

Teacher's Answer Guide

Page 1 "The First Thankgsgiving" Word Bank

Historians do not all agree on when or where the first Thanksgiving was held. Many believe it originated in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621. The first winter was long and cold. Many Pilgrims got sick and died. But when spring came, those who were left built log houses and a town hall. The Native Americans taught the Pilgrims better ways to hunt and grow foods in the new country, and the Pilgrims were grateful. Plymouth Governor William Bradford invited neighboring Native Americans to join the Pilgrims for a festival of fun and feasting in thankfulness for the good harvest. Wild turkey, deer, clams, corn, berries, bread, and perhaps popcorn were some of the foods that were shared. Games and races were part of the fun. The celebration lasted for three days.

Others believe the first Thanksgiving was at Jamestown, Virginia as part of an old English festival called "Harvest Home." Records tell us Captain John Smith had fought off starvation in Virginia as early as 1607 because Native Americans gave him corn seeds and taught him how to plant them.

Thanksgiving was officially proclaimed a national holiday by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. It was traditionally celebrated the last Thursday in November, but in 1941, Congress changed it to the fourth Thursday of November. It is a time for families and friends to come together to celebrate the many things for which they are thankful.

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Many historians believe the first Thanksgiving originated in
in 1621.
a. Washington, D.C.
b. Sacramento, California
c. Plymouth, Massachusetts
2. Other historians believe the first
Thanksgiving was at
a. Washington, D.C.
b. Jamestown, Virginia
c. Boston Massachusetts

- 3. Which president made Thanksgiving a national holiday?
 - a. George Washington b. Abraham Lincoln
 - c. William Bradford

In the United States Thenkering
4. In the United States, Thanksgiving
is on the Thursday in
November.
a. second
b. third
c. fourth
5. Wild turkeys are native to
a. Europe
b. The Americas
c. Asia
d. a & c
6. Early explorers took turkeys to
as early as 1519.
a. Spain
b. China

c. England



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- 7. Which statement is not true?
 - a. Wild turkeys can fly.
 - b. Tame turkeys can fly.
 - c. a & b
- 8. Until 1935, turkeys were raised for their
 - a. white meat
 - b. dark meat
 - c. colorful feathers
 - d. All of the above

- 9. An average turkey farmer raises _____ birds each year.
 - a. 50,000
 - b. 5,000
 - c. 500
- 10. Turkey _____.
 - a. is a nutritious food
 - b. is a food that can be eaten any time of the year
 - c. is available in a wide range of turkey products
 - d. All of the above

