

# Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt Activity

## Materials:

- Thanksgiving questions worksheet (pages 2-3)
- 18 Thanksgiving fact cards (pages 4-8)
- scissors and scotch tape

## Preparation

Print the fact cards and cut them apart.

Make copies of the Thanksgiving questions worksheet (2-sided). Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide the 18 Thanksgiving fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.



# Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

## Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- laying flat on the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair
- on the side of your computer monitor

*Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.*

# Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt Activity

**Fact Card 1:** On what ship did the Pilgrims sail to America?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 2:** When and where did the first Thanksgiving take place?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 3:** How long did the first Thanksgiving last?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 4:** With which tribe did the Pilgrims share the first Thanksgiving meal?



**Fact Card 7:** At dinnertime, what did children do in Pilgrim households?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 8:** What utensil was missing from the first Thanksgiving's table?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card 9:** If it were up to Benjamin Franklin, what would our national bird be?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt Activity

**Fact Card 10:** When did Thanksgiving become a holiday?

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**Fact Card 11:** When is Thanksgiving celebrated in the United States?

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**Fact Card 12:** What woman author helped in making Thanksgiving a national holiday?

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**Fact Card 13:** When is Thanksgiving celebrated in Canada?



**Fact Card 16:** What do turkey eggs look like?

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**Fact Card 17:** A cornucopia is also known as a....

---

**Fact Card 18:** Where do female turkeys build their nests when they are about to lay eggs?

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## Scavenger Hunt

### Thanksgiving

Fact Card

1



In 1620, a small ship called the *Mayflower* left England carrying 102 Pilgrims and headed for the New World.

## Scavenger Hunt

### Thanksgiving

Fact Card

2



The first Thanksgiving took place in Plymouth Colony, present day Massachusetts, in 1621.



# Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.



The first Thanksgiving was a celebration that lasted for three days.



On the first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians dined together and gave thanks.



### Scavenger Hunt

**Thanksgiving**

Fact Card

**5**

**On the first Thanksgiving some of the foods the Pilgrims and Wampanoags ate were fowl, deer, shellfish, pumpkin, squash, carrots, and chestnuts.**

### Scavenger Hunt

**Thanksgiving**

Fact Card

**6**



During Pilgrim times, the cranberry was called a crane berry because the small pink blossoms that appeared on the fruit in the springtime reminded them of the head and bill of a crane.



# Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

**In Pilgrim households, the adults sat down for dinner and the children waited on them.**



At the first Thanksgiving Pilgrims used spoons, knives, and their hands to eat because they did not have forks.

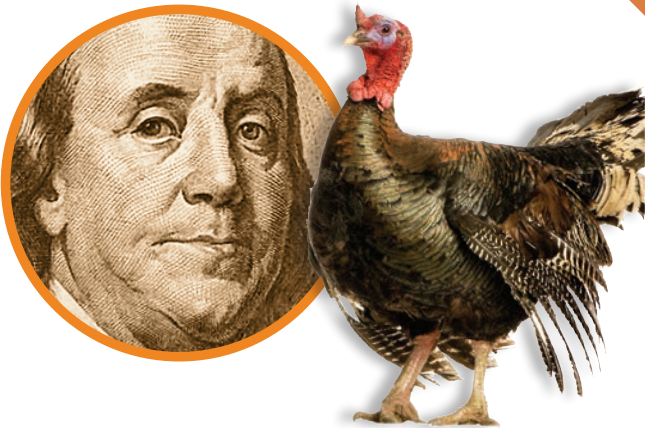


### Scavenger Hunt

**Thanksgiving**

Fact Card

**9**



Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird of the United States.

### Scavenger Hunt

**Thanksgiving**

Fact Card

**10**



Congress made Thanksgiving Day an official national holiday in 1941.



# Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

**Each year in the United States, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November.**



Sara Josepha Hale, the author of "Mary Had a Little Lamb," was extremely important in getting Thanksgiving recognized as a national holiday.



### Scavenger Hunt

Thanksgiving

Fact Card

13



The United States is not the only country to celebrate Thanksgiving. Canada also celebrates Thanksgiving on the second Monday of October.

### Scavenger Hunt

Thanksgiving

Fact Card

14



The flap of skin that hangs over a turkey's beak is called a snood.



# Preview

Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.



Not all turkeys gobble. Only male turkeys, or toms, gobble. Female turkeys, or hens, cackle.



Turkey eggs are a light brown color with spots.



### Scavenger Hunt

Thanksgiving

Fact Card

17



A cornucopia is a basket or animal horn filled with flowers, nuts, vegetables, and fruits. It is also known as a "horn of plenty."

### Scavenger Hunt

Thanksgiving

Fact Card

18



Female turkeys build their nests on the ground. They usually lay about 10 to 12 eggs at a time. They sit on the eggs for about 28 days to keep them warm before they hatch.



# Preview

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# Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt Activity

**Fact Card 1:** On what ship did the Pilgrims sail to America?

**Mayflower**

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**Fact Card 2:** When and where did the first Thanksgiving take place?

**in Plymouth Colony in 1621**

---

**Fact Card 3:** How long did the first Thanksgiving last?

**three days**

---

**Fact Card 4:** With which tribe did the Pilgrims share the first Thanksgiving meal?



**Fact Card 7:** At dinnertime, what did children do in Pilgrim households?

**waited on their parents**

---

**Fact Card 8:** What common utensil was missing from the first Thanksgiving's table?

**forks**

---

**Fact Card 9:** If it were up to Benjamin Franklin, what would our national bird be?

**the turkey**

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# Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt Activity

**Fact Card 10:** When did Thanksgiving become a holiday?

**1941**

---

**Fact Card 11:** When is Thanksgiving celebrated in the United States?

**the fourth Thursday in November**

---

**Fact Card 12:** What woman author helped in making Thanksgiving a national holiday?

**Sara Joshepa Hale**

---

**Fact Card 13:** When is Thanksgiving celebrated in Canada?



**Fact Card 16:** What do turkey eggs look like?

**a light brown color with spots**

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**Fact Card 17:** A cornucopia is also known as a....

**horn of plenty**

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**Fact Card 18:** Where do female turkeys build their nests when they are about to lay eggs?

**on the ground**

---