

FIRST THANKSGIVING: 2 OUT OF 3

You've probably heard how the Pilgrims and members of the Wampanoag tribe got together for that first Thanksgiving in Plymouth in November 1621. But what did they eat? No one knows exactly for sure all the foods that were shared, but looking at historical documents helps us to know what was likely.



See if you can decipher the clues in bold below to discover which two of the typical Thanksgiving foods in each group might have been present at that first Thanksgiving and which one was probably not. (OR take a sleuthing shortcut and scan the articles that are the main sources for this info at <https://www.history.com/articles/first-thanksgiving-meal> and at <https://kids.britannica.com> to find the answers.)

Which 2? Turkey? ____ Ham? ____ Mussels? ____

It's possible that this **[large, wild bird that likes to sleep in trees and was later a favorite of Benjamin Franklin]** was on that first Thanksgiving table, and duck and venison (deer meat) probably were present too. And we know that this **[seafood mollusk with a hinged shell]** was probably there because it was plentiful along the shorelines. But we don't have any indication that **[this popular meat that comes from a pig and makes good sandwiches]** was present.

Which 2? Potatoes? ____ Corn? ____ Carrots? ____

This **[tall plant that produces seeds that would have been many colors in the 1600s but are mostly yellow or white today]** was probably present in the form of a ground-up, thick mush. And the first Thanksgiving friends likely enjoyed this **[vegetable that grows under the ground and is usually orange but can also be yellow, white, or even purple]**. But this **[vegetable that grows under the ground and comes from the nightshade family of plants]**, even though popular now, had not found its way to North America by the time of the first Thanksgiving.

Which 2? Gooseberries? ____ Honey? ____ Pumpkin pie? ____

Sorry, this is a bit of a trick question! These **[small, tart foods with bushes that are very hardy in cold weather]** were plentiful, along with blueberries, plums, and grapes. And this **[sweet food that is produced by bees from plant nectar]** was also common. And true, this **[round fruit that is related to squash and gourds]** would likely have been present, but not as a pie, because butter, wheat flour, and ovens were not yet available to make a pie crust.