

## Tech Tip of the Week:

Investigating Thanksgiving through investigation and virtual field trips

# The First Thanksgiving

With Thanksgiving coming up this week, I felt that it would be nice to find something that dealt with the thanksgiving holiday to share with our students. Each year, classes around the United States celebrate by this most historic holiday event by having students put on plays, create holiday crafts, and enjoying that most festive thanksgiving school lunch. But do the students really know what happened?

***“What happened at the First Thanksgiving?”***

***“How many people were there?”***

***“What did they eat?”***

***“What did they do, besides eat?”***

***“Did the Pilgrim and Wampanoag children play together?”***

***“How long did it last?”***



Have you ever asked yourself these questions? This is how the **[“Thanksgiving Interactive: You are the Historian”](#)** activity begins that was created by the Plimoth Planation. In this “Award Winning Activity” students take on the role of “detectives” to investigate what really happened at the first Thanksgiving. Whether you have the students complete the activity using classroom computers, or by doing it as a whole group by way

of projector or MonodoPad this activity will help students gain a better understanding of “What Really Happened on the First Thanksgiving.” For teachers there is a **[Teachers Guide](#)** that will help you plan the activity.

**Teacher Guide URL:** **<http://www.plimoth.org/media/olc/hpteachg.html>**

**Plimoth Interactive Website:** **<http://www.plimoth.org>** Hover over learn and select, Just for kids . At the bottom of the page you can select Interactive Thanksgiving Activity or any other thing that you might want to do with your class .

Here's some of the cool stuff that's Just for Kids:

Coloring Pictures

Talk Like a Pilgrim

Homework Help

Thanksgiving Virtual Field Trip

Interactive Thanksgiving Activity: You are the Historian

Student Interactive Site URL: <http://www.plimoth.org/media/olc/intro.html>

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In addition to this, the site also offers a [Thanksgiving Virtual Field Trip](#): Here Plimoth Plantation and [Scholastic](#) have created two virtual field trips to help broaden the learners experience and knowledge. I visited the Scholastic Website and found additional videos as well

- **Pilgrim Village.** In the first virtual fieldtrip, you will learn homes and daily life of a pilgrim. 18 minutes. At both sites



- **Wampanoag Home site:** In the second virtual fieldtrip, you will learn about the homes and daily life of the Wampanoag. 17 Minute. At both Sites



- **Mayflower: Mayflower.** Explore a reproduction of the Mayflower: 20 minutes. Only at Scholastic Site



- **Pilmoth Plantation:** Join Pilgrims and Wampanoag as they discuss First Thanksgiving. 30 Minute Video. On at Scholastic Site



To watch the above, click on the URLs below

**Plimoth Website:**

<http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&sqi=2&ved=0CB4QFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.plimoth.org%2Flearn%2Fjust-kids%2Fthanksgiving-virtual-field-trip&ei=sQ9yVLO8NaelsQT0tYGICg&usg=AFQjCNGmj5rwLAXAUwjMFnvIjR1b4KpGSg&sig2=oCq0n8IgryPV31CNNlhHnw&bvm=bv.80185997,d.cGU>

**Scholastic Website:**

[http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic\\_thanksgiving/webcast.htm](http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/webcast.htm)

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Wouldn't it be cool to [Talk Like a Pilgrim](http://www.plimoth.org/learn/just-kids/talk-pilgrim)? Do we use some of the same words today we used then? For instance, have you ever heard anyone can pants, breeches?

URL:

<http://www.plimoth.org/learn/just-kids/talk-pilgrim>

Have a  
**Happy Thanksgiving**



"Fare Thee Well"