



Gobble It UP!

STUDENT LEARNING ACTIVITIES

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Happy Thanksgiving!

FUN FACT:

California sells more "fresh" turkey than any other state.

Soon it will be Thanksgiving Day. We celebrate it on the fourth Thursday in November every year. But do you know how Thanksgiving Day got its start? Read and fill in the blanks with words from the "Word Bank."



WORD BANK

Abraham Lincoln
celebrate
country
grateful

harvest
log houses
Native Americans
November

plant
races
shared
starvation

thankful
Thanksgiving
Thanksgiving
three

turkey
winter

"The First Thanksgiving"

Historians do not all agree on when or where the first _____ was held. Many believe it originated in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621. The first _____ was long and cold. Many Pilgrims got sick and died. But when spring came, those who were left built _____ and a town hall. The Native Americans taught the Pilgrims better ways to hunt and grow foods in the new _____, and the Pilgrims were _____. Plymouth Governor William Bradford invited neighboring _____ to join the Pilgrims for a festival of fun and feasting in thankfulness for the good _____. Wild _____, deer, clams, corn, berries, bread, and perhaps popcorn were some of the foods that were _____. Games and _____ were part of the fun. The celebration lasted for _____ days.

Others believe the first _____ was at Jamestown, Virginia, as part of an old English festival called "Harvest Home." Records tell us Captain John Smith had fought off _____ in Virginia as early as 1607 because Native Americans gave him corn seeds and taught him how to _____ them.

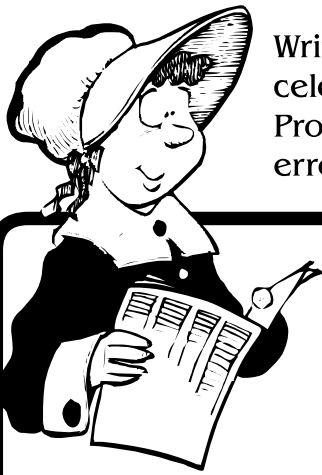
Thanksgiving was officially proclaimed a national holiday by President _____ in 1863. It was traditionally celebrated the last Thursday in _____, but in 1941, Congress changed it to the fourth Thursday of November. It is a time for families and friends to come together to _____ the many things for which they are _____.



Correlation to Standards

4th Grade : R 2.0, 2.1, 2.2 - 5th Grade: R 2.0, 2.2

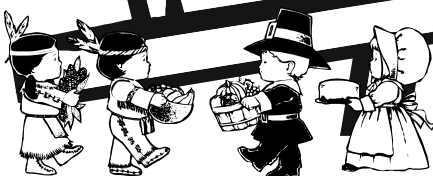
6th Grade : R 1.0, 1.1, 1.4, 2.0



Write a paragraph about your most memorable Thanksgiving and how it was celebrated. Describe what foods were eaten by using adjectives and details. Proofread for complete sentences and any grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors.

Draw a picture of what it might look like at your house on Thanksgiving.

Share your paragraph and drawing with the class.

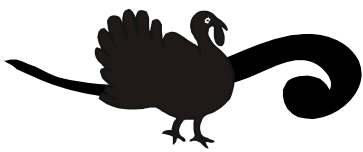


Correlation to Standards

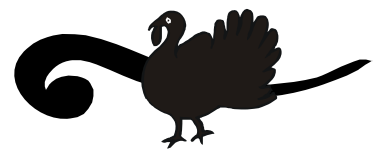
4th Grade : W 2.0, 2.1.a, 2.1.c, 2.1.d, LC 1.0, 1.1, 1.2

5th Grade: W 2.4.c, LC 1.0, 1.4, LS 1.0

6th Grade : LC 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.4



"Turkeys Then and Now"



Turkeys have been an important part of Thanksgiving right from the beginning. Wild turkeys are native to the Americas. Fossils show that they roamed the Americas over ten million years ago. They were probably first tamed and raised for food and for their colorful feathers by Native Americans of pre-Columbian Mexico.

Christopher Columbus, Hernando Cortez, and other explorers liked eating turkey, and wanted to share the birds with the people back home. Turkeys were taken from the Americas to Spain by explorers as early as 1519. They had reached England by 1541. By the 17th century, turkeys were coming back across the ocean in the opposite direction. Now, English-bred strains were being brought back to the Americas, and some of those turkeys were interbred with the U.S. strains to produce a variety of common breeds.

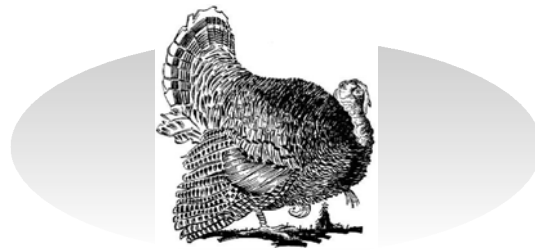
There are still many wild turkeys in the Americas. They are smaller than the commercial birds, and prefer to live in woodlands near water. Seeds and insects make up most of their diet, but they will occasionally gulp down a frog or small lizard. They can fly up to 55 mph for short distances and run at 25 mph.

Until about 1935, domestic (tame) turkeys were bred and raised mostly for their colorful feathers. Then, breeding changed to emphasize the meat of the bird. Commercial turkey breeders today raise white, broad-breasted birds. Colored feathers contain pigments that can leave dark marks under the skin. Customers do not like the dark marks, so commercial growers only grow white turkeys. These turkeys are too heavy to fly.

Today, there are about 2,000 full-time turkey farmers in the U.S. and over 5,000 small turkey operations. A typical full-time turkey farmer raises 50,000 birds each year.

Turkey is a nutritious, low-calorie, low cholesterol, and versatile food. It is popular not only at Thanksgiving and holiday time, but can be eaten anytime of the year. It is an ideal food for children to learn to make and serve themselves as well. Once a whole turkey is cooked and sliced, the meat is easy for children to use in making sandwiches and other simple recipes. A wide range of turkey products are also kid-pleasing and convenient: drumsticks, turkey sticks, sliced deli meats (i.e., ham, bologna, smoked salami), turkey burgers, turkey bacon, franks, and more.

FUN FACT: In 2003, California turkey producers raised 17.5 million birds, which ranks California among the "Top Five" turkey producing states.



Correlation to Standards

4th Grade : R 1.1 - 5th Grade: R 1.1
6th Grade : R 1.1

Quiz



Circle the best answer.

1. Many historians believe the first Thanksgiving originated in _____ in 1621.

- a. Washington, D.C.
- b. Sacramento, California
- c. Plymouth, Massachusetts

2. Other historians believe the first Thanksgiving was at _____.

- a. Washington, D.C.
- b. Jamestown, Virginia
- c. Boston, Massachusetts

3. Which president made Thanksgiving a national holiday?

- a. George Washington
- b. Abraham Lincoln
- c. William Bradford

4. In the United States, Thanksgiving is on the _____ Thursday in November.

- a. second
- b. third
- c. fourth

5. Wild turkeys are native to _____.

- a. Europe
- b. the Americas
- c. Asia
- d. a & c

6. Early explorers took turkeys to _____ as early as 1519.

- a. Spain
- b. China
- c. England

7. Which statement is not true?

- a. Wild turkeys can fly.
- b. Tame turkeys can fly.
- c. a & b

8. Until 1935, turkeys were raised for their _____.

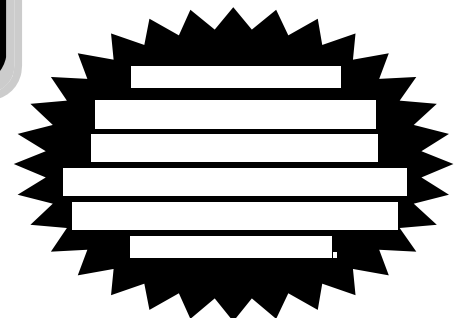
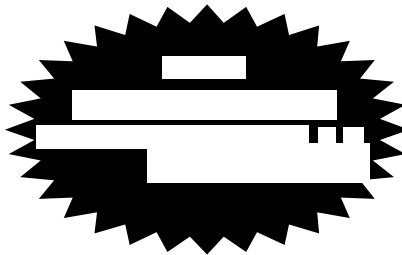
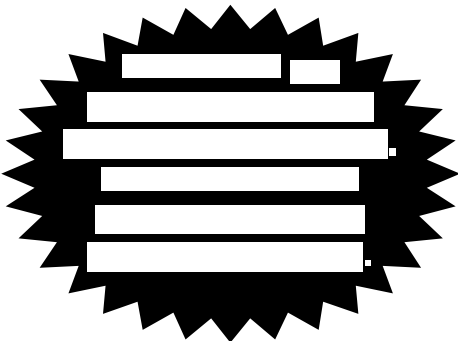
- a. white meat
- b. dark meat
- c. colorful feathers
- d. All of the above

9. An average turkey farmer raises _____ birds each year.

- a. 50,000
- b. 5,000
- c. 500

10. Turkey _____.

- a. is a nutritious food
- b. is a food that can be eaten any time of the year
- c. is available in a wide range of turkey products
- d. All of the above



Correlation to Standards

6th Grade : R 1.0, 1.1, 1.4, 2.0

2

Kids in the Kitchen

My Kitchen Plan

Check off the things you do.
Tell why each is important:

- _____ Have an adult helper.
- _____ Read the recipe. Collect everything you need.
- _____ Wash hands with warm, soapy water before handling food.
- _____ Make sure everything that touches the food is clean (tables, pans, counters, etc.).
- _____ Be very careful of sharp tools, and hot stoves.
- _____ Keep hot foods hot, cold foods cold.
- _____ Clean up and wash dishes!

Cooking is fun!
But to be safe,
you need help!



Make sure
turkey is cooked all the
way through and is no
longer pink.

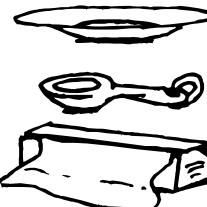
Turkey Tortilla Sandwich Recipe

You need:

- ☐ 1 slice cooked turkey or turkey sandwich meat
- ☐ 1 slice cheddar cheese
- ☐ 1 lettuce leaf
- ☐ 1 Tbsp. salsa
- ☐ 1 Tbsp. sour cream
- ☐ 1 8" soft corn tortilla

You do:

1. Ask an adult to help you.
2. Gather
 - ☐ a microwave
 - ☐ safe plate
 - ☐ measuring spoon
 - ☐ plastic wrap
3. Put the tortilla on the plate.
4. Spread salsa on tortilla. Put turkey, cheese and lettuce on top of salsa.
5. Roll the tortilla so the salsa, turkey, cheese and lettuce are tucked inside.
6. Keep the seam side of the tortilla down or fasten with a toothpick to keep it from opening.
7. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave on high 45 seconds.
8. Enjoy with sour cream.



Turkey is good
for you. It's low
in fat and high
in protein.



Just like California consumers eat more turkey than any other state,
more than 600 million pounds per year.



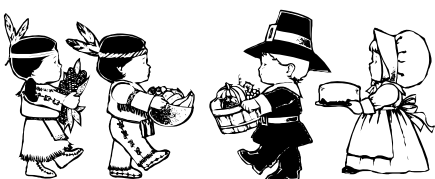
Be Californian
Buy California GrownSM

Here are the logos for several California Poultry Producers. How many do you recognize?



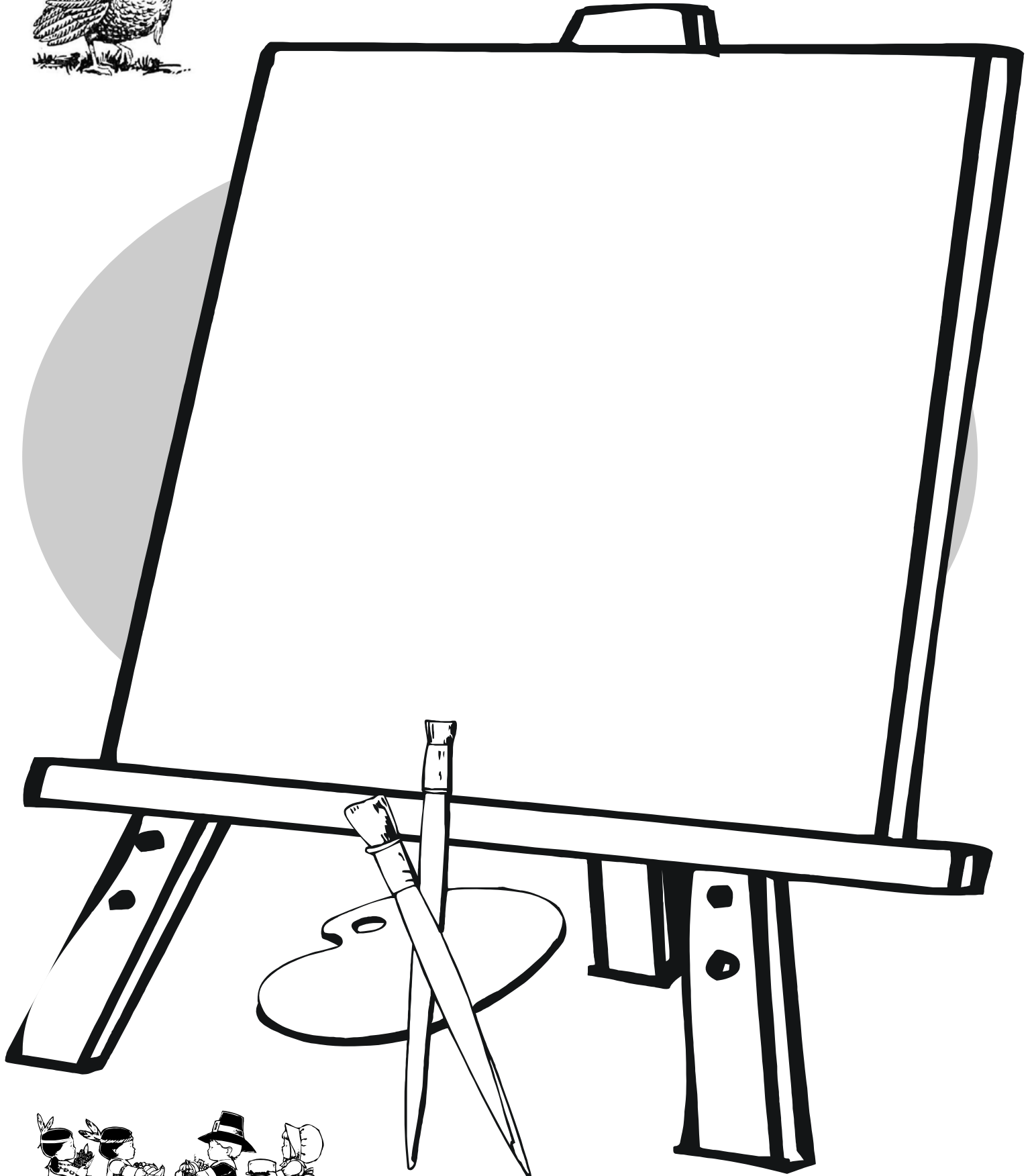
Did you know?

- ➔ The world's largest turkey breeding company, Nicholas Turkey Breeding Farms, is located in Sonoma, California.
- ➔ Major California turkey brands are Foster Farms, Zacky Farms, Diestel Turkey Ranch, and Willie Bird Turkeys. They are all family owned.
- ➔ Most California turkey is sold in supermarkets and grocery stores, and 95% is sold in California and the West Coast.
- ➔ More than two-thirds of California consumers say they prefer fresh turkey over frozen.
- ➔ Consumers prefer "California Grown" turkey over out-of-state brands.





Note how creative and colorful the logos are. Create a name for your own poultry company and design your own logo. Make it colorful, appealing to the eye, and add a slogan if you wish. Be prepared to share it with your class.



NAME: _____
DATE: _____

COLOR ME!



**Gobble It
UP!**