

The H.O.T. Spot

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A WEEKLY PUBLICATION FOR CURIOUS KIDS

Issue #18 (November 23, 2020)

CAUTION: Participation may lead to a lack of boredom and a tired brain!

FEATURED TOPIC THIS WEEK:

Giving Thanks in November





Giving Thanks in November

Did You Know?

Thanksgiving is celebrated in the United States on the fourth Thursday of November every year. People in many other countries around the world celebrate a similar holiday as well. While the holiday is traditionally celebrated as a day to give thanks for one's blessings and share a meal with family and friends, some Native Americans have chosen to mark the day differently. Instead of a joyful time, many mourn their ancestors who lost their lives at the hands of early settlers. You can read more about *National American Indian Heritage Month* observed every November below. ↓

Help Wanted

Instead of highlighting one career this week, I have decided to share with you a list of the upcoming days set aside to celebrate and show gratitude towards people in different careers. You've probably heard of *Teacher Appreciation Week* that takes place in May, but have you heard of:

- National First Responders' Day (10/28)
- National Authors' Day (11/1)
- National Drummer's Day (11/15)
- National Miners' Day (12/6)
- National Salesperson's Day (12/13)
- National D.J. Day (1/20)
- National Women Physicians' Day (2/3)
- National Weatherperson's Day (2/5)
- National Librarian Day (4/16)
- Administrative Professionals' Day (4/21)
- Boss's Day (10/16)

Check out the full list here → [LINK](#)

Virtual Field Trip

Watch the story of a boy learning to be thankful for a special gift:

<http://www.viewpure.com/WjqIU5FgsYc?start=0&end=0>

Would You Rather

Swim in a pool full of gravy or take a bath in a tub full of mashed potatoes?

Bio-Profile



Rev. Red Fox James (1884-1946) was a member of the Blackfoot Tribe of Montana. He is known for riding his horse over 4,000 miles in order to gather support for a day to honor the contributions of Native Americans. *National American Indian Heritage Month* did not become a yearly event celebrated each November until 1990.

Mystery Picture of the Week

Use the clues below to figure out which country in South America celebrates Thanksgiving the same day as the U.S. Turn your paper upside down to check your answer.



The country is Brazil. To learn more about Brazil, click the word 'link' here- [LINK](#)



What do you think the featured topic should be next week? Email your teacher with your thoughts.

Project-Based Bonanza

Choose one or more of the projects below to complete this week.

CHOICE A

A recent poll surveyed Americans across the country to determine what the most popular Thanksgiving side dish is in each state.

Survey your own family/friends and then check out the results of the official survey below:

[LINK](#)

CHOICE B

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are 6.9 million Native Americans living in the United States today.

There are 327 million Americans in all. What percentage of the total population of the United States do Native Americans represent?

CHOICE C

Make a Gratitude Jar using the pdf linked here → [LINK](#)

If you do not have a printer, simply find a jar or box and place inside of it a piece of paper listing one thing you are thankful for each day.



Story Starters

Choose one of the story starters below!

- A. What is your favorite Thanksgiving Day memory?
- B. At one time, Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to become the national bird instead of the bald eagle. Write a persuasive essay telling him why you agree or disagree with him.



- C. Think of three people you are grateful for and then write each one a letter or email.

Brain Teaser of the Week

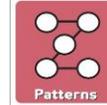
Solve this riddle!

I can be hot or cold. I can be made with fruit, vegetables, or meat. But, either way you see it, on a Thanksgiving table I will be a treat.

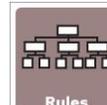
What am I?

Digging Into Depth and Complexity

Based on what you have learned from this H.O.T. Spot about giving thanks in November, answer the following questions using the depth and complexity icons.



What PATTERNS do you notice about how different countries celebrate their version of Thanksgiving?



Are there RULES that determine when you should or should not show gratitude to someone? If so, what are they?



What are the PROS of celebrating Thanksgiving?
What are the CONS?



What UNANSWERED QUESTIONS do you have about National American Indian Heritage Month?