

# Table of Contents

Who Were the Pilgrims? . . . . .	5	New Friends in the New World . . . . .	21
Be a Pilgrim . . . . .	6	Massasoit and the Pilgrims Sign a Treaty . . . . .	22
Who Else Went with Them? . . . . .	7	Squanto, the Pilgrims' Best Friend . . . . .	23
What Was the <i>Mayflower</i> Like? . . . . .	8	Life in Plymouth/Men . . . . .	24
Life Aboard the <i>Mayflower</i> . . . . .	9	Women . . . . .	25
How Did The Men Occupy Themselves? . . . . .	10	Children . . . . .	26
What Did the Women Do All Day? . . . . .	11	What Were the Pilgrims' Homes Like? . . . . .	27
How Did the Children Spend Their Days? . . . . .	12	The Pilgrims Celebrate Their Harvest . . . . .	28
What Did the Crew Do? . . . . .	13	Have a Thanksgiving Feast . . . . .	29
What Kind of Food Did They Eat? . . . . .	14	Thanksgiving Feast Costumes/Plymouth Prospers . . . . .	30
What Kind of Clothes Did They Wear? . . . . .	15	Additional Activities . . . . .	31
How Did They Keep Clean?/Was Everyone Friends? 17		Bibliography . . . . .	32
Land Ahead!/The Mayflower Compact . . . . .	18		
Meet the Leaders of the Pilgrims . . . . .	19		
At Last—On Land! . . . . .	20		



# Mayflower

## Who Were the Pilgrims?

Almost 400 years ago a small group of farmers lived in the little village of Scrooby, England. A king ruled that country then. His name was King James, and he was also head of the Church of England. This king had very strong beliefs about how to worship God. He said all his subjects must worship his way, too.

Most Englishmen obeyed the king. However, the people of Scrooby had different ideas. They thought people should be free to worship any way they wished, and they wished to worship in a simpler way. The king refused to allow this. So the group decided to leave the king's church.

They formed their own religious group. They elected their own leaders and worshiped in homes or barns.

## Why Did They Leave England?

This made the king very angry. He punished the group in the most terrible ways. He raised their taxes. He told others to insult them. He arrested them for the smallest offense. He put them in prison. He even threatened to kill them. The little group feared for their lives. They decided they must leave England. But where could they go?

## Where Did They Go?

Holland was not far away, across the English Channel. People there could worship whatever way they pleased. So, the Pilgrims went there. That was in 1608.

A Pilgrim is someone who makes a long journey for a religious purpose. That's why we call this group "Pilgrims."

The Dutch people were nice to them, but the Pilgrims could not find good jobs. After a while their children started acting like their carefree Dutch friends. They decided it was time to move on.



## Where Did They Decide to Go Next?

Some of them had heard stories of a whole new world across the Atlantic Ocean. It was called Virginia. Some Englishmen had started a colony there called Jamestown. In Virginia the Pilgrims would be far away from King James. They could live there and worship as they chose.

First, though, the group returned to England. There other friends and family members joined them.

The journey to the strange new wilderness would be long and dangerous. Some men did not take their wives. They were afraid the voyage would be too hard on them. Others left their children behind. They thought they would not be able to survive the trip. In the end, only 19 men, 11 women and 14 children made up the Pilgrim group.

# Mayflower

## Be a Pilgrim

While you read about the *Mayflower* Pilgrims, it will seem more real if you pretend you are a Pilgrim yourself.

### Choose a Name

What identifies you best? Your name, of course. Some of the Pilgrims' names are ones we still have. Others are different. Children were often named for traits their parents hoped they would have. Others were named for special places or events.

From the list below, choose a name for yourself. Use it when you write letters or journal entries. Use that name in class. (Remember, more than one person can have the same name.)

### Male Names

Love, Wrestling, Oceanus, Resolve, Peregrine, Fear, Thomas, Matthew, John, Isaac, Peter, Bartholomew, Francis, William, Samuel, Richard, Stephen, Giles, Joseph, Henry, George, Gilbert, Roger, Oliver.

### Female Names

Hope, Faith, Patience, Charity, Desire, Constance, Humility, Remember, Mary, Elinor, Elizabeth, Damaris, Priscilla, Susanna, Dorothy, Bridget, Penelope.

These names were found in Pilgrim records. You might make up others yourself.



*Constance...I called but thou didn't anfwer!*

## Use Pilgrim Words

Four hundred years ago the Pilgrims used some words that sound strange to us.

### Pilgrim Words

espied  
parley  
anon  
breeches  
victuals  
draught  
forced eggs  
cow cumbers  
whortleberries  
pumpions  
sallats  
pipkins

### Our Words

noticed  
talk with  
after a while  
men's pants  
food  
one swallow  
scrambled eggs  
cucumbers  
blueberries  
pumpkins  
salads  
pots and pans

Others are printed in italics throughout this book. Use them whenever you can.

## Spell and Write Differently

Names were often spelled in more than one way. *Plymouth* was also spelled *Plimoth*. Captain Standish's first name was either *Miles* or *Myles*. Spell your own name differently.

Ways of writing some letters were different, too.

Often the letter *s* looked like *f*. *Soon* would look like *foon*, and *answer* would be *anfwer*. *J* looked like *I*—*Journal* was *Iournal*. Our *v* looked like *u*—*arrive* was *arriue*. The *th* sound was written *y*. A sign for *The Mill* would look like *Ye Mill*. Try using these letters in the words you write.

*I was behind ye mill,  
writing in my Journal, Peregrine.*



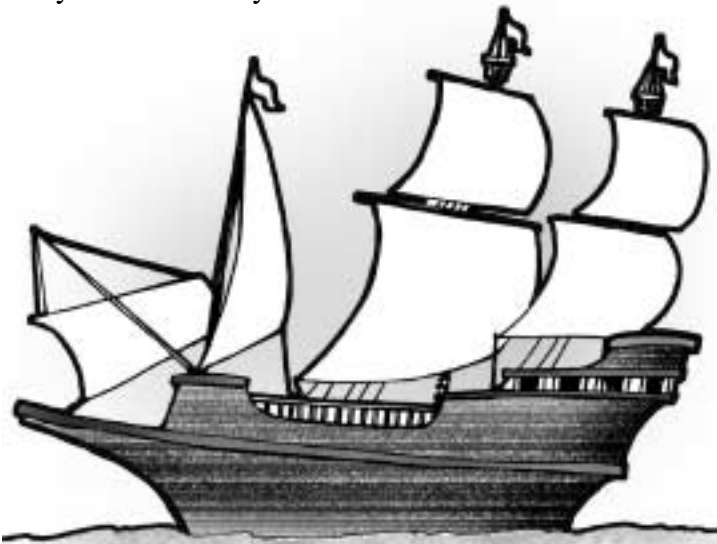
# Mayflower

## Who Else Went with Them?

The Pilgrims were mostly farmers. They knew they would need people with other skills with them. These people would be needed to build homes, and to make barrels and utensils. They would have to hunt animals and tan hides. They would have to help defend the new settlement.

The group finally sailed on September 6, 1620. One hundred twenty passengers and about 25 crew members crowded on board. There were hens, goats, two dogs and a cat as well.

The name of the ship was the *Mayflower*. (That was also the name of a flower that grew in the fields in England.) The Pilgrims boarding it were very excited. They were also very scared.



### Note to Teachers

*The group we call “Pilgrims” actually called themselves “Saints.” Everyone else called them “Separatists” because they had separated from the king’s church. Many years later one of their leaders referred to them as Pilgrims because they were on a long religion-related journey. The other passengers who joined them were still members of the Church of England. The Pilgrims called them “Strangers.” For the sake of simplification, all Mayflower passengers, separatists and non-separatists alike, are referred to in this book as Pilgrims.*

## Discuss Moving to a New Place

What are some reasons people move?

Has anyone here ever moved to a new place?

Why did you move?

Were any friends or relatives left behind?

How did you feel when you had to leave them?

Which of your friends do you miss?

What did you want to know about the new place before you moved there?

Were you afraid of anything?

## You Are a Reporter

Interview passengers boarding the *Mayflower*.

Here are some questions you might ask:

Why are you leaving England?

Where are you going?

How many family members are going with you? Is anyone staying here in England?

This ship looks pretty old. Are you afraid to sail on it?

Have you ever been on an ocean voyage?

What are you bringing with you?

Make up other questions of your own.

## How Long the Journey Will Take

It took 66 days to sail from Scrooby to Cape Cod. Draw a big bulletin board map of the Atlantic Ocean showing England to the east and America to the west. Mark Scrooby and Cape Cod. Make a small paper *Mayflower* and move it  $\frac{1}{66}$  of the way across the ocean each day. Easy measurement would be a 66" ocean, moving the ship 1" each day. Remind students that because of storms and varying wind speeds, the ship really didn't move the same distance each day. Look at a calendar. Note what a long time 66 days really is!