

Pilgrim and Indian Activities!

Divide the class into two groups, Pilgrims and Indians. Instruct each student to choose one of these appropriate activities to do. Display the results on the class board during the Thanksgiving season.

PILGRIM ACTIVITIES

1. Make a booklet about the first Thanksgiving and in which you compare it to our own Thanksgiving today.
2. Write a menu for the first Thanksgiving dinner. List the foods in alphabetical order.
3. Research the Mayflower. What was the length of the ship? How many people made the journey? How many days did the trip take?
4. Pretend you are one of the pilgrims. Describe how you are feeling about your new country and write about your experiences during that first year.
5. In your own words, retell the Pilgrim's Thanksgiving story.

(NOTE: Please remember that when teaching about American Indians, it should be done with great respect for their rich culture and heritage.)

THANKSGIVING IN THE CLASSROOM

Arrange to have a Thanksgiving feast with several other classrooms. Sharing the contributions will help develop an understanding of the true meaning of Thanksgiving.

Ask each classroom to select a food to prepare and share with the other classrooms. Here are some suggestions:

Popcorn

Cranberry Sauce

Pumpkin Pudding

Corn Bread

Corn on the Cob

Homemade Bread

INDIAN ACTIVITIES

1. Explain what role the Indians played in helping the pilgrims that first year.
2. Pretend you are an American Indian in the year 1620. You have just seen some strange people coming to shore from a small boat. How do you feel? What do you do?
3. Research the Indians that helped the pilgrims. Describe their community and families. Also explain what clothing they wore and what foods they ate.
4. Draw a picture of an Indian village from the information you have learned.
5. Make a booklet about the Indians at the first Thanksgiving. Compare them to American Indians today.

