

Here are your Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt Story Clues. Each clue has information about the first Thanksgiving, and clues that will lead to the next clue.

Getting Started Clue (You'll read this to your children to help them find the first hidden clue.)

In 1620,a long time ago, a journey did begin. Aboard the Mayflower from England, into the autumn wind. They went to seek their freedom, to worship as they chose, but little did they expect the challenges that arose. Of course they sailed on water, but now you have to think. The next clue it is hidden, where you go to get a drink!



Clue #1

The Mayflower had 70 grown-ups, and 32 children too. Two captains were among that rank, their job was big to do. To find their names go onward, and walk across the floor. The next clue you will find it, at your very own front ______!

Clue #2

The captains of the Mayflower were Mr. Jones and Mr. Standish. Brave they were to navigate through storms and waves and big fish. For many days they sailed; want to know the number? Go where water flows, and no longer will you wonder!





Clue #3

For 66 days they traveled, the space was very small. Go find a place in your home, where underneath you crawl.



Clue #4

The passengers were very cramped. And that's not the only thing. For lack of space they had little food, not much could they bring. Where is the food in your home? Where do you keep it cold? Go here for the next clue, to learn what did unfold!

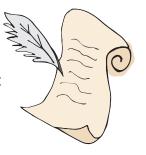


Clue #5

On board the ship lots of food they did lack. But they had dried fruit, and oatmeal, and something called hardtack. And, oh, upon the journey, a baby boy arrived. His name was Oceanus, but one sailor did not survive. When they finally landed, Cape Cod they did spy. Now go and find in your home where you'd look to wave good bye.

Clue #6

Before the Pilgrims left the ship they wrote some famous words. They became the Mayflower Compact, self-government rules observed. One of the rules called for a governor, want to know his name? Go to a place where you look, and what you see is the same.



Clue #7

John Carver was the first governor; his job was tough to do. A new land, unfamiliar, a cold winter to soon get through. And when they truly settled, Cape Cod was not the place. They moved their group to Plymouth, their permanent living place. That's when a group of new friends, the Pilgrims they did find, the Native People, Wampanoag, helped keep the Pilgrims alive. For your next clue go venture and seek with just a glance, the place you go to store your clothes, your shirts, and shoes and pants.



Clue #8

The Pilgrims worked very hard, seven houses they did build. But winter air was too cold still, about half of them were killed. Yet those who lived kept trying, and harvested the land. Their friends the Wampanoag lent a guiding hand. At night they were all so weary as they headed off to bed. The next clue in your own house is where you lay your head.





Clue #9

To celebrate the harvest, the Pilgrims baked and cooked. The Wampanoag hunted, and to the feast they took, deer meat called venison, and ducks for dinner too. They had the first Thanksgiving and gave thanks and prayers anew. So when you have your dinner, where is it that you feast? You will find the final clue, where you sit and eat.

Clue #10

At the meal the children gathered, the men and women too. The Chief of Wampanoag, brought 90 of his men too. What a glorious day it was, so much they'd overcome, as the celebration went on for days, beneath the autumn sun. There were no potatoes or pumpkin pie, but corn, and squash instead. And you know their hearts were full as they broke and ate their bread.



So on Thanksgiving Day...

when you dig into your meal, think about the Pilgrims and what they had to feel. Their journey was a hard one, but they did not give in, and that is where Thanksgiving, friends, really did begin.