones; More fun Thanksgiving ideas for little ones.

Audible.com has several Thanksgiving books:

Thanksgiving On Thursday: http://www.audible.com/adbl/site/products/ProductDetail.jsp?productID=BK_L9L9_000627&BV_UseBVCookie=Yes
(despite the wrong cover in the description, it is the right book)

The Legend Of Squanto: http://www.audible.com/adbl/site/products/ProductDetail.jsp?productID=RJ_303A_000015&BV_UseBVCookie=Yes
Dramatized by the Focus On The Family team.

A Thanksgiving Carol: http://www.audible.com/adbl/site/products/ProductDetail.jsp?productID=RJ_303A_000161&BV_UseBVCookie=Yes An Adventure In Odyssey recording.

Thanksgiving At Home: http://www.audible.com/adbl/site/products/ProductDetail.jsp?productID=RJ_303A_000103&BV_UseBVCookie=Yes
Another Adventure In Odyssey Recording.

A Turkey For Thanksgiving by Eve Bunting: http://www.audible.com/adbl/site/products/ProductDetail.jsp?productID=BK_H0UG_000054&BV_UseBVCookie=Yes

Abc Teach is offering up oodles of free Thanksgiving papers: <http://www.abcteach.com/directory/seasonalholidays/thanksgiving/>

