

\* The First winter in Plymouth  
 After a long dangerous voyage the Pilgrims arrived in America. The first winter in Plymouth was terrible... They could not finish building their houses before the snow fell. The people were hungry and cold. Almost half the Pilgrims died in that first winter.



The Pilgrims come to America.

In 1620, the pilgrims sailed on the Mayflower to America. The voyage was very dangerous. They were afraid of pirates and hurricanes. The pilgrims risked their lives.

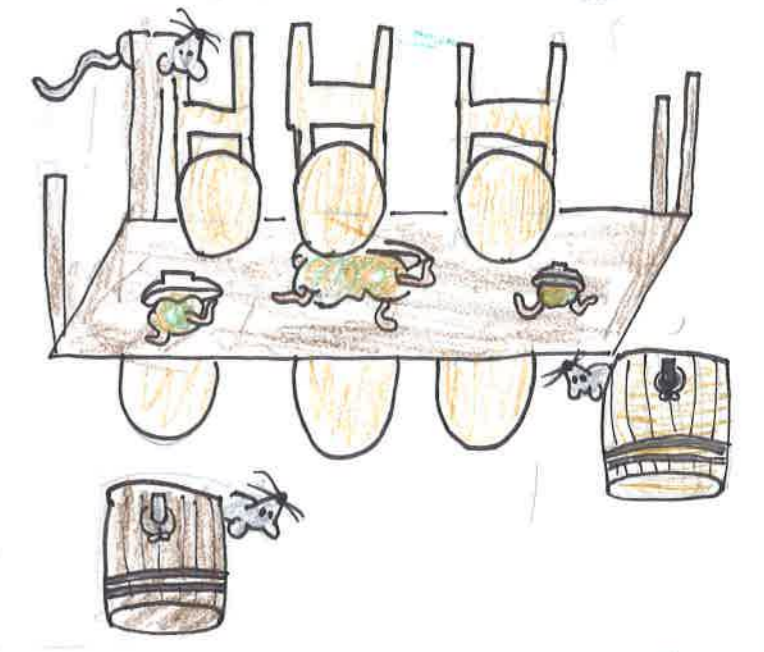
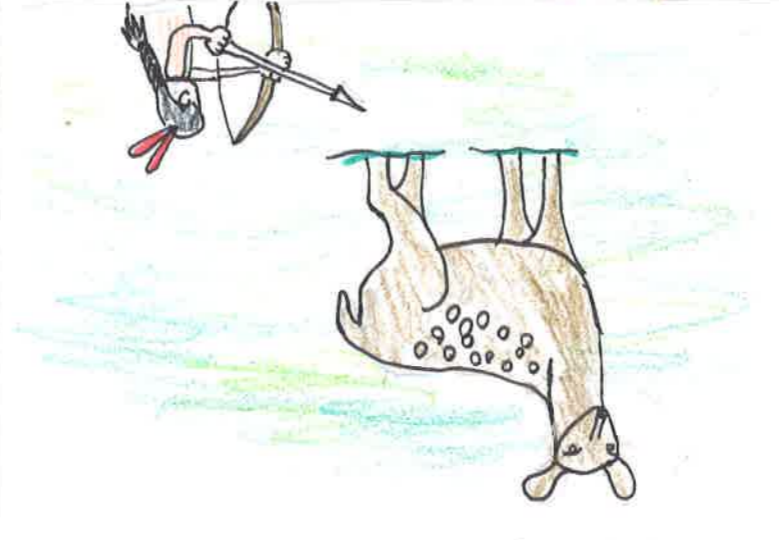
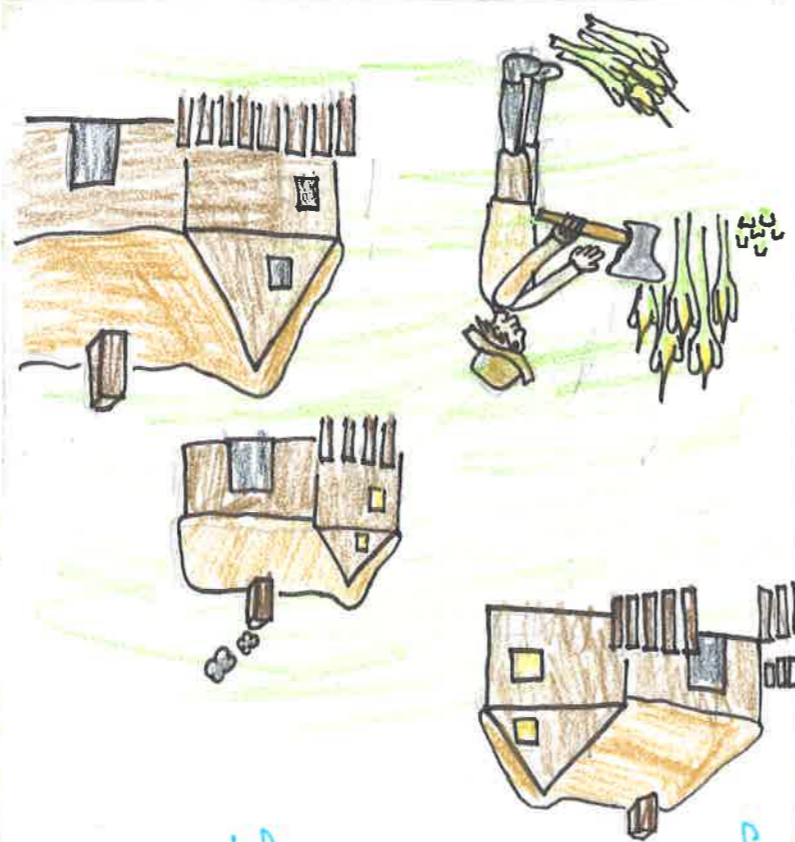
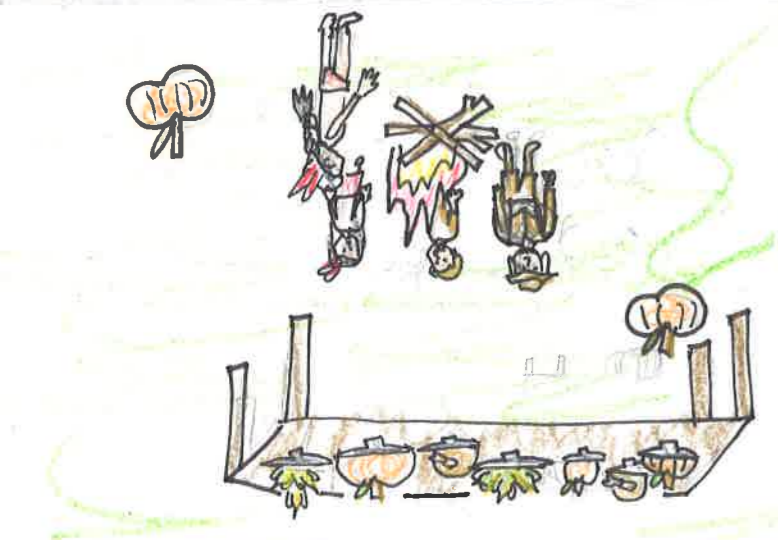
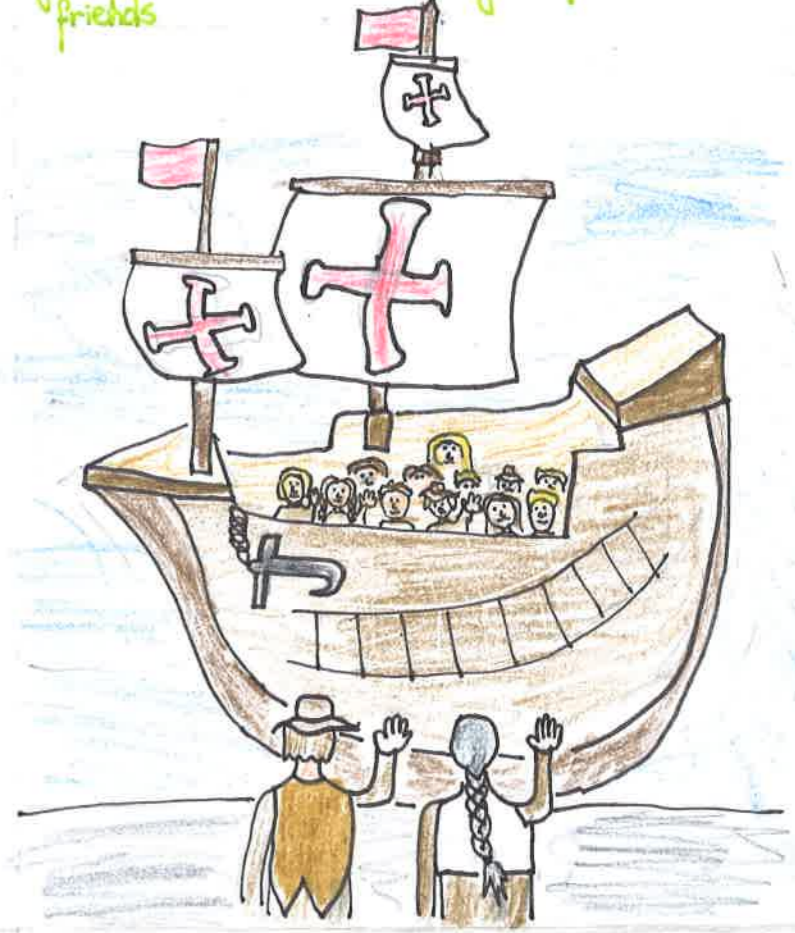


Gaia

They did this because life in England was even worse for them. The King of England said that everyone must belong to his church. The Pilgrims wanted to pray in their own church. They tried to meet in secret but the King had the Pilgrims leaders arrested.



The Pilgrims decided to leave England. They sailed on the Mayflower to America. They gave up their houses and said good-bye to their friends.



When fall came, the Pilgrims were very happy with all the food they had grown. They had corn, pumpkins, peas and beans. They had a big celebration and invited the Indians to a feast. The first Thanksgiving in America lasted three days. The Pilgrims and the Native Americans ate, drank, danced and played games together. They gave thanks for their new friends and their food. Today we still celebrate. We call it Thanksgiving.

Fall

The Pilgrims worked very hard. They made houses and furniture and planted gardens. In the summer the corn was growing tall and there were lots of vegetables to eat. No one was hungry.

Summer

After the long, bad winter spring arrived. One day a Native American came to the Native American man and said: "Welcome! His name was Samoset and he spoke English. Samoset and his friends helped the Pilgrims and gave them good tips. They showed them how to hunt for deer and where to find berries and nuts. They also showed them how to plant corn the Indian way. The Indians put fish in the ground when they planted their seed. The fish made the soil richer."

Spring

The ship was very crowded. There were 102 people on the Mayflower, there was no water for washing and they soon became dirty and smelly. The food was not good - some food even had worms. There were lots of rats on board.

The Voyage