



NOVEMBER THANKSGIVING GAMES



CORN-U-COPIA

The old "Fruit Basket" game with a Thanksgiving name. The players sit on chairs forming a circle. There should be one more player than there are chairs. The player without a chair is the leader. The leader points to each of the other players and gives them a name, such as "Squash," "Corn," "Apple," "Turkey," anything related to Thanksgiving. After everyone is named, the leader calls out two of the names, "Corn and Apple." Those two players must quickly switch places. The leader continues calling like this (keeping up a brisk pace) until suddenly she says "The cornucopia has tipped over!" Everyone, including the leader, then scrambles for a new place. The one who ends up without a seat is the new leader. The leader may give the same name to more than one person. This makes the switching of places a little more confusing and a lot more exciting.

THANKERCHIEF

Arrange the children/players in a circle. Pass around a "thankerchief" (handkerchief) around as everyone recites this poem:

Thankerchief, thankerchief, around you go --
Where you'll stop, nobody knows.
But when you do, someone must say,
What they are thankful for this day.

The player holding the "thankerchief" when the poem ends, must say aloud, one thing for which they are thankful. This continues until everyone has had a turn.

TURKEY HUNT

Shhh! Hunt very quietly. You don't want to scare the turkeys... On a dozen or so index cards, draw or paste a picture of a turkey. To play, everyone leaves the room except the leader. The leader hides the cards around the room. The hunters come back in to begin the hunt. As each turkey is found, it is brought back to the leader who corrals them in a separate pile for each hunter. When all the turkeys have been found, the hunter with the most turkeys is the winner and becomes the leader for the next round.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

You need a good memory for this one. The players sit in a circle. The first player starts by saying, "At my Thanksgiving dinner I ate turkey." The next player must repeat this and add another dish, "At my Thanksgiving dinner I ate turkey and bread stuffing." The third player must repeat it and add yet another dish, "At my Thanksgiving dinner I ate turkey, bread stuffing, and sweet potatoes." The game continues with each player adding an item to the menu after first listing all the previous items in the exact order they were first said. If a player makes a mistake he drops out and the game continues until there is just one mnemonic expert left.

CORN PITCHING

You will need a good sized bowl and 6 kernels of corn (the kind used in bird feeders works better than

popcorn). Each player takes turns pitching the corn kernels, one at a time, into the bowl from a set distance. Keep score of how many kernels end up in the bowl. The winner is the one with the highest score after three rounds.

CRANBERRY STRINGING

Wear old clothes for this one -- cranberries can stain. Each player will need a needle threaded with an 18-inch length of strong thread. Put a large knot at the end of the thread. Everyone sits around a bowl of cranberries. On the signal, everyone starts stringing the cranberries onto their threads. The first to fill the thread is the winner. You might want to try the game alternating popcorn and cranberries. Hang the completed cranberry strings outside as a treat for the birds.

Veterans'/Remembrance Day (Canada) - (November 11, 2021)

"The courage and patriotism of all men and women who have served in the armed services of the United States are honored on Veterans Day. In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11th Armistice Day, but the day did not become a national holiday until 1938. Its name was changed to Veterans Day by Congress in 1954. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the bill into law for this day "to honor veterans...a day dedicated to world peace."



Observances are held throughout the country on this federal holiday in the form of prayer services, rallies, assembly programs, parades, patriotic speeches, and grave-side flag displays. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery outside Washington D.C., where thousands of service personnel are buried, is the focus of the nation's tribute on Veterans Day.



"And they who for their country die Shall fill an honored grave, For glory lights the soldier's tomb, And beauty weeps the brave." -Joseph Rodman Drake

Wars are not acts of God. They are caused by man, by man-made institutions, by the way in which man has organized his society. What man has made, man can change." -Speech at Arlington National Cemetery (Memorial Day, 1945) Frederick Moore Vinson (1890-1953)



Thanksgiving (November 25, 2021)

Thanksgiving Day in the United States is an annual day of thanks for the blessings of the past year, observed on the fourth Thursday in November in each of the states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. It is a historical, national, and religious holiday that began with the Pilgrims. After the survival of their first colony through the bitter winter, and the gathering of the harvest, Gov. William Bradford of Plymouth Colony issued a thanksgiving proclamation in the autumn of 1621. This first thanksgiving lasted three days, during which the Pilgrims feasted on wild turkey and venison with their Indian guests.



Days of Thanksgiving were celebrated sporadically until, on Nov. 26, 1789, President Washington issued a proclamation of a nation-wide day of Thanksgiving. He made it clear that the day should be one of prayer and giving thanks to God. It was to be celebrated by all religious denominations, a circumstance that helped to promote a spirit of common heritage.



Credit for establishing this day as a national holiday is usually given to Sarah J. Hale, editor and founder of the Ladies' Magazine (from 1828) in Boston. However, through the effort of Sarah Hale a change was effected. She was fired with the determination of having the whole nation join together in setting apart a national day for giving thanks "unto Him from who all blessings flow." To this end, she resolutely engaged the press with an endless flow of letters and articles to the various newspapers and journals of her time.

In addition, she pleaded long and earnestly with three Presidents: Fillmore, Pierce and Buchanan during the period of 1852, when her campaign succeeded in uniting 29 states in marking the last Thursday of November as "Thanksgiving Day." Her editorials in the magazine and letters to President Lincoln urging the formal establishment of a national holiday of Thanksgiving resulted in Lincoln's proclamation in 1863, designating the last Thursday in November as the day. When it was first inaugurated, only a few eastern states participated. Lincoln lived to see only two such occasions, but Sarah Hale lived well on into her late 90's, content that her long-cherished hope had at last become a reality.

Succeeding presidents annually followed Lincoln's example, except for President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who in 1939 proclaimed Thanksgiving Day a week earlier -- on the fourth but not the last Thursday -- to encourage holiday shopping. In 1941, Congress adopted a joint resolution setting the date on the fourth Thursday.

A traditional Thanksgiving dinner takes place yearly at the White House and in almost every American home. Roast turkey and pumpkin pie are among the symbols of this festival. An ancient harvest symbol, the cornucopia, or "horn of plenty," has also been attached to Thanksgiving. Schools and businesses close for this day of family reunion and national, rather than individual, giving of thanks. In Canada a legal Thanksgiving Day is observed, usually on the second Monday in October.



November is...

- Aviation History Month
- Child Safety and Protection Month
- Diabetic Eye Disease Month
- Good Nutrition Month
- Hunger Awareness month
- International Creative Child and Adult Month
- International Drum Month
- Jewish Book Month
- Latin American Month
- National American Indian Heritage Month
- National Diabetes Awareness Month
- National Epilepsy Month
- National Red Ribbon Month
- National Raisin Bread Month
- National Alzheimer's Disease Month
- National Hospice Month
- National Stamp Collecting Month
- National Christmas Seal Month
- National Pepper Month
- Peanut Butter Lover's Month
- Real Jewelry Month
- Slaughter Month

Special November Week Celebrations:

First Week:

- **American Art Week**
- **National Card & Letter Writing Week**
- **French Conversation Week**
- **National Fig Week**
- **World Communication Week**
- **National Notary Public Week**

Second Week

- **Red Flannel Days (Michigan)**
- **American Education Week**
- **National Eating Disorders Week**
- **National Chemistry Week**
- **National Notary Public Week**
- **National Split Pea Soup Week**
- **World Mutual Services Week**
- **National Children's Book Week**
- **National Osteopathic Medicine Week**
- **International Week of Science and Peace (UN)**
- **National Radiologic Technology Week**

Third Week

- **Book Week!**
- **National Geography Awareness Week**
- **American Education Week**
- **National Culinary Week**
- **National Bible Week**
- **Operating Room Nurse Week**
- **National Children's Book Week**
- **National Adoption Week**
- **National Family Week**

Fourth Week

- **National Home Care Week**
- **Make Up Your Own Week Week!**
- **National Cookie Week**
- **Thanksgiving Week:**
- **Adoption Week**
- **National Game and Puzzle Week**
- **National Bible Week**
- **National Farm/City Week**
- **National Leftover Awareness Week**