

thanksgiving CIRCLE TIME

5
LESSONS

circle time plans | songs | posters | activities | printables

The collage features several educational resources:

- Worksheets:** Five worksheets for circle time activities: 'Sharing Thanks' (cut and paste a girl's face), 'Pumpkin Pie Shape' (cut and paste shapes to a table), 'Matching Thanksgiving' (match pictures to turkey parts), 'Turkeys in Disguise' (draw lines to match turkeys to their disguises), and 'Turkey Number Match 1' (cut and paste numbers to turkey parts).
- Posters:** 'I Am Thankful' (with a house illustration), 'Parts of a Turkey' (with a turkey illustration and labels: beak, eye, head, tail, snood, wattle, body, leg, wing, feather), and 'Happy Thanksgiving' (with a turkey handprint illustration and text: 'I made this little turkey so everyone can see that I am very thankful for the things you do for me!').
- Song Cards:** Five 'Thankful Thanksgiving' song cards, numbered 1 to 5, each with lyrics and a small illustration. The lyrics are: 'I am thankful, here I sing, For the joy Thanksgiving brings. Family, friends, and food to share. Gathered 'round with food to share.' (Cards 1-5).

Lavinia Pop

Thanksgiving

PRESCHOOL CIRCLE TIME

5 lesson plans | songs | posters | activities | printables

5 Thankful Thanksgiving
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star
I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Family, friends, and food to share,
Gathered 'round with food to share,
Love and laughter everywhere.
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.

4 Thankful Thanksgiving
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star
I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Family, friends, and food to share,
Turkeys waddle, gobble loud,
Feathers bright—they stand so proud.
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.

3 Thankful Thanksgiving
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star
I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Family, friends, and food to share,
Sharing kindness every day,
Helping others when we play.
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.

2 Thankful Thanksgiving
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star
I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Family, friends, and food to share,
Thankful for the food we eat,
Thankful for the toys and treats.
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.

1 Thankful Thanksgiving
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star
I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Family, friends, and food to share,
Showing kindness, love, and care.
I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.

Parts of a Turkey
Labels: beak, eye, head, tail, snood, wattle, body, leg, wing, feather.

HAPPY Thanksgiving
I made this little turkey so everyone can see that I am very thankful for the things you do for me!

I Am Thankful

Sharing Thanks
Cut and paste the cookies.

Pumpkin Pie Shape
Cut and paste the shapes in their corners.

Matching Thanksgiving
Cut out the pictures and paste them on the turkey.

Turkeys in Disguise
Draw a line to match the turkeys to their friends.

Turkey Number Match 1
Cut and paste the numbers in the correct box.

Thank you for downloading this product; I hope you will enjoy using it and that it will be a valuable resource for you! I value your feedback, so please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns whatsoever as I will endeavour to address them. And if you like what I've done, please let me know by leaving feedback at my online store :)

Lavinia

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ILLUSTRATIONS Kari Bolt, Erin Colleen Design, Little Red, Whimsy Clips, PartyHead Graphics, Ramona Majdis, Zip-a-Dee-doo-dah-Designs, Bunny on a Cloud, Krista Wallden - Creative Clips, Creating4 the Classroom, Rainbow Sprinkle Studio - Sasha Mitten, First Class Clipart, ClipArtisan, Muggy Studio

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PRINTING TIP This resource has been designed for printing on A4-sized paper. If you are printing on a different size, select "shrink to printable area" or "print to fit page" (or a similar option) in order for the contents of this unit to print correctly.

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Introduction

Bring the joy of Thanksgiving to life in your preschool classroom with our Thanksgiving Preschool Circle Time Plan! Designed to engage young children in the spirit of gratitude, friendship, and celebration, this plan provides everything you need for a memorable week of Thanksgiving-themed activities. With structured daily objectives, interactive read-alouds, catchy songs, and hands-on crafts, children will learn the importance of thankfulness, sharing, and the fun traditions that make Thanksgiving special.

From exploring what it means to be thankful to creating keepsake crafts and hosting a pretend Thanksgiving feast, this Circle Time plan makes it easy for educators to guide children through meaningful activities. Each day builds on the theme of gratitude, encouraging children to express appreciation for family, friends, and the world around them. This Thanksgiving Circle Time Plan is a perfect way to introduce preschoolers to the holiday in an engaging, age-appropriate, and joyful way.

What's Included:

1. Detailed Circle Time plans

Each day of the week is planned with a structured circle time agenda that includes:

- *Introduction:* A brief and captivating introduction to the daily theme, setting the stage for the day's activities.
- *Song:* A fun and educational song related to the daily theme, designed to engage children and reinforce learning through music and movement.
- *Read aloud and discussion:* A carefully selected picture book paired with thought-provoking discussion questions to enhance comprehension and encourage interaction.
- *Activities:* Creative and hands-on activities that complement the day's theme, fostering gross and fine motor skills, creativity, and critical thinking.

2. Posters and props

Enhance Circle Time with visual and tactile aids:

- *Posters:* Vibrant posters featuring the lyrics and illustrations for each daily song, making it easy for children to follow along and participate. The product also includes non-fiction posters, providing educational content alongside the fun.
- *Props:* Printable props related to each song and theme help bring the songs and stories to life and engage children in interactive play.

3. Printables for all activities:

Not all days include activities that require printables. However, optional printables are included for each day if you would like to use them. They include:

- Group activity printables
- Worksheets
- Craft templates

Why You'll Love This Resource:

- **Comprehensive and convenient learning:** A complete week of themed learning activities and resources in one packet.
- **Easy to use:** Detailed plans, printables, and props make it straightforward to create a dynamic and engaging circle time experience.
- **Educational and entertaining:** Each component is designed to be both educational and fun, keeping children excited and involved.

Happy Teaching :)

Thanksgiving

	Objective	Read Aloud	Activity
Day 1	<p>What is Thanksgiving?</p> <p>Children will be introduced to the concept of Thanksgiving, understanding it as a time for family, thankfulness, and togetherness.</p>	<p>Book: "Thanksgiving is For Giving Thanks" by Margaret Sutherland</p> <p>Discussion: Things the characters in the book were thankful for.</p>	<p>Thanksgiving Hand Print Art</p> <p>Children will create a keepsake using their hand print.</p> <p>Materials: Happy Thanksgiving printable, paint.</p>
Day 2	<p>Being Thankful</p> <p>Children will learn to identify and express things they are thankful for, recognizing that gratitude can be for people, things, and experiences.</p>	<p>Book: "Thanks for Thanksgiving" by Julie Markes</p> <p>Discussion: Thing or person each child is thankful for.</p>	<p>Thankful Turkey Craft</p> <p>Children will create a turkey on which they will draw/write things they are thankful for.</p> <p>Materials: Thankful Turkey Craft printable, scissors, glue stick, markers.</p>
Day 3	<p>Sharing and Giving</p> <p>Children will learn the importance of sharing and giving, recognizing that these actions help spread kindness and joy.</p>	<p>Book: "Bear Says Thanks" by Karma Wilson</p> <p>Discussion: Why it is important to celebrate and be with our friends and family. Things children are thankful for today.</p>	<p>Bead Bracelet Craft</p> <p>Children will make a bead bracelet to give as a gift.</p> <p>Materials: Beads of various colors and shapes, elastic string, tape</p>
Day 4	<p>Learning About Turkeys</p> <p>Children will learn about turkeys, including their appearance and role in Thanksgiving traditions, fostering curiosity about this Thanksgiving symbol.</p>	<p>Book: "Turkey Trouble" by Wendi Silvano</p> <p>Discussion: Why Turkey tried to hide. What children would do if they were a turkey on Thanksgiving.</p>	<p>Turkey Headband Craft</p> <p>Children will make a turkey headband to wear.</p> <p>Materials: Turkey Headband printable, scissors, crayons, markers, glue, tape.</p>
Day 5	<p>Thanksgiving Feast Celebration</p> <p>Children will celebrate Thanksgiving by role-playing a pretend feast, learning about the importance of family traditions and festive meals.</p>	<p>Book: "Feast for 10" by Cathryn Falwell</p> <p>Discussion: Kinds of foods the family in the book prepared. Each child's favorite foods to eat during Thanksgiving.</p>	<p>Thanksgiving Feast</p> <p>Children will participate in a pretend Thanksgiving feast.</p> <p>Materials: Thanksgiving Food printables, paper plates, plastic utensils, serving trays.</p>

Thanksgiving

Day 1: What is Thanksgiving?

Children will be introduced to the concept of Thanksgiving, understanding it as a time for family, thankfulness, and togetherness.

Introduction

"Do you know what Thanksgiving is? It's a special day when we give thanks for all the wonderful things in our lives, like family, friends, and food! Thanksgiving started a long time ago when people gathered to celebrate their harvest and show appreciation." Explain the story of the first Thanksgiving, describing how it was a time to come together, share food, and be grateful. Highlight that Thanksgiving is a holiday to remember what we're thankful for.

Song

"Thankful Thanksgiving" (Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star") Verse 1

Prop: Verse 1 picture

Actions:

Lines 1 & 5: Point to yourself, then open your arms wide.

Lines 2 & 6: Clap hands together once above your head.

Line 3: Pretend to hug yourself, as if hugging family and friends.

Line 4: Place hands over your heart.



Read Aloud & Discussion

Book: "Thanksgiving is For Giving Thanks" by Margaret Sutherland

Before Reading: "What do you think are some things people feel thankful for? What are some things that make you feel happy?"

After Reading: "What were some things the characters in the book were thankful for?"



Activity

Thanksgiving Hand Print Art

Materials: Activity 1 Happy Thanksgiving printable, paint (one color or multiple colors)

Activity: If using one color, have children dip their hand in the paint poured onto a plate and then stamp it onto the paper. If using multiple colors, use a paintbrush to paint the children's hands and then have them stamp it onto the paper.

Extension: Ask each child to dictate or write a short message about what they are thankful for on the bottom of their handprint art. This can be done with your help, especially for younger children who may not yet be writing independently.



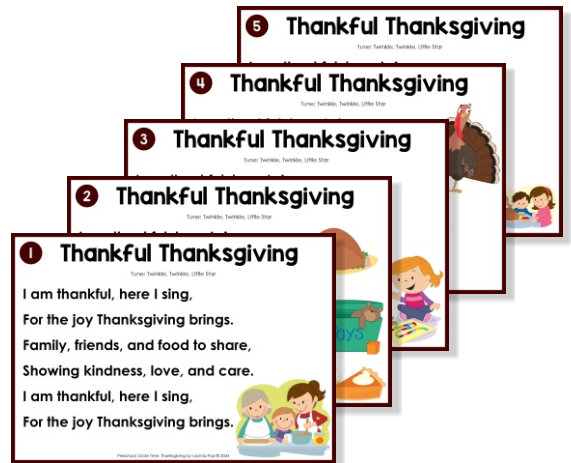
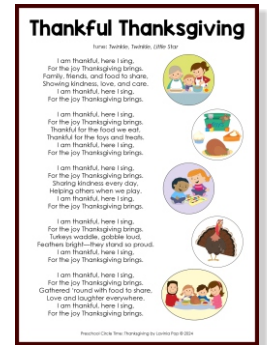
Thanksgiving

Circle Time Song Posters and Props

This section includes all song posters and props.

Days 1-5:

- *Thankful Thanksgiving* Song Posters
- Props for each verse



Thankful Thanksgiving

tune: *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*

I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Family, friends, and food to share,
Showing kindness, love, and care.

I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.



I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Thankful for the food we eat,
Thankful for the toys and treats.

I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.



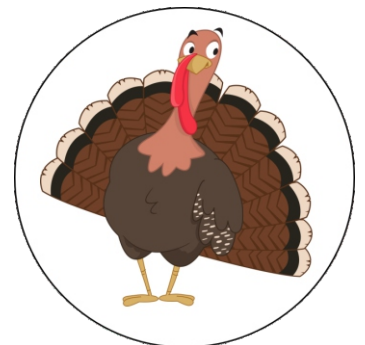
I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Sharing kindness every day,
Helping others when we play.

I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.



I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Turkeys waddle, gobble loud,
Feathers bright—they stand so proud.

I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.



I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Gathered 'round with food to share,
Love and laughter everywhere.

I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.



I Thankful Thanksgiving

Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

**I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.
Family, friends, and food to share,
Showing kindness, love, and care.**

**I am thankful, here I sing,
For the joy Thanksgiving brings.**



Thanksgiving

Classroom Posters

This section includes posters you might like to display in your classroom.

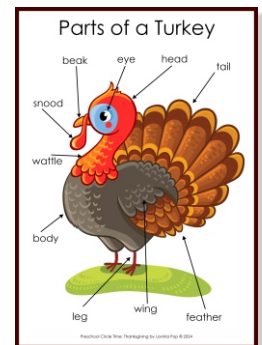
Days 1-3

- *I Am Thankful* poster (This poster has been left unlabeled. You can use it to generate a conversation and add labels. For the house picture, children may be thankful for their room, kitchen, bed, etc.)



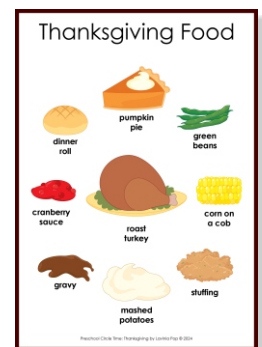
Day 4: Learning About Turkeys

- *Parts of a Turkey* poster

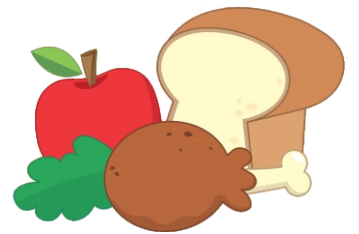


Day 5: Thanksgiving Feast Celebration

- *Thanksgiving Food* poster



I Am Thankful!



Thanksgiving

Activities & Worksheets

This section includes all the necessary lesson printables, along with some additional activities and worksheets. You can use these pages as outlined in the lesson plan or on different days, depending on your needs.

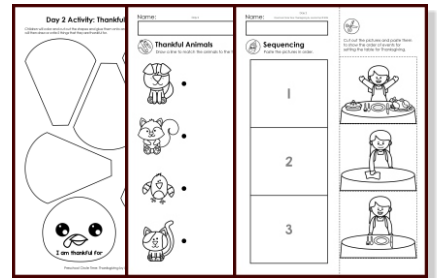
Day 1: What is Thanksgiving?

- **Lesson Activity:** Happy Thanksgiving Hand Print (3 pages)
- *Extension Activity:* Matching Thanksgiving Shadows
- *Additional Activity:* Thanksgiving Color by Code



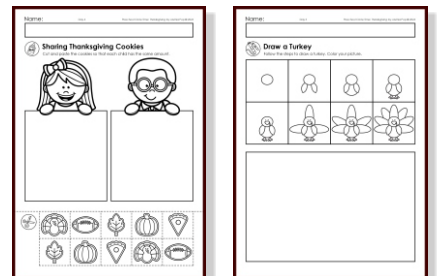
Day 2: Being Thankful

- **Lesson Activity:** Thankful Turkey Craft
- *Additional Activity:* Thankful Animals Match
- *Additional Activity:* Sequencing: Setting the Table



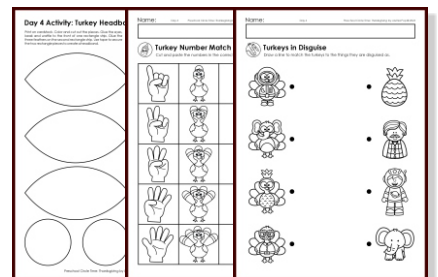
Day 3: Sharing and Giving

- *Additional Activity:* Sharing Thanksgiving Cookies
- *Additional Activity:* Draw a Turkey



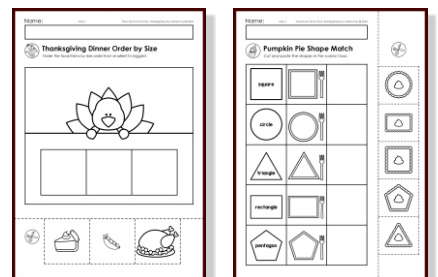
Day 4: Learning About Turkeys

- **Lesson Activity:** Turkey Headband
- *Additional Activity:* Turkey Number Match
- *Additional Activity:* Turkey in Disguise



Day 5: Thanksgiving Feast Celebration

- *Additional Activity:* Thanksgiving Dinner Order by Size
- *Additional Activity:* Pumpkin Pie Shape Match



Day 1 Activity: Happy Thanksgiving Handprint

Materials:

- **Activity 1:** Happy Thanksgiving printable
- **Paint:** One color or multiple colors (washable, non-toxic)
- **Craft materials:** googly eyes, feathers, black makers
- **Optional:** Brushes, sponges, or stamp pads for added texture
- **Aprons or old shirts:** To protect clothing
- **Wet wipes or a bowl of water:** For easy cleanup

Instructions:

1. Select template you wish to use and print enough copies for your class.
2. Set up a painting station with all materials ready.
3. One Color:
 - Pour a small amount of paint onto a plate.
 - Have children dip their hand in the paint and then press it onto the printable, creating a handprint design.
4. Multiple Colors:
 - Use a paintbrush to paint different colors on each child's hand.
 - Once their hands are painted, they will stamp their hands onto the printable.
5. Once dry, guide children to transform their handprints into turkeys. They can draw or glue on additional features such as eyes, a beak, and feathers.

Encourage children to talk about the colors they chose and what they represent (e.g., fall colors like orange and yellow).

Discuss the feeling of paint on their hands.

Extension Idea:

Ask each child to dictate or write a short message about what they are thankful for on the bottom of their handprint art. This can be done with your help, especially for younger children who may not yet be writing independently.



Name:

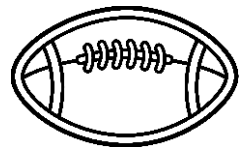
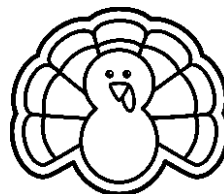
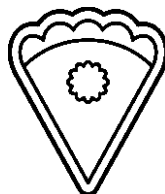
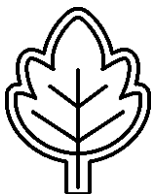
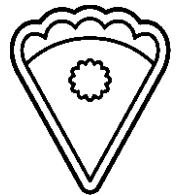
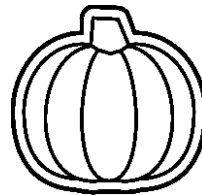
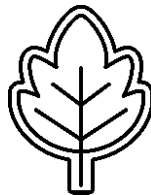
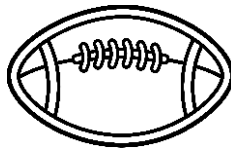
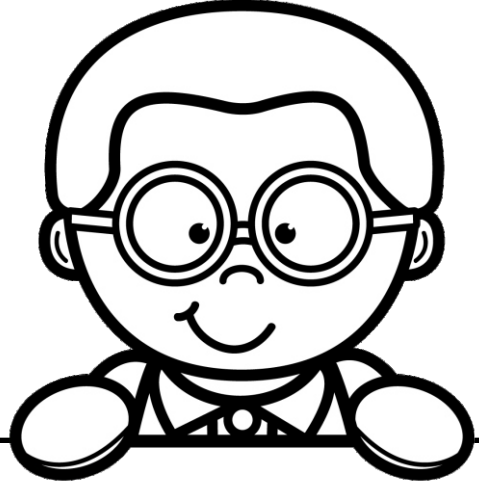
Day 3

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Sharing Thanksgiving Cookies

Cut and paste the cookies so that each child has the same amount.



Name: _____

Day 4

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Turkeys in Disguise

Draw a line to match the turkeys to the things they are disguised as.

