Common Myths about the "First Thanksgiving"

Myth: The Wampanoag brought popcorn to the first Thanksgiving feast.

Myth: The First Official Thanksgiving took place near Plymouth Rock in 1621.

Myth: The Native Americans the Pilgrims encountered lived in tipis and traveled on horseback.

Myth: The Native Americans wore elaborate head dresses with many feathers.

Myth: The Pilgrims shared pumpkin pie, corn on the cob, and sweet potatoes (or yams) with the Wampanoag.

Myth: The harvest feast celebrated by Pilgrims and Wampanoags in the fall of 1621 was the first of its kind in the Americas.

Group Assignment

1. Explain the myth that your group has been assigned, answering these three questions:

   - What is a truth in this myth?
   - What are other truths behind this myth that might contradict it?
   - What does the myth reveal about those who believe it?

2. As a group, you may use any of the materials available to help you understand and explain the myth.

3. Prepare a five-minute presentation to the class that explains your understanding of the myth, using creative drama, visual aids such as posters, music, illustrations, or an oral presentation.