# Thanksgiving History, Activities, Crafts & Printables for Kids

Thanksgiving is a time for family, friends, and food. But it's also a great time to learn about the history of the holiday and how it's celebrated around the world. In this article, we'll explore the history of Thanksgiving and provide some fun activities, crafts, and printables that you can use to teach your kids about this special day.

#### The History of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a national holiday in the United States that is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. The holiday originated in 1621, when the Pilgrims, a group of English settlers, held a feast to celebrate their first successful harvest in the New World. The Pilgrims invited the Wampanoag Indians, who had helped them survive the harsh winter, to join them for the feast. This feast is considered to be the first Thanksgiving.



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Thanksgiving became a national holiday in 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed it as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to God. The holiday has been celebrated ever since, and it is now a time for families and friends to come together and give thanks for all the good things in their lives.

#### **Thanksgiving Activities for Kids**

There are many fun and educational activities that you can do with your kids to celebrate Thanksgiving. Here are a few ideas:

- Read books about Thanksgiving. There are many great books for kids about Thanksgiving, such as "The Story of the Pilgrims" by Katharine Ross and "Thanksgiving Day" by Anne Rockwell.
- Watch movies about Thanksgiving. There are also many great movies about Thanksgiving, such as "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" and "Miracle on 34th Street."
- Cook a Thanksgiving meal together. Cooking a Thanksgiving meal is a great way to teach kids about the holiday and how it's celebrated. You can find recipes for easy Thanksgiving dishes online or in cookbooks.
- Make Thanksgiving crafts. There are many fun and easy Thanksgiving crafts that you can do with your kids, such as making turkey puppets or pilgrim hats.

 Play Thanksgiving games. There are many fun Thanksgiving games that you can play with your kids, such as "Pin the Tail on the Turkey" or "Thanksgiving Charades."

#### Thanksgiving Crafts for Kids

Here are a few fun and easy Thanksgiving crafts that you can do with your kids:

- **Turkey puppets.** To make a turkey puppet, you will need:
  - Brown paper bag
  - Construction paper (orange, red, yellow, and black)
  - Scissors
  - Glue
  - Markers

1. Cut out a turkey body from the brown paper bag. 2. Cut out a turkey head, wings, and tail feathers from the construction paper. 3. Glue the turkey head, wings, and tail feathers to the turkey body. 4. Draw on the turkey's eyes, beak, and wattle with the markers. 5. Add any other details that you want, such as feathers or a gobbler.

- **Pilgrim hats.** To make a pilgrim hat, you will need:
  - Black construction paper
  - White construction paper
  - Scissors

- Glue
- Stapler

1. Cut out a rectangle from the black construction paper. The rectangle should be about 12 inches long and 6 inches wide. 2. Cut out a strip of white construction paper. The strip should be about 1 inch wide and 12 inches long. 3. Glue the white strip of paper to the bottom of the black rectangle. This will be the brim of the hat. 4. Fold the top of the black rectangle down to meet the brim of the hat. 5. Staple the sides of the hat together. 6. Add any other details that you want, such as a buckle or a feather.

- **Cornucopia.** To make a cornucopia, you will need:
  - Brown construction paper
  - Orange construction paper
  - Yellow construction paper
  - Glue
  - Scissors

Cut out a cornucopia shape from the brown construction paper. The cornucopia should be about 12 inches long and 6 inches wide. 2. Cut out a variety of fruits and vegetables from the orange and yellow construction paper. 3. Glue the fruits and vegetables to the cornucopia.
Add any other details that you want, such as a ribbon or a bow.

### **Thanksgiving Printables for Kids**

Here are a few fun and educational Thanksgiving printables that you can use with your kids:

- Thanksgiving word search
- Thanksgiving crossword puzzle
- Thanksgiving coloring page
- Thanksgiving pilgrim craft
- Thanksgiving turkey craft

We hope these activities, crafts, and printables help you and your kids learn more about Thanksgiving and celebrate this special day!



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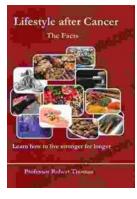
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