

<http://www.history.com/topics/thanksgiving/history-of-thanksgiving/videos/bet-you-didnt-know-thanksgiving>

Bet You Didn't Know...

THANKSGIVING



Watch the video 'Bet you didn't know:

Thanksgiving' from History.com and decide if the sentences below are TRUE or FALSE.

- 1) The story of the first Thanksgiving says that the Pilgrims invited local Native Americans to share their meal with them. – T / F
- 2) Thanksgiving became an annual tradition only more than 200 years later after Pilgrims' arrival into the New World. – T / F
- 3) The first Thanksgiving in 1625 was not just one big meal; it was a three-day festival of eating, hunting and other entertainment. – T / F
- 4) The first Thanksgiving was devoted to the Pilgrims' first successful harvest. – T / F
- 5) The Indians killed 15 deer as a gift for the colonists. – T / F
- 6) Turkey was on the first Thanksgiving Menu. – T / F
- 7) Such traditional Thanksgiving food as pumpkin pie, potatoes and cranberry sauce were not on the first Thanksgiving menu. – T / F
- 8) Pilgrims repeated the Thanksgiving tradition every year starting from 1621. – T / F
- 9) In 1789 President George Washington announced the First Ever National Thanksgiving Holiday which took place on Thursday, November 26th. – T / F
- 10) American writer Sara Josepha Hale was inspired by 'Diary of a Pilgrim' and recreated the first Thanksgiving Feast. – T / F
- 11) In 1837 Sara Josepha Hale started a nearly 30-year campaign to make Thanksgiving a National Holiday. – T / F
- 12) It was also Sara Josepha Hale who published recipes for pumpkin pie, turkey and stuffing that probably didn't appear on Pilgrims' plates but became symbols of modern celebration. – T / F
- 13) In 1863 during the Civil War President Abraham Lincoln announced that the nation would celebrate Thanksgiving every year on the final Friday of November. – T / F
- 14) In 1939 President Franklin D. Roosevelt decided to celebrate the holiday one week earlier to extend holiday shopping season. – T / F
- 15) In 1941 the holiday was finally fixed as the third Thursday of November. – T / F
- 16) One of the corkiest Thanksgiving traditions started in 1989 when President George H. W. Bush granted the first official pardon to a turkey. – T / F
- 17) Every November since then, the current President has given a retreat to one or two turkeys sending them into retirement on a farm rather than to a dinner table. – T / F



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KEYS: Bet You Didn't Know... THANKSGIVING

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TRANSCRIPT

We are all familiar with the story of the first Thanksgiving when the Pilgrims invited local Native Americans to share a meal with them. But we bet you didn't know Thanksgiving didn't become an annual tradition until more than two hundred years later.

That first Thanksgiving in 1621 wasn't just one big meal; it was a three-day festival of eating, hunting and other entertainments in honor of the Pilgrim's first successful harvest. The Indians killed five deer as gifts for the colonists, so venison was definitely on the first Thanksgiving menu. But we bet you didn't know that turkey was not! They also didn't have pumpkin pie or potatoes, which haven't been introduced to New England yet and while they may have eaten cranberries, they would have been served plain, not in a sauce or relish.

The pilgrims didn't plan on starting a Thanksgiving tradition. In fact, they didn't repeat the November celebration in subsequent years. In 1789, President George Washington announced the first ever National Thanksgiving Holiday, which took place on Thursday November 26th, but it didn't become an annual tradition nationwide until the nineteenth century.

That's when an American writer named Sara Josepha Hale, most famous for writing the nursery rhyme "Mary had a little lamb", was inspired by "Diary of Pilgrim life" to recreate that first Thanksgiving feast. Beginning in 1827, Hale weighed a nearly thirty-year campaign to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. She also published recipes for pumpkin pie; turkey and stuffing. That probably didn't appear on the Pilgrims' plates but would become the staples of modern Thanksgiving meals.

In 1863, in the mist of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln announced that the nation would celebrate Thanksgiving every year on the final Thursday in November. But did you know in 1939 President Franklin D. Roosevelt decided to move the holiday up a week to give the US retailers more time to make money during the Christmas shopping season? The move was widely criticized and in 1941, FDR signed a bill fixing Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday in November, where it stays today.

One of the corkiest Thanksgiving traditions began in 1989 when President George H.W. Bush granted the first official pardon to a Turkey. Every November since then, the current Oval Office occupant has given a retreat to one or two turkeys sending them into retirement on a farm rather than to a dinner table. Though it only began in the late twentieth century, the story has become one of the more unusual chapters on the long history of Thanksgiving traditions.