Riddlepedia Name _____ Date _____

Thanksgiving Riddles



35 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1. I'm a holiday on the fourth Thursday of November. Families share a big meal, watch a parade and say what they're thankful for. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. I'm round, orange and sweet, baked in a crust and topped with whipped cream. I'm made from a big squash that kids carve in October. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

3. I'm small, soft and warm, and I come in a basket wrapped in a napkin. Tear me open and spread some butter inside. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

4. I'm made from potatoes that were boiled and squished with butter and milk. Make a little hole in my top, and fill it with gravy. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

5. I'm a warm, brown sauce made from the juices of the roast. I'm poured from a boat, but I never go to sea. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

6. I'm made of bread cubes, celery, onions and herbs, baked in a pan or inside the bird. I share my name with what's inside a teddy bear. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

7. You can't eat all of me on Thursday, so I go in the fridge and come back for sandwiches on Friday. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

8. I'm a cartoon character as tall as a building, filled with helium and floating down a city street. Dozens of people hold my ropes so I don't fly away. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

9. I'm brown, shaped like a stretched-out egg, and I get thrown, kicked and carried across a field. Many families watch games with me on Thanksgiving afternoon. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

10. I'm a Y-shaped bone. Two people pull my ends, and whoever gets the bigger piece gets to make a wish. What am I?

    ANSWER _____

11. Why did the cranberries turn red?

    ANSWER _____

12. I'm the season when leaves turn orange and red and drift to the ground. Thanksgiving always happens during me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

13. We sailed from England in 1620 and landed in what is now Massachusetts. In the fall of 1621, we held a harvest feast that people now call the first Thanksgiving. Who are we?

ANSWER _____

14. I'm the ship that carried the Pilgrims across the Atlantic Ocean in 1620. The trip took about two months. What am I?

ANSWER _____

15. We are the Native people who lived in the area long before the Pilgrims came. Our leader Massasoit and about 90 of our men joined the 1621 harvest feast. Who are we?

ANSWER _____

16. In 1863, during the Civil War, I proclaimed a national day of Thanksgiving for the whole country. Who am I?

ANSWER _____

17. I'm a curved basket shaped like a goat's horn, spilling over with fruit, vegetables and corn. My nickname is the "horn of plenty." What am I?

ANSWER _____

18. I'm a small, sour red berry. I grow on low vines in wet, sandy bogs. At harvest time, farmers often flood the bog, and I float to the top. What am I?

ANSWER _____

19. I'm orange inside, and I'm often baked in a casserole topped with marshmallows. Some people call me a yam, but I'm a different plant. What am I?

ANSWER _____

20. I'm the big golden-brown bird roasted in the oven for hours and carried to the table on a platter. What am I?

ANSWER _____

21. I'm a football team named after a big cat. I've played a home game on Thanksgiving almost every year since the 1930s. Which team am I?

ANSWER _____

22. After the big meal, lots of grown-ups fall asleep on the couch in the middle of the football game. What are they taking?

ANSWER _____

23. I wrote the poem "Mary Had a Little Lamb," and for about 17 years I wrote letters to presidents asking for a national Thanksgiving. Who am I?

ANSWER _____

24 This country north of the United States celebrates its Thanksgiving on the second Monday in October. Which country is it?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

25 Thanksgiving is on the fourth Thursday of November. In 2026, November 1 is a Sunday. What date is Thanksgiving?

ANSWER _____

26 What is the earliest date in November that Thanksgiving can ever fall on?

ANSWER _____

27 Grandma bakes 3 pies and cuts each one into 8 slices. Twenty people each eat one slice. How many slices are left?

ANSWER _____

28 I'm a vegetable you might bake for Thanksgiving, but I'm also what happens to a sandwich if you sit on it. What am I?

ANSWER _____

29 Four cousins, Ann, Ben, Cal and Dee, sit in a row at the kids' table. Reading the row from left to right: Ann isn't at either end, Ben is in the seat just to the right of Ann, and Cal sits next to Ben. Who sits at the left end?

ANSWER _____

30 I have lots of ears but I can't hear a thing. A Native man named Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to grow me. What am I?

ANSWER _____

31 She's the daughter of your mom's brother. What is she to you?

ANSWER _____

32 The 1621 harvest feast wasn't just one dinner. According to a Pilgrim who wrote about it, how long did the celebration last?

ANSWER _____

33 In 1939, a president moved Thanksgiving one week earlier to make the holiday shopping season longer. Some people called it "Franksgiving." Who was he?

ANSWER _____

34 You can give me away and still have just as much left. Saying me is the whole point of the holiday. What am I?

ANSWER _____

35 Why did the pumpkin pie go to the dentist?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Thanksgiving Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. **Thanksgiving**
2. **Pumpkin pie**
3. **Dinner rolls**
4. **Mashed potatoes**
5. **Gravy**
6. **Stuffing**
7. **Leftovers**
8. **A parade balloon**
9. **A football**
10. **The wishbone**
11. **Because they saw the turkey dressing.**
12. **Fall** (also called autumn)
13. **The Pilgrims**
14. **The Mayflower**
15. **The Wampanoag**
16. **Abraham Lincoln**
17. **A cornucopia**
18. **Cranberries.** Each berry has little pockets of air inside, which is why it floats.
19. **Sweet potatoes**
20. **A roast turkey**
21. **The Detroit Lions**
22. **A nap**
23. **Sarah Josepha Hale.** Her letters helped convince Abraham Lincoln.
24. **Canada**
25. **November 26.** The Thursdays are the 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.
26. **November 22.** If November 1 is a Thursday, the fourth Thursday is the 22nd. The latest it can be is November 28.
27. **4.** That's 3 x 8 = 24 slices, and 24 - 20 = 4.
28. **Squash**
29. **Dee.** The order is Dee, Ann, Ben, Cal.
30. **Corn**
31. **Your cousin**
32. **About three days**
33. **Franklin D.** Roosevelt. In 1941, a new law fixed the holiday on the fourth Thursday of November.
34. **Thanks**
35. **It needed a filling.**

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at riddlepedia.com/riddles-for-thanksgiving/, where you can also play them as a game.