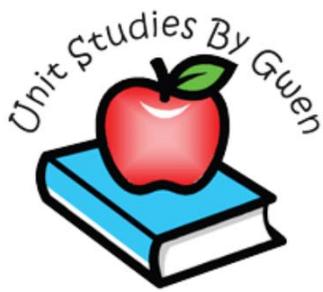


Print double sided. Cut on the red lines. Fold on the dotted lines.



You may print as many of these as you need for your class or other event.

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Thanksgiving

by Gwen Nicodemus



This book belongs to:

Blank lines for writing the owner's name.

What does your family do for Thanksgiving? Does your family celebrate it as a memory to the Pilgrims or as a celebration of the harvest?

Handwriting practice lines for the student's response.

Some men, women, and children left England in a ship called the *Mayflower* and set sail in 1620.

They sailed to America, the new world.

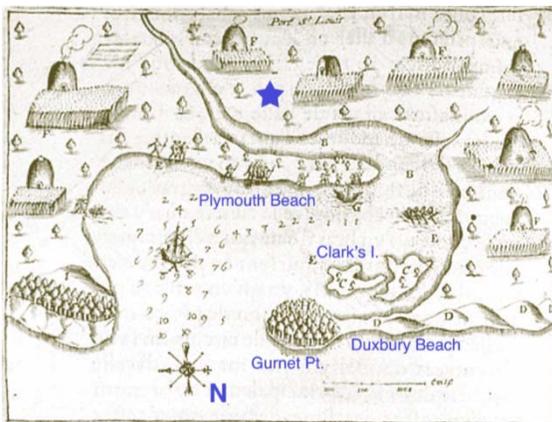
They sailed for 66 days.



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The men and women settled in America and made a settlement called Plymouth Colony.

103 people landed at the settlement in November 1620.



2

President Abraham Lincoln officially proclaimed the national holiday of Thanksgiving.

Until Lincoln, Thanksgiving was sometimes celebrated and sometimes not. Also, it was celebrated on different days.

Thanksgiving was made an official holiday in 1863.



11

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Today, in the United States, we celebrate Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday of November each year.

We only celebrate Thanksgiving for one day.

Other countries have similar holidays. Canada celebrates Thanksgiving on the second Monday in October, and the United Kingdom celebrates the Harvest festival at the end of harvest.

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10						

The people that landed were called "Pilgrims." They left the "old world" so they could practice their own religion without interference from governments.

When the Pilgrims landed, they all signed a contract called the *Mayflower Compact*. Everyone that signed the *Mayflower Compact* promised to cooperate for the general good of the Colony.



3

Squanto also taught the Pilgrims how to find clams and eels for eating; how to hunt for deer, bears, and turkeys; and, how to find nuts and berries.



8

Many people died during the first winter.



5

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The first winter in Plymouth was very difficult for the colonists.

There was not enough food. People got sick and people starved.

In November 1620 there were 103 people in the colony. By September 1621, there were only 53 people in the colony.



4

At harvest time, the Pilgrims had a big celebration. They had food!

The Indians also came to the celebration.

The first Thanksgiving lasted for three days. They ate deer, roast duck, goose, turkey, clams, eels, corn, bread, pudding, leeks, wild plums, and berries.



9

America had people living in it before the Pilgrims arrived.

We call these people Native Americans today, but back in 1620 they were called Indians.

Squanto and Samoset were two Indians who tried to help the Pilgrims during their first winter in Plymouth.

Squanto and Samoset knew English because they were captured by the English before.



6

Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to find herring, a fish, and use it as a fertilizer to plant corn, pumpkins, and beans.

The seeds the Pilgrims brought with them from England did not grow well in Plymouth, so learning from Squanto was important.



7