



A New Theme Every Month 
A New Story Every Sunday by Noon

Thanksgiving

People have been giving thanks at harvest time for thousands of years. Ancient Greece had a festival and brought gifts to the shrine of Demeter, the goddess of the harvest. The Romans had a similar festival, but their goddess of the harvest was named Ceres. The Hebrews had the Feast of the Booths. The Christians in Europe said prayers to bless the plantings and reaping of the harvest. When white people first came to North America the Native Americans had many harvest festivals such as “Green Corn Thanksgiving” and “Strawberry Thanksgiving”.

Our first American national day of thanksgiving was proclaimed by our first president, George Washington, to give thanks for winning our freedom from England in the American Revolution. But it didn’t become an annual holiday until 1863, when President Lincoln declared the last Thursday in November to be Thanksgiving. He hoped it would bring a nation—that was broken in two by the civil war—together in a spirit of unity. Today we come together with family and friends in that same spirit.

Fiction

1. *It’s Thanksgiving** by Jack Prelutsky
2. *Gracias, the Thanksgiving Turkey** by Joy Cowley
3. *The Table Where Rich People Sit** by Byrd Baylor
4. *Molly’s Pilgrim^* by Barbara Cohen
5. *Beauty and the Beaks: A Turkey’s Cautionary Tale*
by Mary Jane & Herm Auch
6. *Amelia Bedelia Talks Turkey* by Herman Parish
7. *The Secret of Saying Thanks* by Douglas Wood
8. *Just So Thankful* by Mercer Mayer
9. *Thanks for Thanksgiving* by Julie Markes
10. *The Firefighter’s Thanksgiving* by Maribeth Boelts
11. *The Perfect Thanksgiving* by Eileen Spinelli
12. *The Littlest Pilgrim* by Brandi Dougherty
13. *Thanksgiving at the Tappleton’s* by Eileen Spinelli
14. *The Know-Nothings Talk Turkey* by Michele Spirm
15. *Minnie & Moo and the Thanksgiving Tree*
by Denys Cazet
16. *Thanksgiving Turkey Trouble* by Abby Klein (chpt)
17. *Thanksgiving on Thursday* by Mary Pope Osborne
(Magic Tree House - chpt)

Non-Fiction or Informational

18. *The Story of Thanksgiving** by Robert Merrill Bartlett
19. *Sarah Morton’s Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl* by Kate Waters
20. *Mayflower 1620: A New Look at a Pilgrim Voyage*
by National Geographic
21. *1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving*
by National Geographic
22. *Squanto: Friend of the Pilgrims*
by Clyde Robert Bulla
23. *Squanto and the First Thanksgiving* by Joyce Kessel
24. *The First Thanksgiving* by Linda Hayward
25. *Pilgrims* by Mary Pope Osborne & Natalie Boyce
(Magic Tree House Non-Fiction)
26. *The First Thanksgiving*
by Susan Whitehurst (The Library of the Pilgrims)
27. *This is the Feast* by Diane Z. Shore

* also listed on the monthly flyer

^ previously read on StoryLine

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We encourage you to follow along in your own copy of the Book of the Week.

*You can check one out at your local library or you can purchase a copy (when available) at a 25% discount at the **Red Balloon Bookshop** on Grand Avenue in St. Paul (651.224.8320) or the **Wild Rumpus** in Linden Hills in Minneapolis (612.920.5005).*

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