

HISTORY of THANKSGIVING!

READING COMPREHENSION!

Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L1

The Wampanoag People

The Wampanoag are a Native American tribe who had lived on the land we now call Massachusetts and Rhode Island for thousands of years before the Pilgrims arrived. They farmed, fished, and hunted. They shared their knowledge of the land with the new settlers to help them.



1) Who were the Wampanoag?

☐ a group of explorers	☐ a Native American tribe
☐ Pilgrims from England	☐ sailors from Spain

2) What did the Wampanoag teach the Pilgrims?

☐ how to build ships	☐ how to find gold
☐ how to live off the land	☐ how to travel home

3) Where did the Wampanoag live?

☐ California and Oregon	☐ Massachusetts and Rhode Island
☐ Texas and Florida	☐ Canada and Alaska



Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L2

The Wampanoag People

The Wampanoag are a Native American tribe who had lived on the land we now call Massachusetts and Rhode Island for thousands of years before the Pilgrims arrived. They farmed, fished, and hunted. They shared their knowledge of the land with the new settlers to help them.



1) Who were the Wampanoag?

2) What did the Wampanoag teach the Pilgrims?

3) Where did the Wampanoag live?

Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L3

The Wampanoag People

The Wampanoag are a Native American tribe who had lived on the land we now call Massachusetts and Rhode Island for thousands of years before the Pilgrims arrived. They farmed, fished, and hunted. They shared their knowledge of the land with the new settlers to help them.



1) Who were the Wampanoag?

2) What did the Wampanoag teach the Pilgrims?

3) Where did the Wampanoag live?

3
levels!



10
topics!



Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving LI

Journey of the Mayflower



In 1620, a group of English settlers called the Pilgrims sailed across the ocean on a ship named the Mayflower. Their trip was long and difficult, lasting over two months. When they arrived, they called their new home Plymouth.

1) What was the name of the Pilgrims' ship?

- ☐ The Sunflower ☐ The Mayflower
☐ The Rosebud ☐ The Starship

2) How long did the Pilgrims' journey take?

- ☐ two weeks ☐ two months
☐ two years ☐ two days

3) What did the Pilgrims name their new home?

- ☐ England ☐ Plymouth
☐ Jamestown ☐ New York

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving LI

Life in a Wampanoag Village



Wampanoag families lived in small homes called wetus, made from wooden frames covered with bark or reeds. The men hunted and fished, women farmed and cared for the children, and elders shared wisdom. Community and respect for nature were very important.

1) What was a wetu?

- ☐ a type of boat ☐ a kind of home
☐ a farm tool ☐ a food

2) Who shared wisdom in the village?

- ☐ the elders ☐ the children
☐ the animals ☐ the visitors

3) What did the Wampanoag value most?

- ☐ respect for nature and community ☐ collecting gold
☐ building cities ☐ owning land

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving LI

The First Harvest Feast



In 1621, the Wampanoag and the Pilgrims gathered together for a three-day feast. They celebrated the harvest and gave thanks for the food they had grown. The Wampanoag brought deer, and the Pilgrims shared their vegetables.

1) How long did the feast last?

- ☐ one day ☐ two days
☐ three days ☐ a week

2) Who joined the Pilgrims at the feast?

- ☐ The Wampanoag people ☐ other explorers
☐ sailors from England ☐ Traders from Spain

3) What did they celebrate?

- ☐ a new year ☐ the harvest
☐ a birthday ☐ a wedding

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving LI

Squanto's Help



Squanto was a Wampanoag man who helped the Pilgrims learn how to plant corn, catch fish, and use natural resources. He spoke English because he had traveled to Europe years before. His help made a big difference in the Pilgrims' survival.

1) What did Squanto teach the Pilgrims to do?

- ☐ build ships ☐ plant corn and fish
☐ hunt whales ☐ read maps

2) How did Squanto know English?

- ☐ he learned it in school ☐ he traveled to Europe
☐ he read books ☐ he was born in England

3) Why was Squanto important to the Pilgrims?

- ☐ he helped them survive ☐ he brought them gold
☐ he built their homes ☐ he became their leader

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving LI

Giving Thanks in Native Cultures



Long before the Pilgrims arrived, Native American tribes held ceremonies to give thanks for nature's gifts. They thanked the Earth, water, animals, and the sun for helping life grow. Many Native people still hold these traditions today.

1) Who did Native people give thanks to?

- ☐ their teachers ☐ the Earth and nature
☐ the Pilgrims ☐ the king

2) What did they thank the sun for?

- ☐ helping life grow ☐ its shape
☐ its sound ☐ its colors

3) Do Native Americans still give thanks today?

- ☐ no ☐ only in winter
☐ yes ☐ only in schools

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Level
1

Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L2



First Feast Foods

The first harvest feast did not include pumpkin pie or cranberry sauce! The Wampanoag and Pilgrims ate foods like corn, beans, squash, fish, and deer. The Wampanoag brought deer to share, and the Pilgrims shared vegetables from their gardens.

1) Which food was not at the first feast?

2) What kind of foods did they eat?

3) Who brought deer to the feast?

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Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L2



How Thanksgiving Got Its Name

The 1621 harvest feast was not called "Thanksgiving." Over many years, different communities held days of thanks for good harvests or safe journeys. It wasn't until the 1800s that Thanksgiving became a national holiday in America.

1) Was the 1621 feast called Thanksgiving?

2) What did people give thanks for?

3) When did Thanksgiving become a U.S. holiday?

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Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L2



Different Ways to Celebrate

Today, families celebrate Thanksgiving in many ways. Some share a meal and say what they're thankful for. Some Native Americans use the day to honor their ancestors and reflect on history. It's a time to think about gratitude in many different forms.

1) What do some families do on Thanksgiving?

2) What do some Native Americans do on this day?

3) What is Thanksgiving a time to think about?

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Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L2



Learning from the Past

The story of Thanksgiving reminds us to learn from history. It's important to remember both the good and the hard parts of the past. By listening to many voices, we can build understanding and kindness for everyone.

1) What should we do when learning about history?

2) What can learning history teach us?

3) What does Thanksgiving remind us to do?

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Name: _____

History of Thanksgiving L2



The Wampanoag People

The Wampanoag are a Native American tribe who had lived on the land we now call Massachusetts and Rhode Island for thousands of years before the Pilgrims arrived. They farmed, fished, and hunted. They shared their knowledge of the land with the new settlers to help them.

1) Who were the Wampanoag?

2) What did the Wampanoag teach the Pilgrims?

3) Where did the Wampanoag live?

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Level
2

Name: _____

History of
Thanksgiving L3

Journey of the Mayflower



In 1620, a group of English settlers called the Pilgrims sailed across the ocean on a ship named the Mayflower. Their trip was long and difficult, lasting over two months. When they arrived, they called their new home Plymouth.

1) What was the name of the Pilgrims' ship?

2) How long did the Pilgrims' journey take?

3) What did the Pilgrims name their new home?

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Name: _____

History of
Thanksgiving L3

Life in a Wampanoag Village



Wampanoag families lived in small homes called wetus, made from wooden frames covered with bark or reeds. The men hunted and fished, women farmed and cared for the children, and elders shared wisdom. Community and respect for nature were very important.

1) What was a wetu?

2) Who shared wisdom in the village?

3) What did the Wampanoag value most?

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Name: _____

History of
Thanksgiving L3

The First Harvest Feast



In 1621, the Wampanoag and the Pilgrims gathered together for a three-day feast. They celebrated the harvest and gave thanks for the food they had grown. The Wampanoag brought deer, and the Pilgrims shared their vegetables.

1) How long did the feast last?

2) Who joined the Pilgrims at the feast?

3) What did they celebrate?

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Name: _____

History of
Thanksgiving L3

Squanto's Help



Squanto was a Wampanoag man who helped the Pilgrims learn how to plant corn, catch fish, and use natural resources. He spoke English because he had traveled to Europe years before. His help made a big difference in the Pilgrims' survival.

1) What did Squanto teach the Pilgrims to do?

2) How did Squanto know English?

3) Why was Squanto important to the Pilgrims?

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Name: _____

History of
Thanksgiving L3

Giving Thanks in Native Cultures



Long before the Pilgrims arrived, Native American tribes held ceremonies to give thanks for nature's gifts. They thanked the Earth, water, animals, and the sun for helping life grow. Many Native people still hold these traditions today.

1) Who did Native people give thanks to?

2) What did they thank the sun for?

3) Do Native Americans still give thanks today?

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Level 3

Name: _____ **History of Thanksgiving L1**

Life in a Wampanoag Village



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1) What was a wetu?

- ☐ a type of boat ☐ a kind of home
☐ a farm tool ☐ a food

2) Who shared wisdom in the village?

- ☐ the elders ☐ the children
☐ the animals ☐ the visitors

3) What did the Wampanoag value most?

- ☐ respect for nature and community ☐ collecting gold
☐ building cities ☐ owning land

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Name: _____ **History of Thanksgiving L2**

Life in a Wampanoag Village



Wampanoag families lived in small homes called wetus, made from wooden frames covered with bark or reeds. The men hunted and fished, women farmed and cared for the children, and elders shared wisdom. Community and respect for nature were very important.

1) What was a wetu?

2) Who shared wisdom in the village?

3) What did the Wampanoag value most?

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Name: _____ **History of Thanksgiving L3**

Life in a Wampanoag Village



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1) What was a wetu?

2) Who shared wisdom in the village?

3) What did the Wampanoag value most?

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**Low
prep!**

Students can practice critical thinking and deductive reasoning to make meaning of the text!

Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving L1



The Wampanoag People

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1) Who were the Wampanoag?

- ☐ a group of explorers ☐ a Native American tribe
☐ Pilgrims from England ☐ sailors from Spain

2) What did the Wampanoag teach the Pilgrims?

- ☐ how to build ships ☐ how to find gold
☐ how to live off the land ☐ how to travel home

3) Where did the Wampanoag live?

- ☐ California and Oregon ☐ Massachusetts and Rhode Island
☐ Texas and Florida ☐ Canada and Alaska

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving L2

Journey of the Mayflower



In 1620, a group of English settlers called the Pilgrims sailed across the ocean on a ship named the Mayflower. Their trip was long and difficult, lasting over two months. When they arrived, they called their new home Plymouth.

1) What was the name of the Pilgrims' ship?

2) How long did the Pilgrims' journey take?

3) What did the Pilgrims name their new home?

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving L3

Giving Thanks in Native Cultures



Long before the Pilgrims arrived, Native American tribes held ceremonies to give thanks for nature's gifts. They thanked the Earth, water, animals, and the sun for helping life grow. Many Native people still hold these traditions today.

1) Who did Native people give thanks to?

2) What did they thank the sun for?

3) Do Native Americans still give thanks today?

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving L3



How Thanksgiving Got Its Name

The 1621 harvest feast was not called "Thanksgiving." Over many years, different communities held days of thanks for good harvests or safe journeys. It wasn't until the 1800s that Thanksgiving became a national holiday in America.

1) Was the 1621 feast called Thanksgiving?

2) What did people give thanks for?

3) When did Thanksgiving become a U.S. holiday?

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Name: _____ History of Thanksgiving L1

Different Ways to Celebrate



Today, families celebrate Thanksgiving in many ways. Some share a meal and say what they're thankful for. Some Native Americans use the day to honor their ancestors and reflect on history. It's a time to think about gratitude in many different forms.

1) What do some families do on Thanksgiving?

- ☐ go to school ☐ share a meal and give thanks
☐ hunt for gold ☐ decorate trees

2) What do some Native Americans do on this day?

- ☐ celebrate football ☐ honor their ancestors
☐ watch fireworks ☐ build ships

3) What is Thanksgiving a time to think about?

- ☐ gratitude ☐ money
☐ summer ☐ sports

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**B&W
included!**

Name: **ANSWER-KEY** History of Thanksgiving L1



First Feast Foods

The first harvest feast did not include pumpkin pie or cranberry sauce! The Wampanoag and Pilgrims ate foods like corn, beans, squash, fish, and deer. The Wampanoag brought deer to share, and the Pilgrims shared vegetables from their gardens.

1) Which food was not at the first feast?

- ☒ pumpkin pie ☐ corn
☐ deer ☐ fish

2) What kind of foods did they eat?

- ☒ foods from local land and water ☐ foods from a store
☐ candy and cake ☐ frozen meals

3) Who brought deer to the feast?

- ☐ the Pilgrims ☒ the Wampanoag
☐ sailors ☐ the king

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Name: **ANSWER-KEY** History of Thanksgiving L2

Journey of the Mayflower



In 1620, a group of English settlers called the Pilgrims sailed across the ocean on a ship named the Mayflower. Their trip was long and difficult, lasting over two months. When they arrived, they called their new home Plymouth.

1) What was the name of the Pilgrims' ship?

The name of the Pilgrims' ship was the Mayflower.

2) How long did the Pilgrims' journey take?

The Pilgrims' journey lasted over two months.

3) What did the Pilgrims name their new home?

They named their new home Plymouth.

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Name: **ANSWER KEY** History of Thanksgiving L3



The Wampanoag People

The Wampanoag are a Native American tribe who had lived on the land we now call Massachusetts and Rhode Island for thousands of years before the Pilgrims arrived. They farmed, fished, and hunted. They shared their knowledge of the land with the new settlers to help them.

1) Who were the Wampanoag?

The Wampanoag are a Native American tribe.

2) What did the Wampanoag teach the Pilgrims?

They taught them their knowledge of the land.

3) Where did the Wampanoag live?

They lived in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

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Answer keys included for quick and easy assessment!

If you like this resource and want to **SAVE BIG**, check out these bundles!

