



STORY: THE THANKSGIVING STORY

Original by Dianne de Las Casas
© Copyright 2008 The Story Connection

Long ago in the year Sixteen hundred and twenty
Families boarded a ship with their animals aplenty
The ship *Mayflower* was built sturdy and strong
To sail across the seas on a journey so long

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

Through ravaging storms and raging seas
They read their Bibles and prayed on their knees
After many months, their ship did dock
It landed in a place called Plymouth Rock

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

For many perilous months, they did roam
But they finally found a place that they could call home
In an empty Indian village they would build their town
But Winter's icy weather kept progress down

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

They stayed on the *Mayflower* so they could survive
They clung to hope and prayed to stay alive
But sadly, many Pilgrim lives were lost
Still they strived to carry on, no matter the cost

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

When Spring arrived, they began to plant food
They started building houses and gathering wood
In April, the *Mayflower* set sail once more
And the Pilgrims waved goodbye from the rocky shore

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

One day, the Indian Samoset walked into town

The Pilgrims were surprised; were there others around?
He brought two other Indians to town after a while
Massoit and Squanto had warm, kind smiles

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

Massoit and the Pilgrims signed a treaty for peace
Squanto stayed in Plymouth, in the village by the seas
The Pilgrims needed help to survive in the new land
So Squanto generously lent a helping hand

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

Squanto helped plant corn and beans in neat rows
Everyone rejoiced when the pumpkins began to grow
With nets and weirs, Squanto showed them how to fish
The harvest was abundant and the Pilgrims had their wish

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

To show their gratitude, the Pilgrims planned a small spread
They invited Squanto and his friends to visit their homestead
On the day of the feast, Massoit brought turkeys and deer
And ninety Indians came to celebrate from far and near

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

Though the Pilgrims had more guests than what they had planned
Everyone pitched in and lent a helping hand
They stuffed turkeys, baked bread and cooked a splendid meal
It was a three day festivity and they celebrated with zeal

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true

The Pilgrims prayed to their Father in Heaven above
They gave thanks for the abundance of food and love
They gave thanks for their friends and their blessings bestowed
It was the First Thanksgiving story ever told

We're Pilgrims and we'll build our lives anew
We'll follow our dreams until they come true