



Dear Parents and Educators,

These lesson plans are designed as follow up activities based on the Thanksgiving Day theme. Feel free to expand on the lessons, and be creative! Remember, the point of doing a lesson is to convey information in a way that will help your children/students understand and retain the material presented.

Lesson plan 1: Traditions

Materials: Thanksgiving book, large paper, markers.

Objective: to understand different traditions and activities people had during thanksgiving.

Activity: First read the Thanksgiving book. After you have finished reading the thanksgiving book, use a large paper and markers to make an experience chart. Have the students' list things they remember about thanksgiving in their own homes.

Follow up questions: What traditions in your house or the most fun? Do you have any special traditions that are unique to your family?

Lesson plan 2: Food

Materials: Thanksgiving book, circulars from stores, & magazines.

Objective: To have students recognize and learn what kind of food they may eat during thanksgiving.

Activity: Read the Thanksgiving book. Pass out different circulars from different stores what do you see that is special that is being shown during the thanksgiving season? Also, make a list of foods students in their homes during the thanksgiving season. Compare and contrast different foods from different homes. Some homes like vegan and vegetarian homes will not have the traditional Thanksgiving Day Turkey. What kind of foods do you think they would serve? Why is it important to be thankful for all foods?

Follow up questions: What was the most unique food you found in the store circulars? What was the most unique food your friends had in their home during Thanksgiving?

Lesson plan 3: History and Understanding

Objective: To learn and understand the history of Thanksgiving, and what it means today.

Materials: Thanksgiving Day book.

Activity:

Have the students talk about the people that came on the Mayflower. What do you think they were like? What were they looking for? Why do you think they had misunderstandings with the Indians?

Follow up questions:

Talk about meeting new people. Talk about coming from different places wearing different clothes, and having different backgrounds. Sometimes people who speak different languages, and dress in different clothing can make people uncomfortable. Why do you think that is? Have you ever met somebody that looks different? Have you ever been in room where everyone speaks of different language? How did that make you feel?