

The First Thanksgiving

Nearly four hundred years ago, a lot of people in England were very unhappy.

"Let us go away from this country," said the unhappy Englishmen to each other; and so they left their homes and they went to America. They travelled in a ship, called the Mayflower.



There were one hundred people on board - mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters and little children. It was cold and uncomfortable and they were two months sailing over the water.

Then at last all the tired Pilgrims landed from the ship on a spot now called Plymouth Rock. But the weather was cold, it was winter, the snow was icy, the wind was strong, and the Pilgrims had no help for cutting down trees and build their houses and they hadn't got enough food too.

But they weren't alone, the Wampanoag Indians helped them, they shared their food with the Pilgrims so that they could survive till the Spring. So, next year, the Pilgrims did a great festival, with food and music and they invited their friends, the Indians. They were very thankful to God and to the Indian people.

Today, Thanksgiving Day is a very important date for American people. People travel all around the country. Families spend the day together: they have lunch and dinner, they write "thanksgiving" cards and they watch sports on TV. They cook a lot of traditional food: vegetables, turkey and pumpkin pie.

