Thanksgiving: What Makes It Special?

Thanksgiving is a national holiday celebrated in the United States on the fourth Thursday of November. It is a day for families and friends to come together, eat a big meal, and give thanks for the good things in life.



Thanksgiving, What Makes It Special? by Lisa McClatchy

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The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621 by the Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians. The Pilgrims were a group of English settlers who had come to America seeking religious freedom. The Wampanoag Indians were a Native American tribe who had lived in the area for centuries.

The Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians shared a meal together to celebrate the Pilgrims' first harvest in America. The meal included turkey, venison, fish, corn, and squash. The Pilgrims also brought over some of their own food, such as bread and cheese.

Thanksgiving became a national holiday in 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed it a day of "thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent

Father who dwelleth in the heavens." Thanksgiving has been celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November since 1941.

Thanksgiving is a special day for many reasons. It is a time to:

- Spend time with family and friends
- Give thanks for the good things in life
- Celebrate the harvest
- Enjoy a delicious meal

Thanksgiving is also a time to reflect on the history of our country. The Pilgrims and Wampanoag Indians were very different people, but they were able to come together and share a meal in peace. This is a reminder that we can all work together to build a better future.

Thanksgiving Traditions

Thanksgiving has many traditions, some of which include:

- Eating a big meal
- Watching football
- Going to a parade
- Spending time with family and friends
- Giving thanks

The most important tradition of Thanksgiving is giving thanks. This can be done in many ways, such as saying a prayer, writing a letter to someone

you are thankful for, or simply taking a moment to think about the things you are grateful for.

Thanksgiving Recipes

Thanksgiving is a time to enjoy a delicious meal. Some of the most popular Thanksgiving recipes include:

- Turkey
- Mashed potatoes
- Stuffing
- Green bean casserole
- Cranberry sauce
- Pumpkin pie

There are many ways to prepare Thanksgiving dinner. You can cook the turkey in the oven, on the grill, or even in a smoker. You can make your own mashed potatoes, stuffing, and cranberry sauce, or you can buy them pre-made. No matter how you prepare your Thanksgiving dinner, make sure to enjoy it with your family and friends.

Thanksgiving Crafts

Thanksgiving is also a great time to do some crafts. Some popular Thanksgiving crafts include:

- Making a turkey out of construction paper
- Making a cornucopia out of a paper bag

- Making a pumpkin out of a paper plate
- Making a Thanksgiving card
- Making a Thanksgiving wreath

Thanksgiving crafts are a great way to get kids involved in the holiday. They can also be a lot of fun for adults to do. So get creative and make some Thanksgiving crafts this year.

Thanksgiving is a special day that is celebrated in many different ways. It is a time to spend with family and friends, give thanks for the good things in life, and celebrate the harvest. It is also a time to reflect on the history of our country and to be thankful for the many blessings we have.



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