

The American Thanksgiving Story

➤ Watch the video “The American Thanksgiving Story” below and complete the missing information. You will hear ALL the words you need to write.

Early in the 17th century, a group of religious people called the Pilgrims started to be _____ by England’s _____, because they wanted to change and purify them. As a result, they had to sail to the _____, also known as Holland, looking for _____. They spent 12 years in Holland, where they struggled to make a living. After that, they decided to seek a refuge somewhere else - a place where they could create a society that matched their _____.

Eventually, in _____, _____ men, women and children left England on a ship called _____. The voyage was difficult - bad storms damaged the ship and many passengers thought they wouldn’t even _____.

Despite the difficulty, they made it. On _____, the Pilgrims landed on the North East Coast of North America. They chose Plymouth to start building their _____ because it had an excellent harbor and a large brook in which to catch fish to eat. Although their settlement was finally _____ in late March, 1621, they dealt with a great sorrow - because of the long and cold winter that year, adding to the fact that they didn’t have enough food, nearly _____ of their original group died.

In the spring, an _____ called Squanto helped the Pilgrims. He taught them how to grow Indian corn and other crops, and he told them which plants were _____ and which could be used as medicine. This new knowledge provided an excellent summer harvest for the Pilgrims, and they had enough food for the _____.

As a result, the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Native Americans became friendly _____, and, in the next year, The Pilgrim Governor, William Bradford decided to celebrate with a day of Thanksgiving to God for helping them survive the _____. About _____ Native Americans were invited to the celebration, which continued for _____.

The colony suffered a _____ two years later, and the Pilgrims fasted and prayed for an entire day. It is reported that soon afterward it began to rain. They then proclaimed November 29th a day of thanksgiving to celebrate _____ to their prayer. This date is believed to be the beginning of the present day Thanksgiving Day, which is held on the _____ of November.

The Americans kept doing the thanksgiving _____ annually, but it became official after President Abraham Lincoln (1863) made Thanksgiving a national holiday.

Nowadays, Americans of all religions celebrate Thanksgiving. Children do not go to school and most businesses close for _____ days. Thanksgiving is a special day for families and people travel great distances to be with their families for this occasion.

It has also become the beginning of the Christmas buying season. Many people today observe the holiday by watching _____, Thanksgiving TV programs, and the _____ held in New York City.

For the typical Thanksgiving dinner meal, they have: _____, stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, sweet potatoes, _____, sweet corn and pumpkin pie. Many families gather and enjoy time together, and give thanks to God for His goodness and faithfulness to them.