

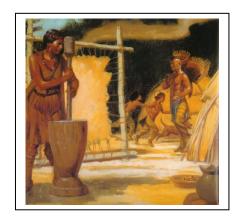
## Squanto and the First Thanksgiving

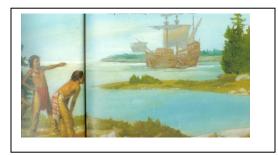
1. Squanto was a boy. He was an Indian boy. (He was native-American.) He lived a long time ago. He lived 400 years ago. He lived in America before the United

States. The United States started in 1776. Squanto lived in 1600.

Today the place he lived is named Plymouth, Massachusetts. Can you see Massachusetts on the map? (page 6)

2. As a boy Squanto lived with his family. He lived with his father, mother, brothers and sisters. His father killed turkeys for food. His mother cooked the food and made clothing for the family. Squanto was a happy boy. He played all day with his brothers.





3. One day around 1608, Squanto walks down to the water. He looks out on the water and sees a big ship. He also sees a small boat coming. He sees men coming in the boat. The men look different. They have different

clothes, their skin is white and they have hair on their faces.

4. But they look friendly. The men give some food to Squanto. They smile, "Do you want some food little boy?" Squanto cannot understand their language (they are from Europe). But the food looks good and he reaches out his hand. When he



reaches out his hand they grab him and hit him on the head. "Come with us!" Now Squanto is a slave.



5. The bad men tie Squanto's hands. They take Squanto into the ship. He goes down inside the ship. It is dark. It is cold. It is wet. Squanto is afraid. The ship is moving in the water.

"Where are we going?" he asks. He is in the ship for many, many weeks.

He is going across the Atlantic Ocean from America to Europe. Can you see the Atlantic Ocean on the map?

6. Finally, the ship stops. Squanto does not know but he is in Malaga, Spain. Malaga was a city to buy and sell slaves. Can you see Spain on the map? The bad men are selling Squanto as a slave. Thank God, a good man buys Squanto.



7. The good man is a Catholic priest. He buys Squanto to



make him free. He takes
Squanto to his home to give him
food, water, and new clothes.
He teaches Squanto to read.
Squanto learns to read the Word
of God (Kitab Torat, Zabur, & Injil).
Squanto learns about Jesus (Isa al
Masih) and he learns to pray.

8. Squanto is happy living with the good man but he is sad too. He misses his family. After three years, in 1615, he asks the Catholic priest to help him go home. "Can you help me?" he asks. "Yes, I will help you," says the good man. "I have a friend



in London, England. His name is John Slaney. He can help you." The Catholic priest gives Squanto money for a ticket. They say goodbye.



9. Squanto goes from Spain to England. He is surprised in London. It is a big city with tall buildings and busy streets. Squanto is looking for the address of John Slaney.

10. Finally he finds the address of Mr. Slaney's home. The Slaney family welcomes Squanto into their home. John Slaney gives Squanto a place to live. He gives Squanto a job. Squanto lives in England five years. Finally he finds a ship going back to America. He gets a job on the ship as a translator. Now he can go home.





11. Now he is going back across the Atlantic Ocean. The ship goes for many weeks. Squanto is thinking about his family. He is so happy to see is father and mother and brothers and sisters again. It is 1618. For ten years Squanto did not see his family.

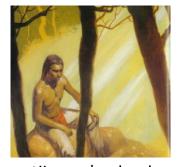
12. The ship stops. Squanto runs to his home. But his home is broken and it is quiet. His father is dead. His mother is dead. Everyone is dead. What happened?





13. Squanto is so sad. He learns that his father and mother and brothers and sisters got sick. Everyone in his tribe got sick and died. He remembers his family but he is alone. What can he do?

14. Squanto is sad and lonely. But he remembers what he read in the Word of God (Kitab Zabur)



- (5) "God in heaven is a father to the fatherless, a defender of widows.
- (6) God sets the lonely in families,"

Psalm 68: 5-6

(5) Ilaah wuxuu rugtiisa qoduuskaa ku yahay Agoonta aabbahood iyo carmallada xaakinkooda. (6) Kuwa cidlaysan Ilaah reero ayuu u yeelaa, Oo maxaabiistana intuu soo bixiyo ayuu barwaaqo dhex geeyaa,

Squanto prays, "Oh my God, please help me. My father is dead. Now you are my Father! My family is dead. Please give me another family."



15. Later Squanto goes to his old home. He is surprised to see people living there. He sees people from Europe. Are these bad people or good people? Squanto sees women and children with the men. He takes a chance to trust them.

"Good afternoon. How are you? My name is Squanto," he says in perfect English.

"Good afternoon. We are fine, thank you." They are surprised Squanto can speak English. How do you know English?" they ask. "It's a long story," and he tells them what happened.

16. Now the Europeans tell Squanto their story. They are refugees (called pilgrims). They are from England. They came to America in 1620 looking for freedom of religion. They want to read the Word of God and obey God.





17. The ship was named the Mayflower. There were 102 passengers: 50 men, 20 women, and 32 children. The ship was going to Virginia but a big storm pushed it north to Massachusetts. Now we know this storm was a blessing from God. If they went south to Virginia the Indian

tribes were strong to fight. In Massachusetts the land was open. On November 11 the ship stopped after 65 days on the ocean. It was winter. They got cold and hungry and sick. Half died.

18. Squanto knows it is difficult to live in a new country. He helps his new neighbors. He is a good teacher. He teaches the pilgrims how to catch fish. He teaches them how to grow corn. He teaches them how to kill turkeys. Now they have lots of food. They become friends. They become Squanto's new family.



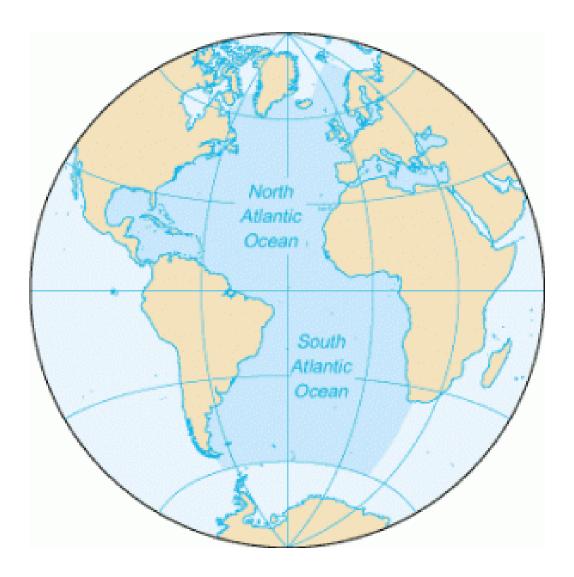


of the summer, maybe in November, the pilgrims decide to have a big feast. They decide to give thanks. They invite Squanto and their Indian neighbors. They have meat. They have turkey.

20. The pilgrims and the Indians sit down together. They eat together. They are eating turkey and corn and pumpkin. They are giving thanks. They are giving thanks to Squanto for helping them and teaching them. They are giving thanks to God for the food. They are giving thanks to God for Squanto. They are giving thanks to God for freedom. Squanto is giving thanks to the pilgrims. He is giving thanks



giving thanks to the pilgrims. He is giving thanks to God for his new family. It was the first Thanksgiving.



## Map of the Atlantic Ocean

Where is Massachusetts?

Where is Spain?

Where is England?

Where is Somalia?

Where is Minnesota?