

# Play Pilgrim Dress-Up

There is nothing young children enjoy more than make-believe. Let your child get into character this Thanksgiving—as a Pilgrim! The story of the first Thanksgiving feast will come alive as your child creates a hat or bonnet and plays the part of one of the Pilgrim guests. Be sure to photograph your child wearing her Pilgrim attire. She'll learn some history and some social studies along the way with this fun arts and crafts project.

## For the Bonnet:

### What You Need:

- 12" x 18" white felt (if your piece of felt isn't big enough, glue 2 or more sheets together)
- Scissors
- Glue or rubber cement
- Hole punch
- Thin ribbon or yarn



### What You Do:

1. Holding the felt so that it's oriented horizontally in front of you, fold back the top edge about two inches, neatly creasing the fold with your hands. Have your child use glue or rubber cement to secure the folded area. Let the glue dry.
2. Directly across from the folded edge, cut two vertical 3-inch slits about three inches from the sides.
3. Have your child fold each of the flaps up over the center section, and glue them into place. Let the glue dry.
4. Use scissors to make two small holes in the corner on either side of the folded part of the hat (the brim) about an inch from the edge on each side.
5. Ask your child to run a separate narrow ribbon or piece of yarn through each hole. Tie a knot on the end to secure them to the felt to make bonnet strings. You've got a bonnet!

## For the Hat

### What You Need:

- Paper plate (dinner size)
- Two pieces of black felt (one that is about 8" x 20", and another that is at least as large as the paper plate)
- Piece of white felt (2" width, length equal to the circumference of the inner edge of the plate's brim)
- 2 1/2" x 2" strip of yellow felt
- Scissors
- Glue or rubber cement

### What You Do:

1. Set aside the 8" x 20" piece of felt, and ask your child to trace the paper plate onto the smaller piece of felt. Have your child cut out the circle he's traced.
2. Have your child fold the circle in half and carefully cut out the inside of the circle by cutting a smaller circle out of the larger one, leaving a 2-inch "frame" of black felt all the way around.
3. Trace the shape of the felt "doughnut" onto the plate, and cut the traced circle out of the plate.
4. Glue the black felt piece onto the paper plate's brim.

5. Glue the 8" x 20" piece of felt to the inside of the opening in the felt brim, standing vertically so it looks like a top hat.
6. Use the smaller black circle cut out of the brim to make the top of the hat. Glue the small circle on top of the hat to cover the opening. Let the glue dry.
7. Have your child apply the white strip of felt to the crown of the hat with glue.
8. Cut out a buckle from the yellow felt—a large square with a smaller square cut out of it—and ask your child to glue it securely to the front of the hat on the white strip. Now you've got a pilgrim hat!

Try making these adorable Pilgrim headpieces for all the children in the family this coming Thanksgiving. This activity makes a fantastic accompaniment to the Native American Headpiece!

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