

Supplies:






- Mason jar with a flower lid insert
- Acrylic paint in "turkey colors" (gold and copper)
- Sponge paint brushes
- Sticker letter stencils
- Feathers
- Yellow packing tape
- Scissors
- Googly eyes
- Hot glue
- Scraps of paper



Steps:

	<p>Step 1: Choose a word or simple message to display on the jar, such as "Thankful." Using the sticker stencil letters, carefully place each letter on the jar to spell out the chosen word or message.</p>
	<p>Step 2: Paint over the stencil letters, covering the entire outside of the jar with "turkey-colored" paint. To do this, hold the jar from the inside with one hand while painting the outside. Once completely painted, set the jar aside to dry.</p>
	<p>Step 3: After the paint on the jar has mostly dried, carefully peel off the stencil letters and discard them.</p>
	<p>Step 4: Cut a piece of yellow packing tape into a triangle. Stick the triangle on the front of the jar, with one point facing downwards to resemble a beak.</p>



	<p>Step 5: Using hot glue, apply a small dot of glue to the back of two googly eyes.</p>
	<p>Step 6: Place the googly eyes above the yellow triangle or the beak.</p>
	<p>Step 7: Using hot glue, apply a dot of glue to the upper back side of the jar, opposite the eyes and beak. Carefully attach the tips of the feathers to the glue so that they stick out above the top of the jar. Allow the glue to dry.</p>
	<p>Step 8: If the jar has a lid with holes in it, place the lid on the jar. If the lid does not have holes, leave it off so the jar can be filled with notes of gratitude.</p>
	<p>Step 9: Using the scraps of paper, write down things you are thankful for, such as family, friends, or the United States of America. Place each note of gratitude into your thankful jar.</p>

Is the story of the first Thanksgiving really true? Did the Pilgrims and Native Americans really eat a big meal together? The Pilgrims and Native Americans did have a celebration together, and that celebration was an important foundation for our country.

A quick review: In 1620, Puritans, or Pilgrims, left England for religious reasons. They set sail on the Mayflower to reach the "New World," which would eventually become the United States. When they arrived, they signed a document called the "Mayflower Compact," which became the

first form of government in America. Their first winter at Plymouth Colony was very difficult, with illness and danger. But the next spring, the Pilgrims made friends with the Wampanoag natives. A man named Tisquantum, now known as Squanto helped them by teaching them how to fish, hunt, and grow crops. Pilgrims and natives were very different, but they learned to live together on the land and protected each other.

Sometime in the fall of 1621, the Pilgrims and natives had a three-day celebration to thank God for their crops and a successful harvest. Historians say they likely ate venison, duck, geese, and maybe turkey.

Fun Facts:

- This celebration, one of the pivotal early interactions between European settlers and Native Americans, is often highlighted as a foundational cultural event in American history.
- George Washington issued the first national Thanksgiving proclamation in 1789, calling for a day of public thanksgiving and prayer. Abraham Lincoln later established a regular annual day of thanksgiving to be celebrated on the last Thursday of November, which was fixed to the fourth Thursday under Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941.

Extension Activity: Thankful Storytime

Enhance the thankful jar craft by inviting students to form a circle for a storytime session focused on gratitude. Each student can select a note from their jar to share why they are grateful for that item. Encourage listening and inspiration among classmates, which may lead to new entries in their Thankful Jars. As an inclusive extension, consider incorporating aspects of Native American culture and contributions into the gratitude discussion, broadening the historical perspective while fostering appreciation.