



A FAMILY TO BE THANKFUL FOR

by Joe Troiano

THANKSGIVING TOOLKIT



EDUCATORS, PARENTS, AND CAREGIVERS

A Family to be Thankful For by Joe Troiano reminds us that families come in all shapes and sizes. Use this toolkit to help your young ones celebrate their own families and the spirit of Thanksgiving.

Giving Thanks

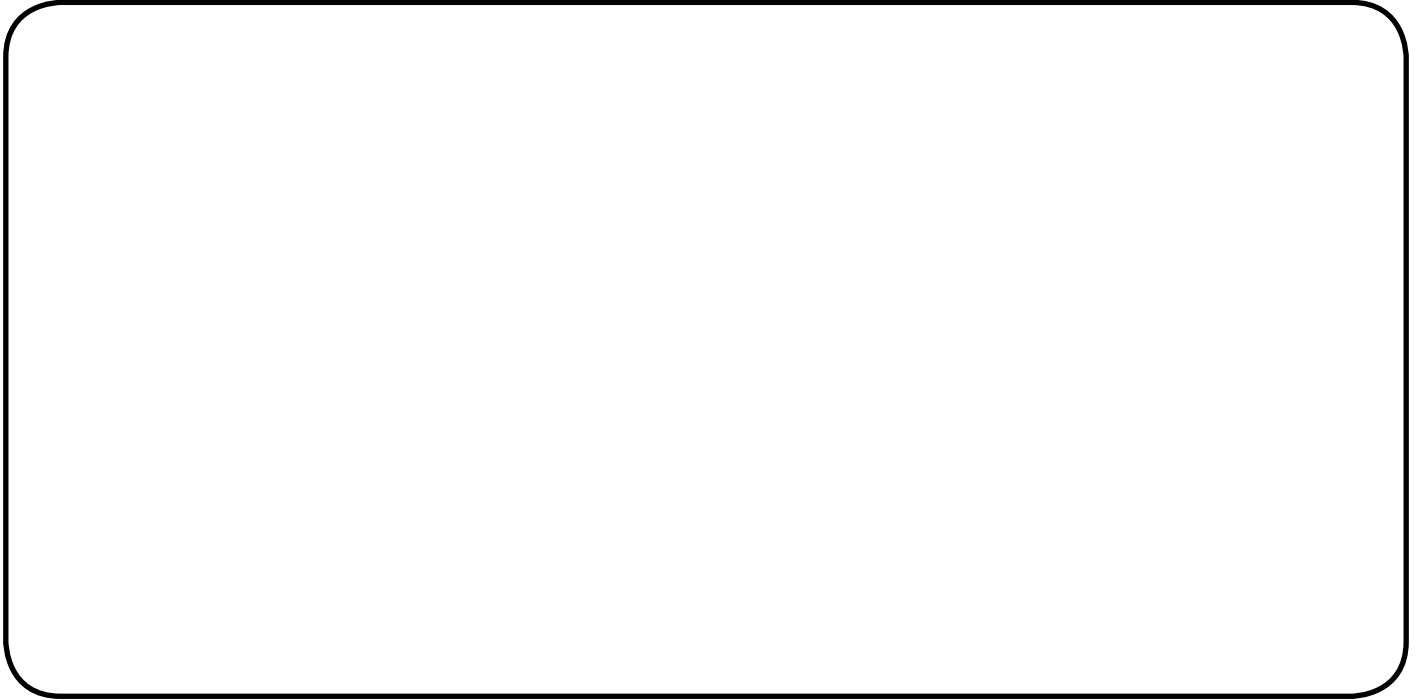
In *A Family to be Thankful For*, Jack Scarecrow explains Thanksgiving to Spookley:

*It's a day when families gather together
and give thanks for having each other forever.*

Write or draw pictures of what you are thankful for.

My Family

In *A Family to be Thankful For*, Spookley learns that families come in all shapes and sizes. Draw a picture of your family.



Now let's get silly! If your family members were fruits and vegetables from Holiday Hill Farm, what would they look like?



Rhyme Time!

The book *A Family to be Thankful For* rhymes. Can you complete these rhyming sentences? Circle the right word.

Spookley thought about Thanksgiving, and felt a little sad.
Everyone gathered around to see why he felt _____.

happy bad tired

Spookley thought and thought as he shuffled along.
He thought, I wish I had a family and a place I _____.

belong fit song

Spookley was shuffling down the first garden row
when a pod full of peas shouted, "Spookley, don't _____ !

snow run go

"Spend Thanksgiving with us and you'll have lots of fun.
You may not be a carrot, but we'll treat you like _____."

one carrot sun

Spookley had shuffled too far. He was lost and alone.
He wondered why he wandered so far from his _____.

patch farm home

And when Jack heard the news, he came running on the double.
So did all Spookley's friends once they heard there was _____.

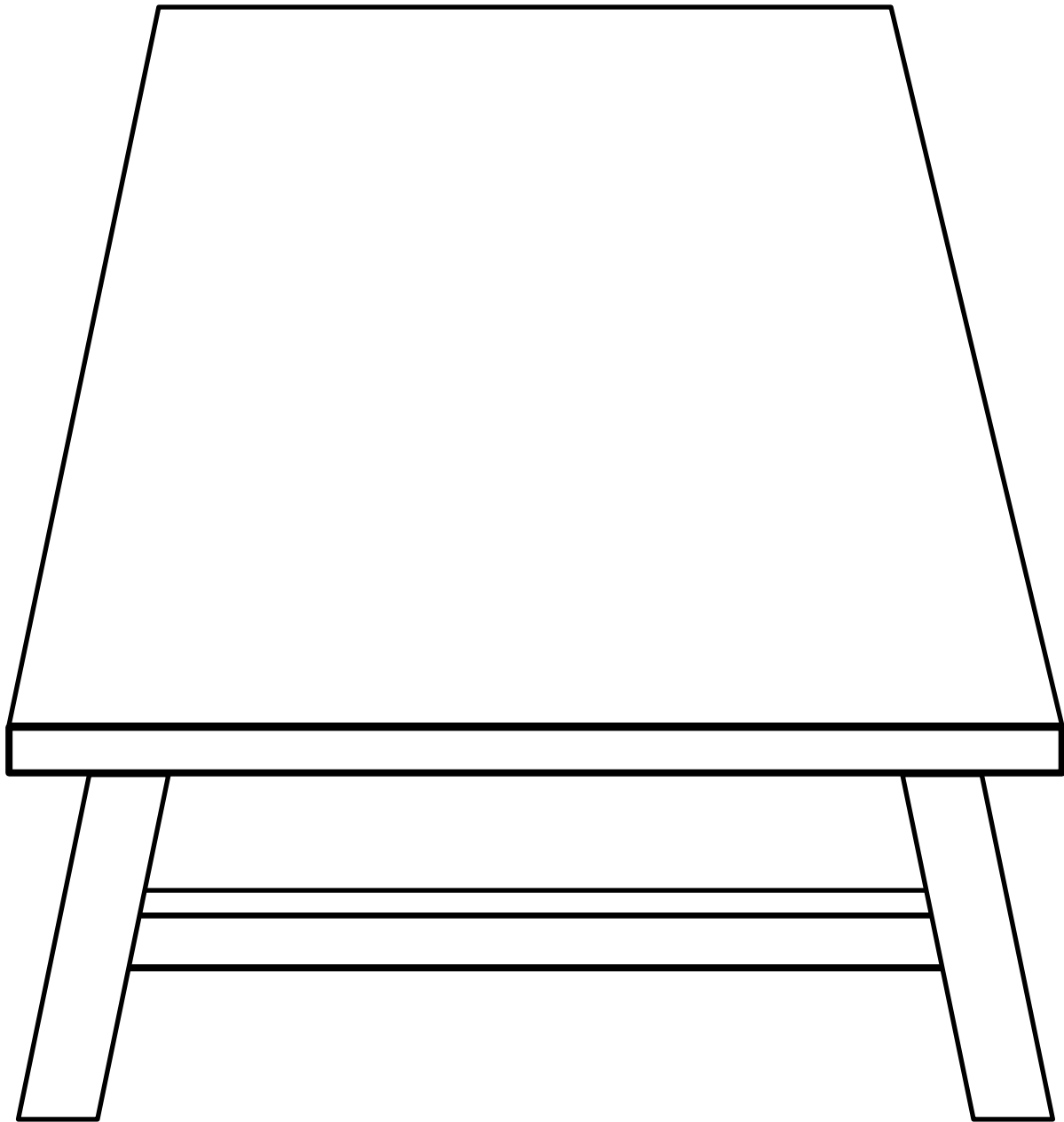
puddles trouble fun

My life is much better because you are here,
and that a family is something to be thankful for each and every day of the _____.

month week year

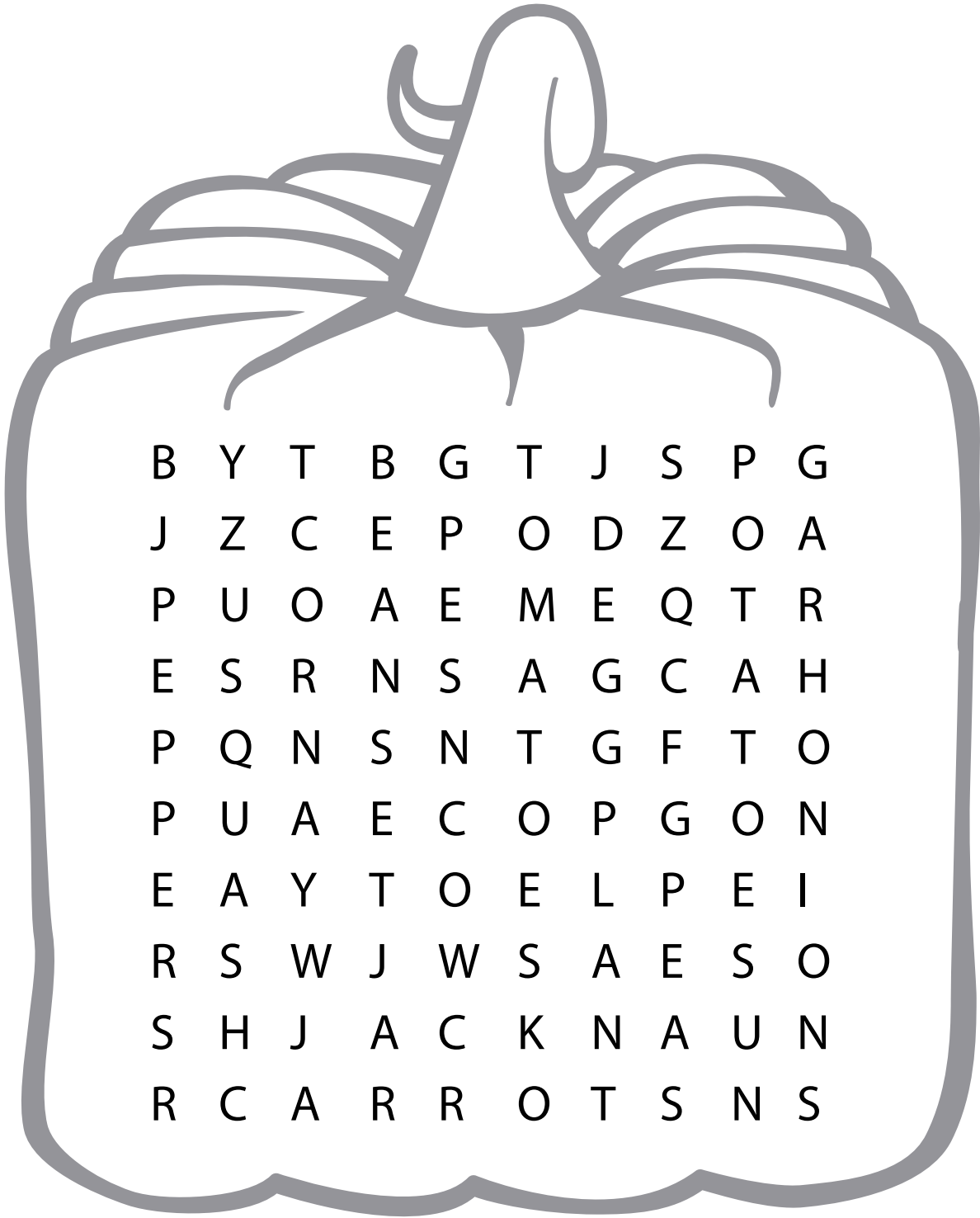
Yum!

Let's have a Thanksgiving feast with Spookley at Holiday Hill Farm. What would you like to eat?



Word Search

Spookley's family includes friends of all kinds on Holiday Hill Farm! Can you find them all?



CORN

CARROTS

SQUASH

POTATOES

PEAS

PEPPER

EGGPLANT

JACK

TOMATOES

BEANS

ONIONS

Let's Talk

Read *A Family to be Thankful For* by Joe Troiano or listen to it on Spookley's YouTube Channel. Discuss its themes.

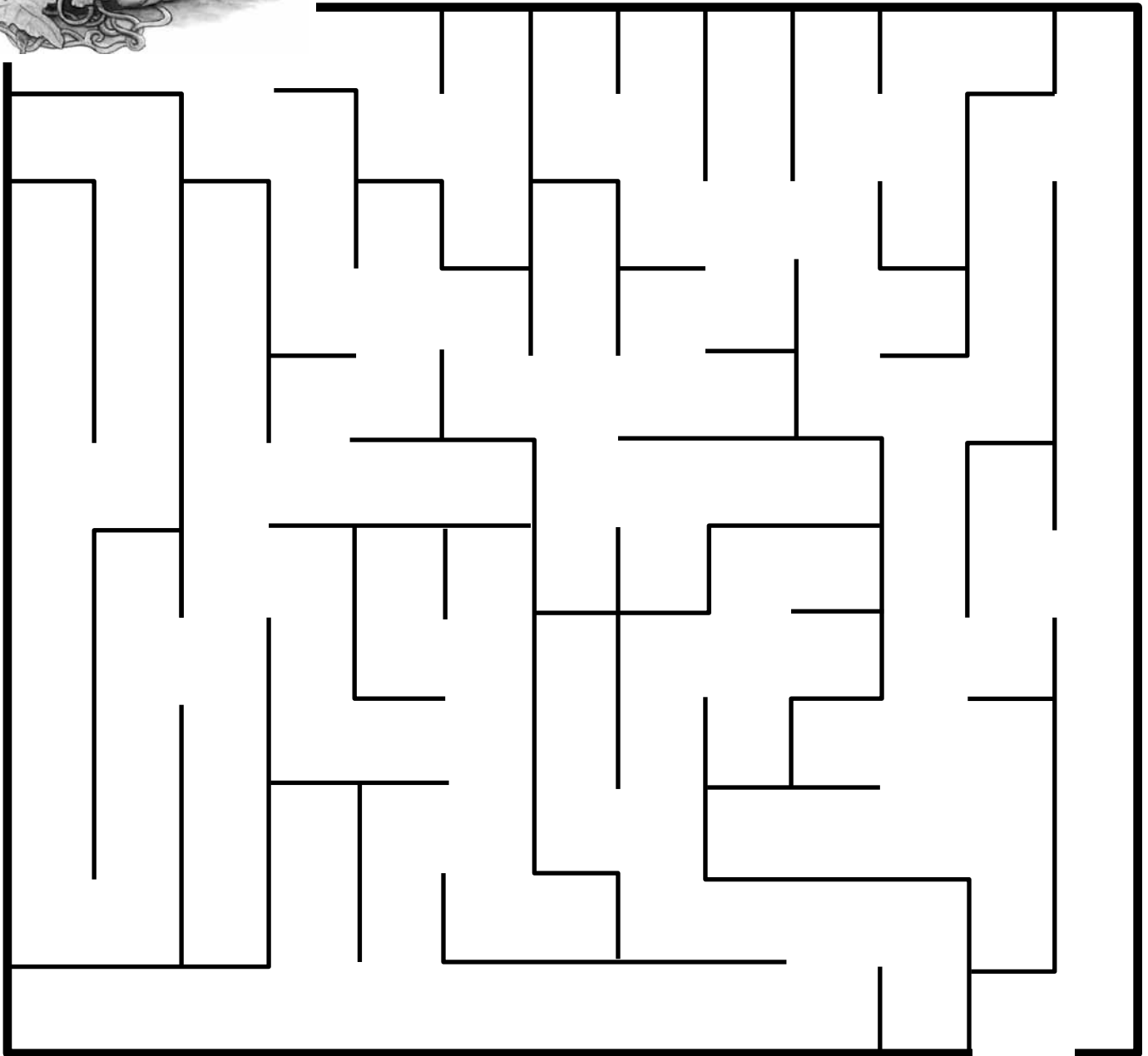
QUESTIONS	KEY THEMES AND OBJECTIVES
How did Spookley feel when he first learned about Thanksgiving?	Use empathy to help children recognize that they would feel bad if they were left out.
What did the other vegetables on the farm say when they saw Spookley?	Lead children to acknowledge that members of the farm looked to help Spookley when they saw that he was sad.
What would you have said if you were a vegetable on the farm and you saw Spookley looking for a place to celebrate Thanksgiving?	Lead children to recognize that they can reach out to other kids and help.
Why, in the end, did Spookley decide that he liked Thanksgiving?	Lead children to recognize that everyone has a different family and that we all have people we appreciate in our lives.

ideas for teamwork

1. Spookley's differences make him feel alone, but differences can also make us feel good! Work together to think of something different about each person that makes them feel happy, special, or proud.
2. Sometimes people like and need to be with other people. Draw a picture or write about group activities that can be done with friends, family, or classmates.
3. We can be thankful for each other. Write a "Thank You" card for someone who has done a kind thing for you. What did they do, when did they do it, and how did it make you feel?
4. Holiday Hill Farm is a community where individuals help each other, like when the vegetables and Jack Scarecrow helped Spookley when he was lost. Communities can be your town, school, classroom, or your own family. Choose a community and think about three things people do to make the community strong.

Home Sweet Home

Spookley has wandered too far!
Help him find his way back to his family at Holiday Hill Farm.



SPOOKLEY THE SQUARE PUMPKIN™



Every Day is a Holiday™



JACK SCARECROW™



Every Day is a Holiday™



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