

Title: *Exploring Lifestyles of the Past—Heritage*

Grade Level: Kindergarten

Curriculum Areas: Language Arts, Social Studies

Purpose / Objective:

The students will know that lifestyles of the past were different from what they are today. The students will appreciate and value lifestyles of the past. Students may participate in experiences associated with the past and learn to be nonjudgmental when dealing with differences between the present and past.

Procedure / Activities:

1. Introduce the theme of Heritage—Families of the Past by asking the students to brainstorm things related to Thanksgiving at their house. Use a word web or organize the student's thoughts.
2. Read and discuss the book, *The First Thanksgiving*. After completing the book, ask the students to again brainstorm things related to Thanksgiving. Use a different web for this activity.
3. Compare the webs while giving factual information about the pilgrims and Indians. Discuss the friendship between the pilgrims and Indians.
4. Show the students a movie of the Plymouth, MA settlement.
5. Discuss the movie. Have the students compare the lifestyles of the pilgrims with today's lifestyle.
6. Journal Writing—students will draw a picture of the pilgrim lifestyle and write a story depicting what life was like during the pilgrim days.

Additional Activities:

1. Have students make costumes to portray pilgrim men and women and Indian men and women.
2. Have an authentic "First Thanksgiving" dinner (deer meat, kernel corn, cranberries, etc.).
3. Have students perform a play dramatizing the "First Thanksgiving." Invite parents to come and enjoy the play.
4. Introduce games that pilgrim and Indian children played in the 1600's.
5. Daily Journals—topics can include the following:
6. What My Family Does on Thanksgiving...
7. If I Were a Pilgrim...
8. If I Were an Indian...

9. The First Thanksgiving
10. Our Thanksgiving Feast

Time Required: 2 weeks

Materials:

1. Journals
2. Pencils
3. Crayons
4. Crafts
5. *The First Thanksgiving*
6. Games
7. Thanksgiving meal foods

Additional References:

N/A

Lesson Plan Provided By:

Yvonne Flowers
Cox Elementary School
Moultrie, Georgia

