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| THANKSGIVING  On 6 September 1620, 102 men, women and children left Plymouth in south-west England on a ship called the *Mayflower*. They suffered persecution in England, as they were Puritans and they were against the Church of England. When they left, people started to call them the “Pilgrims”.  On 11 December 1620 they landed on the north-east coast of North America. They called this area *Plymouth*. It was almost winter and there wasn’t much food. They immediately built some houses, but it was too late to plant crops. Half of them died.  In the spring, a native American called Squanto, and his tribe, the Wampanoag helped the Pilgrims. They taught them to grow corn and how to hunt and fish. Soon the Pilgrims and the native Americans became friends. The Pilgrims grew crops and the summer harvest was excellent. By November 1621 everyone had food and a home. They had a future.  http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_3_2FCxXqZPQ/THVGLRfbogI/AAAAAAAAQD4/GheeCJxHy4Q/s1600/Thanksgiving-Turkey-Cartoon-Wallpapers.gif To thank God for the food, the Pilgrims invited the Wampanoag for a great dinner. This was the first Thanksgiving dinner.  Today, in the USA, people celebrate Thanksgiving Day on the fourth Thursday of November. It is a national holiday, and it is a very special festivity as people travel long distances to be with their families, who reunite for this occasion, and they have a great meal which is similar to the first. People eat roast turkey with cranberry sauce, potatoes, corn and pumpkin pie. |

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

1. When did the Pilgrims leave England? Why?
2. When did they land on North America?
3. Where is American Plymouth situated?
4. Who helped the Pilgrims?
5. What did the native Americans teach the Pilgrims?
6. What happened by November 1621?
7. Why did the Pilgrims celebrate the first Thanksgiving dinner?
8. When do American people celebrate Thanksgiving Day today?
9. Why is this festivity so special?
10. What does Thanksgiving meal usually consist of?