

# CANADIAN THANKSGIVING ACTIVITIES

## PDF & DIGITAL FORMATS



# RESOURCE INCLUDES



- ✓ 11 Thanksgiving Activities
- ✓ Detailed Lesson Plans
- ✓ MP3 Audio Files of Articles
- ✓ Choice Board Format
- ✓ Graphic Organizers
- ✓ Answer Keys
- ✓ PDF & Google Slides™ Formats

  
**2 Peas and a Dog**

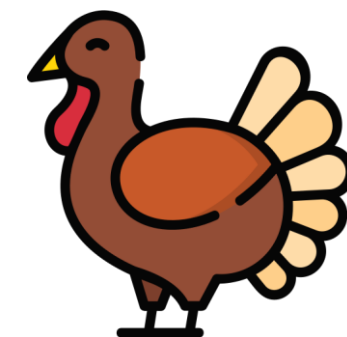
Middle School Teaching Resources

# WHAT'S INSIDE?



## Activity Overview

- ✓ Non-Fiction Article
- ✓ Thanksgiving Choice Board (9 Options)
  1. Word Search
  2. Crossword Puzzle
  3. Field Trip List
  4. Plan Your Menu
  5. Social Media Posts
  6. Vegetarian Thanksgiving Foods
  7. Dinner Guests
  8. Word Detective
  9. Thank You Card Lesson & Templates
- ✓ Whole Class Game: Word Call Game Cards



# WHAT'S INSIDE?



## LESSON PLAN



### Thanksgiving

#### Lesson Overview:

Students will work on their literacy skills as they work through the Canadian Thanksgiving activities.

#### Materials Needed:

- Non-Fiction Article
- Thanksgiving Choice Board
- Word Search
- Crossword Puzzle
- Plan Your Menu
- Social Media Post
- Dinner Guests
- Word Detective
- Thanksgiving Choice Board Assessment
- Word Call Game Cards

## LESSON PLANS

#### Teacher Instructions:

1. Have a look through this package of middle school Canadian Thanksgiving activities and decide which activities to use with your students.
2. First, complete the non-fiction article lesson, so students have the background information they need to complete the choice board activities.
3. For the choice board activities, have students complete one from each horizontal row – or all of the activities if time permits.
4. Save the Word Call Game for the last class period just before the Thanksgiving holiday.

# THANKSGIVING

<b>Word Search</b> Complete the word search.	<b>Crossword Puzzle</b> Complete the crossword puzzle.	<b>THANKSGIVING MENU</b>															
<b>Plan Your Menu</b> What would you serve for a Thanksgiving meal if you were in charge of the meal? Create your menu and explain your food choices.	<b>Social Media Post</b> Create 10 different social media posts about Thanksgiving.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Course</th> <th>Explain Why You Chose This Food</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Appetizer</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Soup</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Side Dish 1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Side Dish 2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Side Dish 3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dessert</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Course	Explain Why You Chose This Food	Appetizer		Soup		Side Dish 1		Side Dish 2		Side Dish 3		Dessert		
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<b>Dinner Guests</b> You have been left in charge of your family's Thanksgiving meal. You are allowed to invite 5 guests. Who would you invite to this meal? Explain with details. They can be friends, family, or celebrities.	<b>Word Detective</b> You have been provided with a list of 20 Thanksgiving-themed words. Unscramble each word, then create a short Thanksgiving-themed mystery story using 10 of the words.																

## 9 CHOICE BOARD ACTIVITIES



# WHAT'S INSIDE?



## ANSWERS

When is Thanksgiving in Canada celebrated? Canadian Thanksgiving is on the second Monday in October every year.

What was eaten at the first Canadian Thanksgiving? Frohisher's crew feasted on salt beef, biscuits and fire.

When was Canadian Thanksgiving officially declared a holiday? In 1957, the Parliament of Canada declared Thanksgiving a statutory holiday on the second Monday of October.

When was Thanksgiving in Canada previously celebrated, and why was the day changed? (2 marks) It was previously celebrated on the fourth of November. The day was changed to the second Monday of October to create a long weekend.

What provinces do you consider Canadian Thanksgiving to be an official holiday? All provinces and territories.

Explain two of the traditional foods eaten at Canadian Thanksgiving. (2 marks) Students can explain traditional Canadian Thanksgiving foods like turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie.

Explain two of the traditions families observe during Canadian Thanksgiving. (2 marks) Students can explain traditions like having a meal with family and friends, giving thanks, and participating in harvest activities.

## ANSWER KEYS

## SAMPLE ANSWERS

Field Trip Idea	Explain How This Trip Relates To Thanksgiving
Local farm visit	To learn about the harvest season and the importance of agriculture. Participate in picking pumpkins.
Food bank or community kitchen	To learn about the importance of giving back during Thanksgiving. The students could also organize a food drive.
Local kitchen where students can learn to prepare traditional Canadian Thanksgiving foods.	Students can learn about the changing colours of the leaves and learn about the importance of change seasons.
Outdoor picnic	Students can enjoy nature, share a meal, and express what they are grateful for.
Virtual guest speaker	Have a local farmer, Indigenous Elder, or environmentalist share their thoughts on Thanksgiving.
Harvest festival	To participate in pumpkin carving, hayrides, and learn about the significance of the harvest season.

## CANADIAN THANKSGIVING

**The Origins of Canadian Thanksgiving**  
Every year in October, Canadians celebrate Thanksgiving with friends and family. Before European explorers reached Canada, Indigenous Peoples held their own harvest celebrations in the fall.



A delicious Thanksgiving meal.

Canadian Thanksgiving's roots go back to 1578. It has been said that English explorer Martin Frobisher and his crew gave thanks for their safe arrival at then-Frobisher Bay, present-day Nunavut.

The crew feasted on salt beef, biscuits and mushy peas and were thankful they had a safe arrival – and for the food on their plates.

However, it wasn't until November 6, 1879, the first official Thanksgiving was celebrated. In 1957, Parliament officially declared Thanksgiving a holiday. Thanksgiving was to be celebrated on the second Monday of October every year.

It wasn't always celebrated in October, though. It was previously celebrated on the fourth of November.

This way, Thanksgiving can be celebrated in all provinces and territories.

Currently, Thanksgiving is a statutory holiday in all provinces and territories except Prince Edward Island and Brunswick.

**The Meaning of Thanksgiving**  
When Parliament declared Thanksgiving a holiday, it was to be a day of thanksgiving for the bountiful harvest. Canada has a long history of celebrating the harvest.

Nowadays, Thanksgiving is a day to be thankful for the things we have.

## CANADIAN THANKSGIVING



A popular Thanksgiving dessert.

These are called traditions. Some traditions are:

- Family Time:** Families come together to eat, talk, and enjoy each other's company.
- Helping Others:** Some people like to help others during Thanksgiving.

No matter how people celebrate, Thanksgiving is a time to be with family and friends and to say thank you for everything good.

### Word Bank

**Explorer** – A person who travels to faraway places to learn about these new places.

**Gratitude** – When you feel really thankful and happy for something kind that someone did for you or something good that happened to you.

**Spiritual** – When people think about what is special and important to them and how they can be thankful for it with their hearts.

## REGULAR & MODIFIED ARTICLE OPTIONS

# ENGAGING MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

## CANADIAN THANKSGIVING

**The Origins of Canadian Thanksgiving**  
Every year in October, Canadians celebrate Thanksgiving with friends and family. Before European explorers reached Canada, Indigenous Peoples held their own harvest celebrations in the fall.



Canadian Thanksgiving's roots go back to 1578. In 1578, English explorer Martin Frobisher and his crew gave thanks for their safe arrival at the present-day location of Frobisher Bay, Nunavut.

The crew baked biscuits and were thankful for the safe arrival and for the food they found.

However, in 1879, the holiday was celebrated on October 8th.

It wasn't until 1957 that Thanksgiving was officially a national holiday. The holiday was celebrated on October 8th.

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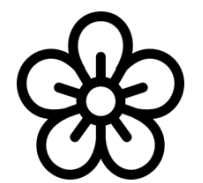
## THANKSGIVING FIELD TRIPS

Field Trip Idea	Explain How This Trip Relates To Thanksgiving

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## FALL WORD SEARCH

T V H T H A N K S G I V I N G  
A S C A R E C R O W W D P R A  
R I L Y C H E S T N U T U F Z  
B T F O L I A G E M L U M J H  
E P D Q H A R V E S T M P X U  
C O R N M A Z E B K V F K R B  
J U  
A H  
L K  
V X  
B



# THANK YOU

## THANKSGIVING

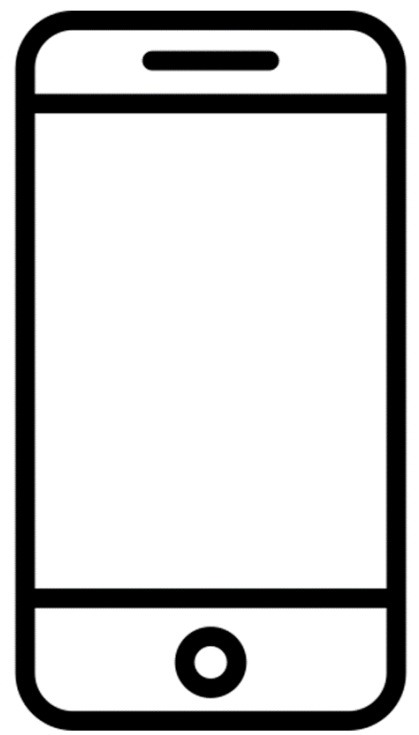
Word Search Complete the word search.	Crossword Puzzle Complete the crossword puzzle.	Field Trip Develop a list of possible Thanksgiving-related field trips.
Plan Your Menu What would you	Social Media Posts Create 10 different	Vegetarian Foods What do vegetarians
Gratitude	Harvest	Feast
Stuffing	Mashed Potatoes	Pumpkin Pie
Corn	Thankful	Sharing
Pumpkin	Gravy	Fall
Squash	October	Holiday
Turkey	Cranberry	Family
Friends	Leftovers	Decorations
Dessert	Ham	



## WORD DETECTIVE

Word	Unscrambled Word
detroutgi	
rhvseat	
safet	
rtukye	
ycro	
uftr	
dhe	
kpr	
mia	
dsne	
fhl	
ghn	
eos	
kpp	
vyag	
llaf	
pelr	
aqst	
cobe	

## SOCIAL MEDIA POST



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# LESSON FORMATS



**PDF**

✓ Individual & Whole Unit



**DIGITAL**

✓ Google Slides

**RESOURCE CAN BE USED IN-PERSON OR ONLINE**