

“THE THANKSGIVING STORY”
FIRST GRADE
NEWLAND SCHOOL

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_____ : “Good evening ladies and gentleman, and welcome to our first grade Newland Thanksgiving Play. We hope you enjoy the show....”

_____ : Thanksgiving is celebrated the Fourth Thursday of November. Pilgrims left their homes in England and sailed across the ocean to the New World in a ship called the Mayflower.

_____ : Seeking a better life, the Separatists negotiated with a London stock company to finance a trip to America.

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_____ : “I am not happy anymore here in England!”

_____ : “Me neither!!!”

_____ : “I agree with you too!”

_____ : “Then, we should all get together and move away from this country!”

_____ : “Yes! Somewhere far away”

_____ : “Yes! Where we can be free to profess our religion!!!”

_____ : “All right! But where can we go??!!”

_____ : “We could go to America!!”

_____ : “Yes! Yes! That’s a good idea!!!!”

_____ : “Let’s gather our families and friends and go soon!”

_____ : “Yes! Yes! We’re going to America!!!!!!” (2 times)

Leaving America.... (Pilgrims dancing)
(we are going to America by meil diamond)

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_____ : The trip was difficult and stormy. Many of the Pilgrims became sick.

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In America.... (Indians dancing)
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_____ : “Me feel bad for these people!”

_____ : “Yes, me too!!”

_____ : “How can we help them to survive in our land?”

_____ : “We could teach them how to plant the fields and hunt the wild beasts”

_____ : “Yes, but what if they don’t like us?!”

_____ : “Yes, look how they dress and speak different too!”

_____ : “It doesn’t matter!! We should help these poor pilgrims!”

_____ : “NO!!! Me not agree!!! Maybe they will kill us!”

_____ : “Yes, maybe they should go back to their country!”

_____ : “Yes! Yes! They should go back! We will not help them!!”

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_____ : Spring finally arrived. Friendly Indians showed the Pilgrims how to plant and hunt.

_____ : Their crops grew and grew. When fall came their harvest was great. The Pilgrims wanted to thank God for the food they decided to have a Thanksgiving feast.

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_____ : “Hao! We welcome you to our country!”

_____ : “Hello! We are very happy to meet you natives”

_____ : “Me think we can help you pilgrims and be friends”

_____ : “Yes, I agree we should all be friends and work together

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_____ : They had delicious food to eat. There was turke, sauce, cornbread and pumpkin pie.

_____ : The pilgrims and Indians played many games and shared happy times together. The feast lasted 3 days. There was much to be thankful for.

_____ : This “thanksgiving” feast was not repeated the following year.

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_____ : On June 20 1676, Edward Rawson, the clerk, to proclaim June 29 as a day of Thanksgiving to thank for everything it was given.

_____ : **(1676)** “I, **Edward Rawson**, proclaim June 29 as a day of thanksgiving by order of the governing council of Charleston, Massachusetts”

_____ : George Washington proclaimed a National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789, although some were opposed to it.

_____ : “I, **George Washington**, First President of the United States of America, proclaim a National Day of Thanksgiving”.

_____ : It was Sarah Josepha Hale, a magazine editor, whose efforts led to what we recognize as Thanksgiving, in 1863, President Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as a national day of Thanksgiving.

_____ : (1863) “I, **Sarah Josepha Hale**, after 40 years as a magazine editor, finally manage to get the president’s recognition for a national day of Thanksgiving”.

_____ : Thanksgiving was proclaimed by every president after Lincoln. In 1941, Thanksgiving was finally declared by Congress as a legal holiday, as the fourth Thursday in November.

_____ : “I, President **Abraham Lincoln**, hereby proclaim the last Thursday in November as a National Day of Thanksgiving”

_____ : “Thank you for coming and participating in our play. Have a good night!”

All students together.... (last dance)

**Nicole Westbrook - It's Thanksgiving
Thanksgiving Song - Songs For Children**