Thanksgiving classroom games

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Thanksgiving classroom games for the short week before break: whole-class games with no preparation, like Thankful A to Z and Gobble Ball, Thanksgiving math with pie fractions and a dinner budget, word games, and free online learning games for Chromebooks with no sign-up. Each lists grades, minutes and what it practises.

Thanksgiving classroom games at a glance

- Classroom game: Thankful A to Z · Grades: K to 5 · Time: 10 minutes · Practises: Letter sounds, speaking
- Classroom game: Thanksgiving Four Corners · Grades: K to 5 · Time: 10 minutes · Practises: Listening, following directions
- Classroom game: Gobble Ball · Grades: K to 5 · Time: 10 minutes · Practises: Listening, self-control
- Classroom game: Thanksgiving Charades · Grades: 1 to 8 · Time: 15 minutes · Practises: Vocabulary, speaking
- Classroom game: Would You Rather, Thanksgiving edition · Grades: 2 to 8 · Time: 10 minutes · Practises: Giving reasons
- Classroom game: Feather Hunt Math · Grades: K to 3 · Time: 15 minutes · Practises: Adding, counting by 5s and 10s
- Classroom game: Estimation Jar · Grades: K to 5 · Time: 10 minutes · Practises: Estimating, counting in tens
- Classroom game: Pie Fraction Match · Grades: 2 to 5 · Time: 20 minutes · Practises: Equal fractions
- Classroom game: Thanksgiving Dinner on a Budget · Grades: 3 to 6 · Time: 30 minutes · Practises: Adding money, making choices
- Classroom game: Double the Recipe · Grades: 4 to 7 · Time: 20 minutes · Practises: Multiplying fractions
- Classroom game: Turkey Time · Grades: 2 to 4 · Time: 15 minutes · Practises: Elapsed time
- Classroom game: Turkey Feathers · Grades: 1 to 5 · Time: 10 to 15 minutes · Practises: Spelling
- Classroom game: Words in THANKSGIVING · Grades: 2 to 8 · Time: 15 minutes · Practises: Spelling, word building
- Classroom game: Thanksgiving Word Scramble · Grades: 1 to 5 · Time: 10 minutes · Practises: Spelling
- Classroom game: Gratitude Acrostic · Grades: 1 to 8 · Time: 15 minutes · Practises: Writing

• Classroom game: One-Line Class Story · Grades: K to 5 · Time: 15 minutes · Practises: Story order, speaking

No-prep games for the whole class

Thankful A to Z

Grades K to 5 · 10 minutes · Letter sounds, speaking

In a circle, go through the alphabet: each student names something they are thankful for that starts with the next letter. Let a student pass once and come back. For kindergarten, say the letter's sound together first.

Thanksgiving Four Corners

Grades K to 5 · 10 minutes · Listening, following directions

Label the corners Turkey, Pie, Potatoes and Corn. Students tiptoe to a corner while the caller counts down with eyes closed, then the caller names a corner and those students sit. To get back in, a sitting student answers a review question. Last one standing calls next.

Gobble Ball

Grades K to 5 · 10 minutes · Listening, self-control

Silent ball with a twist: students toss a soft ball without a sound. Drop it, throw badly or make a noise and you sit down, but anyone can say "gobble" exactly once a game to rescue a friend. Sitting students rejoin by answering a quick fact.

Thanksgiving Charades

Grades 1 to 8 · 15 minutes · Vocabulary, speaking

Teams take turns acting out a slip (a parade balloon, harvesting corn, a pie that is too hot, setting the table) while their team guesses against a one-minute timer. Older grades can play with vocabulary words instead.

Would You Rather, Thanksgiving edition

Grades 2 to 8 · 10 minutes · Giving reasons

Read a choice and point to two sides of the room: pie or cake, the parade or the football game, cooking or cleaning up. Students move to a side, and two from each side give a reason that starts with "because". It warms up opinion writing.

Thanksgiving math games

Feather Hunt Math

Grades K to 3 · 15 minutes · Adding, counting by 5s and 10s

Hide paper feathers worth 1, 5 and 10 (a color each). Teams find them, then add their total on a whiteboard. Kindergarten counts feathers; 2nd and 3rd grade add the values and compare totals: how many more did the winners find?

Estimation Jar

Grades K to 5 · 10 minutes · Estimating, counting in tens

Fill a clear jar with something small. Students write an estimate, then the class counts it out in groups of ten. Older grades work out how far off each estimate was.

Pie Fraction Match

Grades 2 to 5 · 20 minutes · Equal fractions

Give pairs paper pies already cut into halves, thirds, fourths, sixths and eighths. Call a fraction ("three fourths") and pairs build it; then find another way to make the same amount (six eighths). First pair to show both scores.

Thanksgiving Dinner on a Budget

Grades 3 to 6 · 30 minutes · Adding money, making choices

Using the menu on this page, plan a dinner for six with one main, three sides and one pie for $40 or less. Show the total and the change. A stretch: plan for twelve with $75.

Double the Recipe

Grades 4 to 7 · 20 minutes · Multiplying fractions

Using the muffin list on this page, rewrite every amount for a double batch, then for a half batch. The half batch's sugar (half of three fourths of a cup) is the one to argue about.

Turkey Time

Grades 2 to 4 · 15 minutes · Elapsed time

Dinner is at 4:00 and the rolls bake for 20 minutes: when do they go in? (3:40.) The parade starts at 9:00 and lasts 3 hours: when does it end? (12:00.) The pie came out at 1:45 and cools for 2 hours: when can we cut it? (3:45.) Students write one for a partner.

The dinner menu

- Dish: Turkey · Price: $18
- Dish: Ham · Price: $15
- Dish: Mashed potatoes · Price: $4
- Dish: Stuffing · Price: $3
- Dish: Green beans · Price: $3
- Dish: Corn · Price: $2
- Dish: Rolls (a dozen) · Price: $3
- Dish: Cranberry sauce · Price: $2
- Dish: Pumpkin pie · Price: $8
- Dish: Apple pie · Price: $7

One answer: turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, rolls and pumpkin pie come to $36, with $4 left.

The muffin list

For the math, not the oven. A batch of 12 pumpkin muffins takes 1½ cups of flour, ¾ cup of sugar, 1 cup of pumpkin, ½ cup of milk, 2 eggs and 1 teaspoon of cinnamon. Doubled: 3 cups, 1½ cups, 2 cups, 1 cup, 4 eggs and 2 teaspoons. Halved: ¾ cup, ? cup (6 tablespoons), ½ cup, ¼ cup, 1 egg and ½ teaspoon.

Thanksgiving reading and word games

Turkey Feathers

Grades 1 to 5 · 10 to 15 minutes · Spelling

A word-guessing game on the board: dashes for a Thanksgiving word and a turkey with no tail. A wrong letter adds a feather; solve it before the seventh. Use this week's spelling words.

Words in THANKSGIVING

Grades 2 to 8 · 15 minutes · Spelling, word building

How many words can pairs make from the letters of THANKSGIVING in ten minutes, each letter used only as often as it appears? Three letters score 1, four score 2, five or more score 3. The answer list is on this page.

Thanksgiving Word Scramble

Grades 1 to 5 · 10 minutes · Spelling

Write the scrambles from the Thanksgiving games page on the board, or let early finishers make their own for a partner.

Gratitude Acrostic

Grades 1 to 8 · 15 minutes · Writing

Write THANKS down the side of a page and a line of thanks for each letter. Older grades write THANKSGIVING, or a short poem where each line starts with the next letter.

One-Line Class Story

Grades K to 5 · 15 minutes · Story order, speaking

Start with "A turkey wanted to be in the parade, but…" and each student adds one sentence. The teacher writes it on the board; the class reads the whole story back at the end. The story idea generator gives more starters.

Some words in THANKSGIVING: hat, tin, sit, hit, ant, sang, king, sing, skin, thin, this, gain, vast, hang, tank, think, thank, giant, night, sight, sting, stink, snag, giving, having, taking, saving, things, nights, knight, thanking.

Free online games for Chromebooks

For a center, early finishers or the last half hour before the break. None is a Thanksgiving game. Each asks reading or math questions at the grade a student picks.

- Game: Pet Hatch · Practises: making ten, adding, first sounds, rhymes and more · From: Pre-K · What it is: Hatch eggs, care for and breed pets, and ride them through nine 3D worlds.
- Game: Build World · Practises: counting, making ten, first sounds, rhymes and more · From: K · What it is: Build your own world, block by block. Fly, swim, and find the glowing Wonder blocks.
- Game: Kraken Falls Waterpark · Practises: counting, making ten, first sounds, rhymes and more · From: Pre-K · What it is: Tube down the slides, beat Bruno the walrus, and ride the right chute for the express drop!
- Game: Robot Steps · Practises: coding · From: K · What it is: Lay arrow cards in a row, tap Go, and watch Peabody walk them out. Steps, turns, loops and ifs!
- Game: Build A Park · Practises: counting, making ten, first sounds, rhymes and more · From: Pre-K · What it is: Pick a park to build: a hot springs waterpark or a ski resort, from one small hill to a mountain of lifts!
- Game: Galaxy Girl · Practises: counting, making ten, first sounds, rhymes and more · From: K · What it is: Jazz, 13, explores 3D caves on the Moon, Mars, Europa and Titan: blast rock, swim, glide and find four Star Cells!
- Game: Astro Rescue · Practises: counting, adding, first sounds, sight words and more · From: K · What it is: Jump through space and free the lost bots.
- Game: Rocket Number Blast · Practises: counting, making ten and more · From: K ·

What it is: Zap the alien ships with the right answer.

A few games for older kids are left off this list. The rest are in the arcade.

Every game runs in a web browser, so a Chromebook with Chrome can open it. A few 3D games run slower on older devices, and we have not tested every school network, so try it on one device first. Many games have sound; headphones help in a shared room.

Teaching the history of Thanksgiving

In the autumn of 1621 the English colonists at Plymouth held a harvest celebration, and Ousamequin, the Wampanoag leader often called Massasoit, came with about ninety men; they stayed three days. Many retellings for children leave the Wampanoag side of the story out, and the Wampanoag are still here, in what is now Massachusetts.

For lessons with Wampanoag perspectives, the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian has a free inquiry lesson, The "First Thanksgiving": How Can We Tell a Better Story?, and Plimoth Patuxet Museums teaches both histories. We would skip dressing students up as Native people: real, living nations are not a costume.

Questions teachers ask

Are the online games free for a class?

Yes, free through the end of 2027, with no ads and no sign-up to start. Peabody has no class codes or teacher dashboard yet. Each student plays on their own; a teacher can show a game on the board or let students open it on their own device.

What can we play in the last ten minutes before break?

Thankful A to Z, Gobble Ball, Would You Rather or the Estimation Jar. None needs anything prepared.

Is there a Thanksgiving game on Peabody?

Not yet. Every classroom game on this page is written out to play without a screen.

When is Thanksgiving 2026?

Thursday, November 26, 2026.

More: Thanksgiving games for kids for home, classroom games and games to play at school the rest of the year.

Free at peabody.kids/holidays/thanksgiving/classroom-games