

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



*A modern copy of the Mayflower, the ship that brought the Pilgrims to America*

## The First Thanksgiving

The Thanksgiving holiday in the U.S. started with a celebration held in 1621. The Pilgrims and the Native Americans came together for a large feast.

The Pilgrims had left their home in England to come to America. They did not like the church in England. They wanted to start their own church. The Pilgrims sailed to America on a ship called the *Mayflower*. They arrived in what is now Massachusetts in November 1620. After a hard winter, the Pilgrims started their settlement. They called it the Plymouth Colony.

The local Native Americans were members of the Wampanoag tribe. The tribe gave the Pilgrims food. One of the tribe members was Squanto, who taught the Pilgrims to grow corn and catch fish.

After the Pilgrims harvested their corn and other crops, they celebrated with a large feast. Many Wampanoag tribe members visited and brought more food. They were happy that they had plenty to eat and were friends.



*A painting of the Pilgrims and the Native Americans at the first Thanksgiving.*

### What Did You Learn?

What were the names of the two groups at the first Thanksgiving?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why did the Pilgrims come to America?

\_\_\_\_\_

How did the Wampanoags help the Pilgrims?

\_\_\_\_\_

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### What Did You Learn?

**Actual wording of answers may vary.**

What were the names of the two groups at the first Thanksgiving?

**The Pilgrims and the Wampanoags (Native Americans)**

Why did the Pilgrims come to America?

**to start a new church**

How did the Wampanoags help the Pilgrims?

**They gave them food and helped them grow food and catch fish.**