I Love America 1700s "Let Freedom Ring"

November Lessons



Parent / Teacher Manual

Published by
Textbook Publishers, Inc.
© 2026

I Love America 1700s
"Let Freedom Ring"
NOVEMBER LESSONS

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
By
Julianne Kimber
Copyright © 2002, 2005, 2018, 2026

_____

Permission is given to copy pages from this book
for immediate family use only.

_____

Table of Contents

November

LESSONS

#1—Making a November Calendar	Page 1
#2—The Separatists Search for Religious Freedom	Page 3
#3—The Separatists Leave for the New World	Page 11
#4—Who Were the People on the Mayflower?	Page 17
#5—The Mayflower Compact.	Page 35
#6—The Native Americans Save Plymouth (The Feast)	Page 47
#7—William Bradford Sets the People Free	Page 57
#8—Thanksgiving Stories and Activities	Page 67
#9—Review & Movie (“Squanto—A Warrior’s Tale”)	Page 77

I Love America 1700s -- November

LESSON #1

Making a November Calendar

SUBJECT OF THIS LESSON: Creating a monthly calendar, using math skills.

Items Needed:

- ☐ Instructions for making the calendar (included, plus October Lesson 2)
- ☐ Piece of plain paper for each student
- ☐ Ruler
- ☐ Pencil and Eraser
- ☐ Colored pencils
- ☐ *Optional*: Thanksgiving stickers for decoration

REVIEW: Remind the students about how they made a calendar for the month of October. Now that it is a new month, they will have the opportunity to make another calendar and decorate it with Thanksgiving themes.

LESSON / ACTIVITY: Talk about the different drawings they might put on their November calendars.

Refer to the October lesson #2 on calendar-making details, and walk through the process again with the class, a step at a time:

1. Draw two rectangles on the board (wide and tall), and remind the students that no matter which way their paper is facing (landscape or portrait), they will need to have seven SPACES (8 evenly-spaced lines) across, and five spaces down the side.

2. Write on the board the measurements as in October lesson #2, or refer to the following page.

3. While the students work on their calendars, you may wish to review some of the facts and background you discussed about calendars. If you did not get a chance to cover all the material, you could do so at this time.

4. After the students have drawn all the lines, fill in the numbers in the top right corners of each square, leaving room for events and birthdays.

5. Have the students write on their calendar the birthdays of classmates and/or family members, and other special events.

6. Decorate the Thanksgiving Holiday square on the calendar. Remind them that Thanksgiving is always the 4th Thursday. Let the students write the title, adding pictures or drawings as desired.

7. Have the students slip the calendars into a protective plastic sheet for their notebooks.

Wide Calendar

Measure from the top edge of the paper.
½ inch Title →
½ inch days of week →
Start here and → measure 1 inch down the side to form five rows.

(Use the other edge of your ruler, and measure 4 cm evenly across the bottom, as well as under the Title at the top, for the seven days a week)

Tall Calendar

Measure from the top edge of the paper.
← 2 inches for the Title

← ½ inch for days of the week
← Start here and measure 1 ½ inches down the side.
(You will have a one-inch margin at the bottom.)

Measure 1 ¼ inches from the left edge of the paper for the days of the week.

I Love America 1700s -- November

LESSON #2

The Separatists Search for Religious Freedom

SUBJECT OF THIS LESSON: Religious conditions in Europe during the 1600s, and how God prepared people to come to America.

Items Needed:

- ☐ Map or world globe showing the relationship between England and Holland
- ☐ Picture of William Bradford to color (included, and in student packets)
- ☐ Map showing The Netherlands
- ☐Optional for the Activities: Cheese, tulip bulb, pictures of paintings by Rembrandt, materials for making a paper windmill (see activity description)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR THE INSTRUCTOR

This lesson will cover the story of William Bradford and his part in establishing Plymouth Colony, which occurred about 13 years after Jamestown. The following information gives some background on the conditions of his day, as well as his early life:

WILLIAM BRADFORD (1590 - 1657)
(From the *World Book Encyclopedia*, 1979 edition, volume 2, page 454)

William Bradford was the second governor of Plymouth Colony, the settlement established by the Pilgrims in 1620. Bradford served as governor from 1621 to 1657, except for five different years when he was an assistant to the governor. Under his leadership, the colony survived droughts, crop failures, and Indian attacks. In 1621 Bradford organized the celebration of the first Thanksgiving Day observance held in New England. His book *Of Plimouth Plantation* is the chief record of Pilgrim life. This book remained in manuscript form for more than 200 years until it was faintly published in 1856.

The Pilgrims sailed to America on the Mayflower and set up their colony on what is now Cape Cod Bay. Bradford probably helped write the Mayflower Compact, a document that set forth the governmental policies of the Pilgrims in the new land. He became governor after the death of the first governor, John Carver.

In 1623, Bradford ended the program that had required the Pilgrims to share the ownership of land, food, and tools. The colony then adopted Bradford's plan of dividing the ownership of land among individual families. Everyone was encouraged to grow as much corn and other crops as possible. Each Pilgrim family--and the colony as a whole--profited.

In 1627, Bradford and seven other Pilgrims helped most of the Pilgrims gain financial independence. English merchants had paid the passage to America for the majority of the Pilgrims.

But those colonists had not been able to pay their entire debt. Bradford and the other Pilgrims in his group sold some of their own property to help settle the debt.

Bradford generally maintained peace with the Indians. In 1637, however, he fought in the Pequot War, in which the colonists defeated the Pequot Indians.
Bradford was born in Austerfield, England, near Sheffield. As a youth, he joined the Separatists, a group that had left the Church of England, the nation's official church. The Separatists held secret prayer meetings in defiance of King James I.

In 1608, Bradford fled to Holland with a band of Separatists in search of religious freedom. Some of the Separatists later sailed to America and became known as the Pilgrims.

WILLIAM BRADFORD AND THE PILGRIMS IN HOLLAND

(From *Our America*, pages 29-33)

For more than ten years now a little group of people from England had lived in Holland. They had left their old homes in England for just one reason. They wanted to be free to worship God in their own way.

At that time only one kind of church was allowed in England. It was called the Church of England. Everyone was supposed to belong to it. But some of the English people did not want to belong. They wanted to separate from the Church of England and start a church of their own. These people were called Separatists.

Life soon became very unpleasant for some of the Separatists [in England]. They had to worship at secret meetings. Their neighbors often made fun of them. Sometimes they were even beaten or put in prison. They finally decided to move to Holland. Here they would be free to worship as they pleased.

Among the Separatists who moved to Holland was a young man named William Bradford. He was born in a little English town almost one hundred years after Columbus discovered America. He joined the Separatists while he was still a boy. He was only eighteen years old when he went to Holland. As the years passed William Bradford became an important man among the Separatists in Holland. He was one of the first to be in favor of moving to America.

There were many reasons why the little group of Englishmen talked about leaving Holland. It was difficult for some of them to make a good living. Their children were learning the Dutch language and the Dutch ways of living. After a time, they would become more like Dutch boys and girls than like English children. Then, too, their right to worship as they pleased might someday be taken away from them.

Of course, there were also reasons why they should not move to America. The trip was long and dangerous. There were savage Indians in the new land who might kill them. Perhaps worst of all, there was only one tiny English settlement in all of America. That was a little colony at Jamestown, Virginia. It had been started in 1607, about the time the Separatists were moving to Holland.

After many long talks they finally decided what to do. Only part of them would go to America at first. Each man was to decide

for himself whether or not he wanted to go. Those who went were to start the new colony. The rest would join the colony later.

Less than half of the little group said they wanted to go. They began at once to make plans for the trip. First, they had to get permission to settle on some land in America. Then, they had to hire ships and buy supplies. There were also hundreds of little things which had to be done.

Everything was ready for them to leave Holland in the summer of 1620. They went on board a little ship called the Speedwell., and their friends came along to say good-by. It was a sad parting. Even some of the strangers who watched the sailing could not keep from crying. As the ship began to move away, those who stayed behind fell on their knees in prayer. With tears rolling down their cheeks, they asked God to bless the ship and their loved ones.

The Speedwell carried them to England. Here they were to be joined by a larger ship called the Mayflower, since some people in England also had decided to make the trip. Twice the two ships started out to sea and turned back. Each time the Speedwell began to leak so badly they dared go no farther.

At last they decided to leave the Speedwell behind. Some of the people had to be left behind, too, since the Mayflower was not large enough to hold all of them. When everything was ready once more, the Mayflower again sailed out to sea. A strong east wind filled the sails and drove the ship swiftly before it. Soon they could no longer see the land. This time there was no turning back.



REVIEW: Refresh the students' memories about your previous history studies – Jamestown, Pocahontas, and the Native Americans.

LESSON: While Jamestown was being established--with the help of Pocahontas and other friendly Indians--people in Europe were becoming unhappy with their governments. It was the policy and mandate that people believe the same way the king did, which at this time was the Church of England.

Tell in your own words some of the background material from this lesson so the children understand the conditions of government in England. Remind them about the "King James Version" of the Bible and how it was held sacred by the people in Jamestown, and how Pocahontas was converted to Christianity after being taught about the New Testament. Tell them that now you are going to read a story of some people who were so unhappy about the English government that they held their own secret meetings at great peril to their lives.

Let the children color their picture of William Bradford while you read the following:

This is a story about two Williams. Both Williams had last names which begin with the letter "B." But one William was elderly, and the other was just a boy. The older William's last name was BREWSTER.

The boy William's last name was BRADFORD. William Bradford would be a very important person in helping settle America. And the older man, whom we will call Elder Brewster, helped him. Here is their story:

A man and a boy walked along a road in England. They were on their way home from church. The man spoke in a gentle voice.

"You walk a long way to church, my boy," he said.

"Eight miles," thirteen-year-old William Bradford answered. Then he added, "My uncles are angry. They do not want me to come to this church. But I believe what it teaches. I must come."

Elder William Brewster laid a hand on the boy's shoulder. "You are a brave lad," the elder said. "Hold fast to what you believe. Always do right. Some day you may lead our people."

William Bradford lived [four] hundred years ago. The English law then required that everyone belong to the king's church. But some people did not believe all the things that this church taught. These people formed a new church. William BREWSTER was a leader in the new church. Because he was a church leader, he was called "elder."

William Bradford's parents had died when he was a small boy. He lived with his uncles for a few years. Then we went to live in Elder Brewster's family. He became a member of the new church.

(You may need to explain here that the new church was not the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, but a protestant group which "protested" the Church of England called "Protestants" The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints would not be established for 200 more years. Even so, and as we will see, the protestant groups were persecuted just like the Latter-day Saints.)