

How do we tell our story in the classrooms?

Schools will allow you to talk about the Pilgrims and there are various ways of accomplishing this.

I adapted my Mini Museum Boxes from Lesson Plans that were part of the museum boxes that had been developed by Susie Ashbaugh and Carol Burnaman of the Dallas/Fort Worth Colony.

Their Lesson Plans were used, (with their approval), and a Teacher Resource section was added which answers the questions that are asked in the Lesson Plans. Photographs, maps, and other pages were added to give the teacher and students a visual aid. They could see what Plimoth Plantation looks like and how the Pilgrims lived. They also learn about the Wampanoag Indians and Squanto.

The most important items that should be included are the following books that can be purchased at Plimoth Plantation online.

Coming to America Resource Kit developed by the Mayflower Society – purchased through Plimoth Plantation and is the source of the Lesson Plans

Journey to the New World

Life in 1627 Plymouth 17th Century English Colonial Life*

Wampanoag People of the East*

**These 3 books are sold as a set.*

Investigating “The First Thanksgiving” An Educator’s guide to the 1621 Harvest Celebration

Plimoth Plantation will give a discount and the code is “Teachers 10”.

Other items inside the box contain toys that were used in that time period. Wooden Tops, Jacob’s Ladder, Quoits, Cup and Ball, Nine Men’s Morris.

The box that I use has individual boxes inside that contain Teacher Resource Books which are the 5 books listed above. Another box contains books for the teacher or librarian to share, or let the students read. These are books that an Elementary school would allow them to read. A box also contains the games and toys.

Several books are included that can be read by the student but are more than likely to be additional information for the teacher.

The books that I have found to be useful are:

Don't Know Much About the Pilgrims by Kenneth C. Davis

Mourt's Relation (A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth first published in 1622) Introduction by Dwight B Heath

Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647 – William Bradford

History Pockets – Life in Plymouth Colony

Included in the box are Activities that the teacher can print copies from to give the students. I have included Answer Keys to the worksheets for the teacher.

Photographs, brochures, postcards and other items are included for visual aids. A copy of the Mayflower Compact, Map of the voyage, facts about the Mayflower and the journey are included and a list of the passengers.

Tri-folds are setup for the students to study. A wooden small replica of Mayflower II is also setup. The ship can be purchased from Plimoth Plantation and will also get the teacher discount. I have included a photograph of what the contents in my box looks like. Get involved with educating our students. Make up your own museum box. Contact me if you have questions or need help. Sandra Sauers at sdsauers.hc@gmail.com.

