

What is Thanksgiving?

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EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

THANKFULNESS RACE

Set a timer for 30 seconds. Ask your children to name as many things that they're thankful for as they can before the timer runs out!

To make this more challenging:

1. Set the timer for a longer time so your children will need to think of more things to be thankful for.
2. Make it a competition; see who can name the most things they are thankful for in a short amount of time.
3. If your children are learning to write, add more time to the timer and help them write their list on paper.

THANKFUL TREE

Gather construction paper in the colors of autumn leaves (orange, yellow, red). Help your children trace their hands onto the paper and cut out the handprints. Draw a tree without its leaves on a brown paper bag, cut it out, and hang it on the wall. Help your children write things they are thankful for on each handprint and tape those handprints to the tree like leaves.

GRATITUDE SCAVENGER HUNT

Ask your children to think of something they are thankful for in each of the categories below. Write down their answers or help them write the list on their own.

1. Something I use every day: _____

2. Something in nature: _____

3. Something that's the color orange: _____

4. Something pretty: _____

5. Something that tastes good: _____

6. Something that smells good: _____

7. Something that starts with the letter T: _____

8. Something that I wear: _____

9. Something I love to do: _____

10. Something that makes me laugh: _____

THANKFUL SONG

Sing this song to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It" with your children:

If you're thankful and you know it clap your hands!
If you're thankful and you know it clap your hands!
If you're thankful and you know it,
then your heart will surely show it.
If you're thankful and you know it clap your hands!

WOULD YOU RATHER?

Ask your children each of the following questions. With larger groups, ask them to raise their hands for which option they would rather have. Be prepared for lots of giggles!

1. Would you rather eat only turkey or only mashed potatoes for a whole year?
2. Would you rather have Thanksgiving every day for the rest of your life or never have Thanksgiving again?
3. Would you rather go to school dressed like a turkey or dressed like a pumpkin?
4. Would you rather eat a pickle pie or a lima bean pie on Thanksgiving?
5. Would you rather have a giant turkey or a giant pumpkin in your home?
6. Would you rather stuff the Thanksgiving turkey with stinky cheese or mashed mushrooms?
7. Would you rather turn into a turkey for a day or turn into a potato for a day?
8. Would you rather go without talking or gobble like a turkey for all of Thanksgiving Day?
9. Would you rather swim in a pool of gravy or a pool of cranberry sauce?