

Just for laughs: A. Throw out my outer, keep my inner. Eat my outer, throw out my inner. What am I? B. What do you get when you cross a turkey with an octopus? C. What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?

Turkey trivia

- When was the first American Thanksgiving celebration?
 - 1492
 - 1512
 - 1621
 - 1720
- What American statesman lobbied to have the wild turkey proclaimed our national symbol?
 - George Washington
 - Ben Franklin
 - Abraham Lincoln
 - Harry Truman
- How many feathers does a mature turkey typically have?
 - 1,200
 - 3,500
 - 5,000
 - 9,300
- How fast can wild turkeys run?
 - 10 mph
 - 15 mph
 - 20 mph
 - 25 mph
- Can wild turkeys fly? If so, how fast?
 - No they can't fly.
 - Yes, 25 mph
 - Yes, 30 mph
 - Yes, 55 mph



Answers: 1. In 1621, the Pilgrims shared a four-day feast with the Wampanoag tribe. 2. Ben Franklin preferred the American wild turkey ("a bird of courage") over the bald eagle. 3. 3,500 4. A wild turkey can trot a remarkable 25 mph. 5. They can fly for short bursts up to 55 mph.

Sudoku

Fill in each 4x4 grid with the shapes so that in each row, column, and square, each repeats only once.

welcome to the

KIDS' TABLE!

Sitting at the kids' table just got funner ... test your wits and have a few laughs with our Thanksgiving Day place mat!

The first feast

The only documentary evidence of the original Thanksgiving is in the journal of Plymouth Colony's governor, Edward Winslow, who noted simply that the colonists met with Chief Massasoit and 90 of his men for a feast that lasted four days. No one worried about cholesterol or obesity in 1621!

Historians and archaeologists do have an educated hypothesis of what the Pilgrims ate, how they ate, when they ate and what they wore at that first Thanksgiving meal. The historical facts are not at all like the scene usually painted in elementary school.

Start with the menu. It's not likely that the Pilgrims and the Indians ate any bread dressing, mashed potatoes or pumpkin pie. In fact, it is not likely that they ate roast turkey either. The only items listed in Winslow's journal were "venison and wild fowl," and it is likely that dried corn and fruit filled out the bill of fare. In colonial times, a person ate what was available. No one back then saved room for pumpkin pie.

Another myth has to do with how the meal was served. The Pilgrims and the Indians did not, as the myth has it, sit down at tables, bless their food or pass the serving dishes. It's more likely that food was set out on every available flat surface: tables, boxes, benches and tree stumps. The meal was consumed without ceremony over three days, whenever someone was hungry.

No one used plates or eating utensils. Although the colonists and the Indians occasionally used cloths or napkins if the food was hot, they usually ate with their hands. And not everyone ate everything that was served. Most diners ate what they liked or whatever dish was closest to them.

Finally, it's important to dispel one last Thanksgiving myth: that the Pilgrims dressed in black and white clothing, wore pointed hats and starched bonnets and favored buckles on their shoes. It's true that they dressed in black on Sundays; but on most days, including the first Thanksgiving, they dressed in white, beige, black, green and brown. And it's likely that the Indians were fully clothed to ward off the chill of autumn in New England. Who would wear only a loincloth in Massachusetts in November?

TIMOTHY WALCH, HISTORY NEWS SERVICE

Word search

S H P Z N D G R A V Y E
 N I K P M U P L E O A T
 X I J N R M T G B Y E G
 N Z V K J S E H T M S D
 G I E N P T S T S W R L
 J Y R M A I X H E X U H
 F O N B W C M A V L I H
 C I L J K K R N R M F P
 C R A N B E R R Y V U E
 S J G K M T X S H T F D

Find these hidden words. They can be vertical, horizontal or diagonal.

- CORN
- CRANBERRY
- DRUMSTICK
- GRAVY
- HARVEST
- PUMPKIN
- THANKS
- TURKEY
- VEGETABLES
- WISHBONE

Find the animals

There is an animal hiding in each sentence below. Can you find the animals? Example: There's a bee in "I'll be eleven next month." (Hint: You'll have to look in three words to find some of the animals.)

- We can go at six o'clock.
- It's nice to do good deeds.
- Take soap and a towel.
- Most rich people wear fancy clothes.
- You can keep the watch or sell it.
- Use a ladder.
- It will be a rainy day.
- I came late.
- Will a map help you?

Baby turkeys are called poults.



Baby turkeys are called poults.

Find the differences

Nobody likes sitting next to the baby during mealtimes except the family dog. See if you can spot the seven differences. Answers below.



ANSWERS

Just for laughs: A. An ear of corn. B. Drumsticks for everyone! C. Pumpkin Pi.

Scramble: Lets talk turkey! Find the differences:

1. Flower missing from the bowl. 2. Spoon turns into a rattle. 3. Baby loses a tooth. 4. The dog is missing his tag. 5. The dog undergoes a name change. 6. The sippy cup changes design. 7. Dog collar changes color.

Kids' table rules

That's right: The kids' table has rules. Be thoughtful of others. Somebody went to a lot of trouble to prepare that spinach-cranberry-peanut butter quiche; say something nice or don't say anything at all. Remember the magic words "please" and "thank you"? Use 'em. Frequently.

Do we really need to remind you about the obvious no-nos? No "double-dipping," slurping, licking fingers, belching or talking with your mouth full.

At the end of your meal, always thank the hosts and tell them how delicious your meal was, even if it wasn't. (Surely you enjoyed something. Zero in on that and talk it up.)

