

Lesson 10: Thank You, Sarah



Unit 5
Grade 4

Who are these two people and why might they be shown together?



With a partner, create a
list of everything you
know about
Thanksgiving.



Resource 2: Frayer Model

Directions: in the boxes:

1. define the word superhero,
2. describe characteristics of superheroes
3. give some examples of superheroes
4. draw what a superhero looks like.

Definitions

Characteristics

Superhero

Examples

Looks Like



Resource 3: Providing Context for Today's Story

Way back in the year 1861 our country was torn apart by a Civil War. A civil war is one in which people within the same country fight one another. The main cause of our country's Civil War was slavery. States in the north were against slavery while states in the south fought to keep it.

Many people thought that the war would not last long and that the North would win because it had a lot more resources to fight the war than the South did. Sadly, the war ended up lasting FOUR years! That Civil War was the bloodiest war in all of American history. Over 623,000 Americans lost their lives.

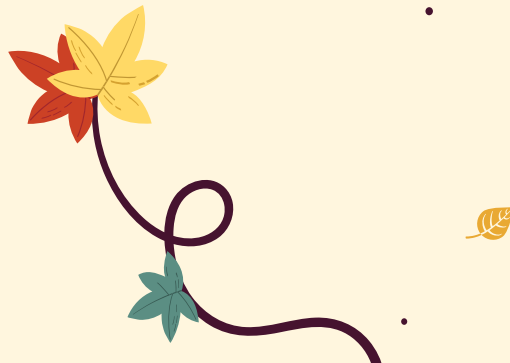
By the middle of the war people on both sides grew tired of all the suffering. It was a very sad time in our country's history.]

In 1865, the North won the war and ended slavery in the United States. But it is easy for us to look back and not feel as sad as Americans felt as the war was being fought. So many people were injured and died. So many areas of the country were destroyed. As the years passed and the war continued, Americans in both the North and the South wanted something to celebrate, something to distract them from the horrors of the war.



Questions:

1. What is the main idea of the reading?
1. Why were many Americans so sad between 1861-1865?



We are now going to read some texts that will help you solve the history mystery that was introduced at the beginning of this lesson.

The readings will also connect the pieces of information from your Thanksgiving brainstorming and Superhero Frayer Model .



Thank you, Sarah.



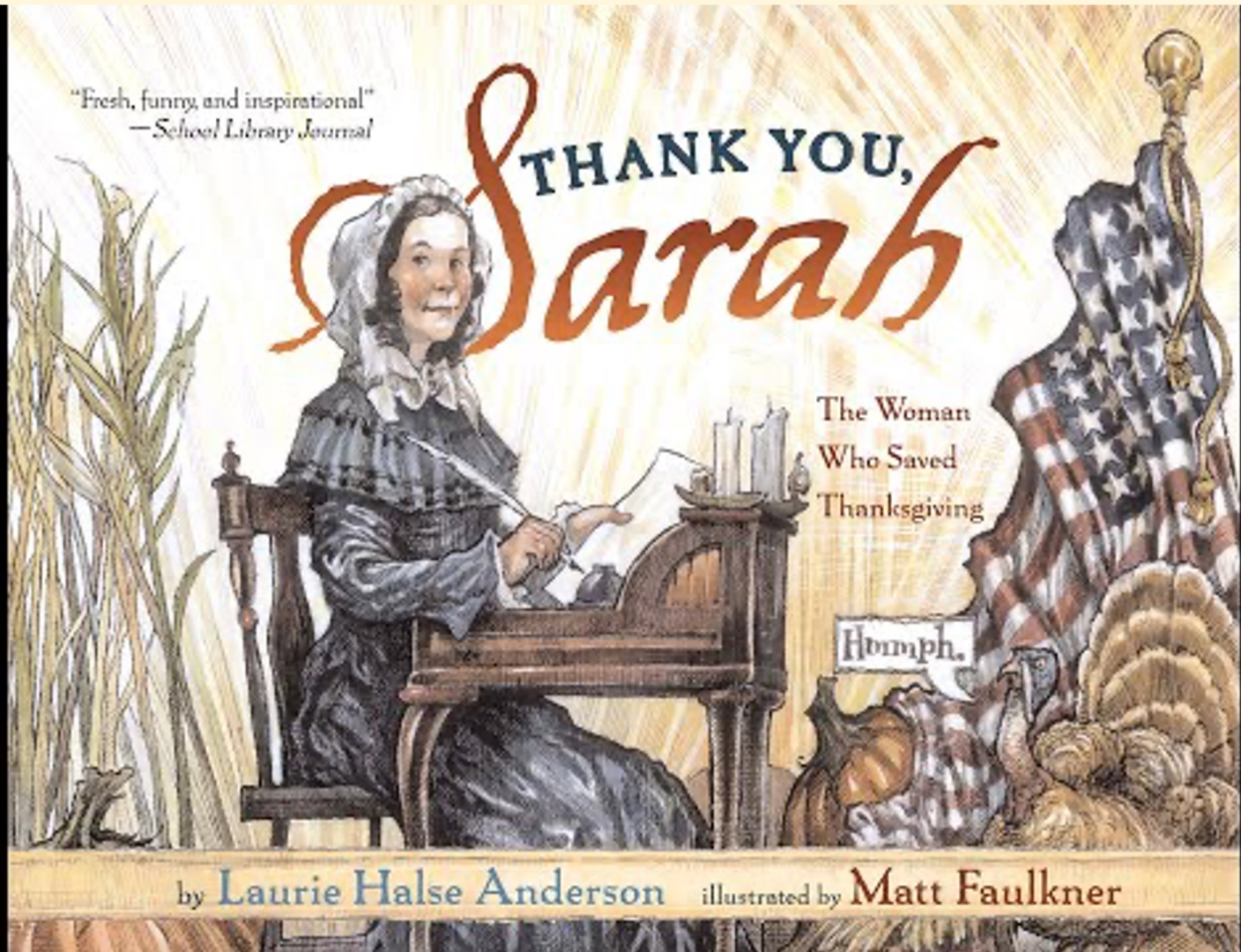
"Fresh, funny, and inspirational!"
—*School Library Journal*

THANK YOU, Sarah

The Woman
Who Saved
Thanksgiving

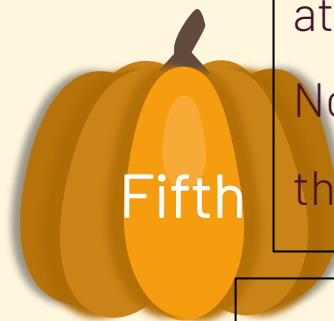
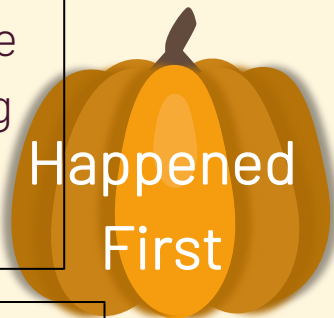
Humph.

by Laurie Halse Anderson illustrated by Matt Faulkner



Resource 4: Organizing *Thank You, Sarah* in Chronological Order

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Thank you, Sarah

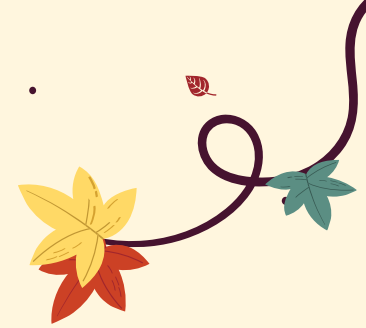
Credibility: the quality of being trusted or believable.

- - Should we believe everything that we read or hear? Why or why not?
 - Do you believe that the story told in *Thank You, Sarah* is believable? Explain.
 - How might we (including historians) know if information about the past is credible or believable?



When historians read or listen to accounts of the past, they do three things:

1. Source – find out WHO created the document or artifact to make judgments about how their backgrounds might have influenced what they wrote or created
1. Contextualize – determine WHEN something was created to understand why it was created and determine if that which is presented makes sense based on what was happening at the time.
 - a. For example, something written during a war or when people are sick may have been written differently during peacetime or when they are healthy.
1. Corroborate – CHECK other sources to see if they support or refute what is presented.



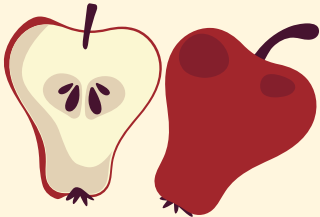


	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3
Who wrote the document and why was it written?			
When was this written? How might this explain why it was written?			
What is the main idea of the text?			
Does this source provide evidence that the book <i>Thank You Sarah</i> is a credible account of the history of Thanksgiving? Explain.			



You are going to read three texts or sources.

You will then complete the graphic organizer found on Resource 5. The questions are ones that both historians and expert readers ask of documents.



Resource 5: Graphic Organizer and Sources

Name: _____

	Source 1	Source 2	Source 3
Who wrote the document and why was it written?			
When was this written? How might this explain why it was written?			
What is the main idea of the text?			
Does this source provide evidence that the book <i>Thank You Sarah</i> is a credible account of the history of Thanksgiving? Explain.			

1. Who wrote the document and why was it written?
1. When was this written? How might this explain why it was written?
1. What is the main idea of the text?
1. Does this source provide evidence that the book *Thank You Sarah* is a credible account of the history of Thanksgiving? Explain.



Source 1 (modified)

Private

Philadelphia, September 28, 1863

Sir. –

Allow me, as the woman who corrects mistakes in the “Lady’s Book” magazine, to ask for a few minutes of your valuable time, while presenting to you a subject of deep interest to myself and – as I trust – to the President of our country. This subject is to have the day of Thanksgiving, which we celebrate every year in some places, made a National day of Thanksgiving...

You may have noticed that, for some years before, there has been an increased interest to have Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all States; it now needs support from the National government to become permanently, an American Custom and familiar thing.

For the last fifteen years I have written about this idea in the “Lady’s Book” magazine, and placed documents requesting a Thanksgiving day before the Governors of all the States and Territories... From the people that I gave them to I have gotten back the same kind approval...

But I find that there are challenges that are not possible to be overcome without help – from you. My challenge is trying to convince the Governors of every state to make the last Thursday of November, every year, as Thanksgiving Day; -- this would take years. It has occurred to me that an announcement from the President of the United States would be the best, most reliable, and most fitting method of creating a National Thanksgiving Day...

With Much
Respect Yrs truly Sarah Josepha Hale

1. Who wrote the document and why was it written?
1. When was this written? How might this explain why it was written?
1. What is the main idea of the text?
1. Does this source provide evidence that the book *Thank You Sarah* is a credible account of the history of Thanksgiving? Explain.



Source 2 (modified)

By the President of the United States of America.

An Announcement

In the middle of a civil war of incredible size and seriousness...peace has been kept with all nations...no problems have risen anywhere except where the battles are fought...and the country is witnessing freedom grow. No human group or any human hand worked out these great things. They are generous gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, has always remembered mercy. It has seemed to me suitable that the gifts should be seriously, respectfully, and gratefully recognized with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are visiting foreign lands, to set aside and celebrate the last Thursday of November, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our good Father who lives in Heaven...

Done at the City of Washington, on October 3, 1863, and the Eighty-eighth day since the Independence of the United States.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln



1. Who wrote the document and why was it written?
1. When was this written? How might this explain why it was written?
1. What is the main idea of the text?
1. Does this source provide evidence that the book *Thank You Sarah* is a credible account of the history of Thanksgiving? Explain.



Source 3 (modified)

The State of Delaware

Executive Department

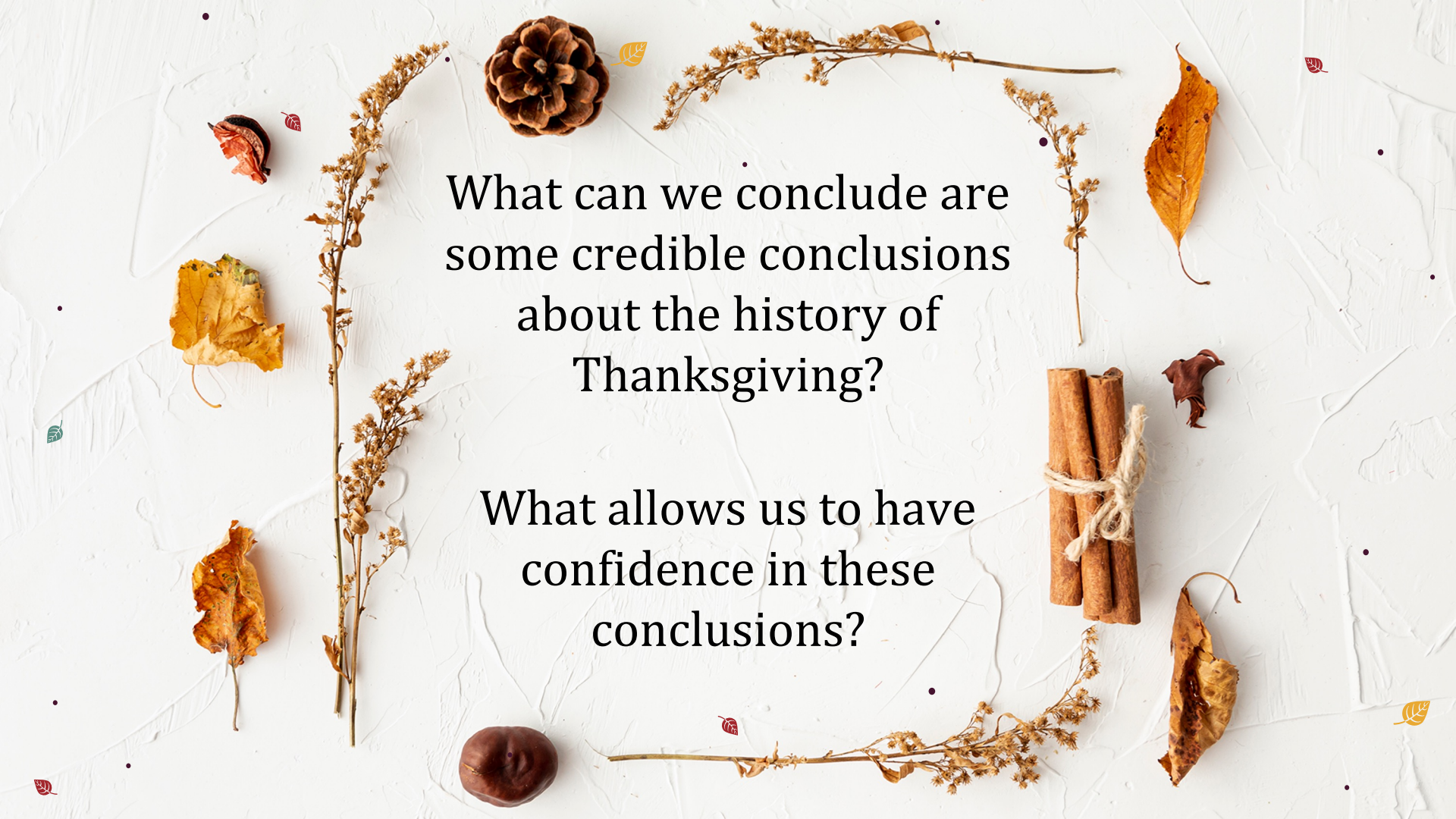
Because of the growing trend to observe the day set apart for prayer and thanksgiving, as a day for treating oneself to carefree living and worldly sports, opposite of what Thanksgiving was started for, many good people are starting to consider the appropriateness of its ending the holiday unless people started observing it in the way that it was intended to be observed...with the feeling of true dedication. Every day should be a day in which praise and thanksgiving should go up from every human heart to God, the author and giver of all good. But, in agreement with the long standing custom in this State, and in response to the Thanksgiving announcement by the President of the United States,

I, Robert J. Reynolds, Governor of the State of Delaware, from this point on,
set apart

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER THIRTIETH

as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many good and perfect
gifts given to us during the past year...

...at Dover, November 7, 1893



What can we conclude are
some credible conclusions
about the history of
Thanksgiving?

What allows us to have
confidence in these
conclusions?

Resource 7



Things I Learned from Text 1

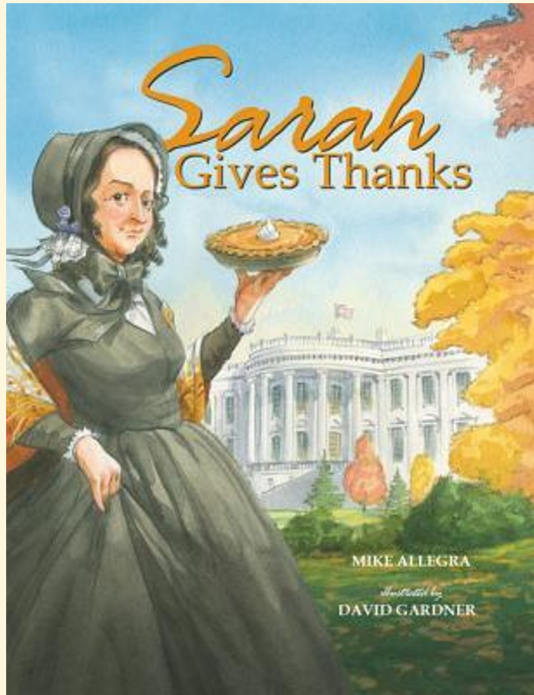
Thank You Sarah by
Laurie Halse Anderson

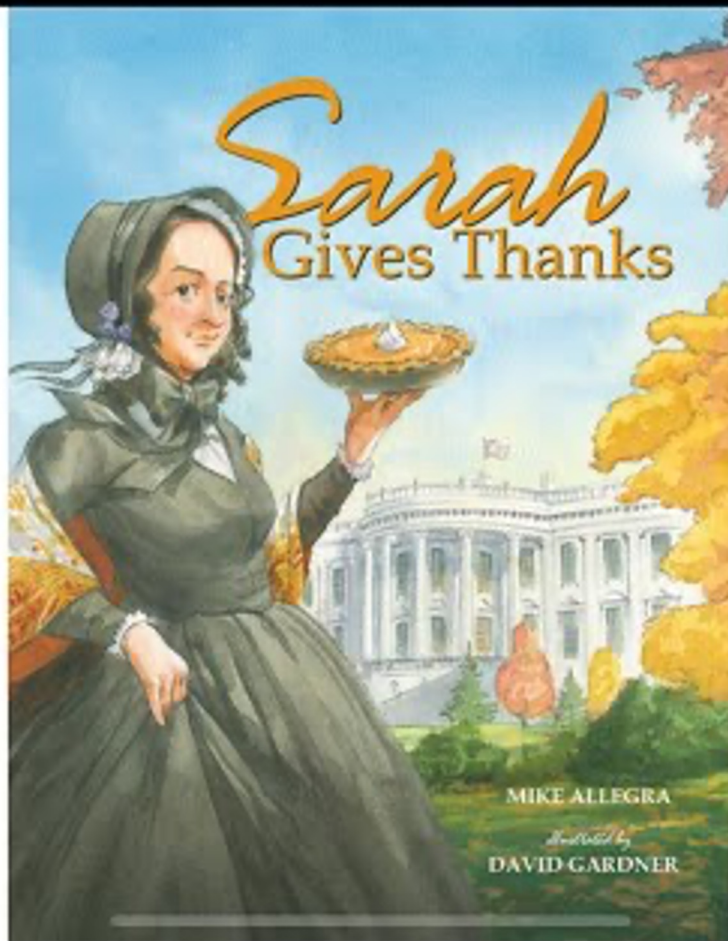
Things I Learned from Text 2

Sarah Gives Thanks by
Mike Allegra



Sarah Gives Thanks





Sarah Gives Thanks

MIKE ALLEGRA
Illustrated by
DAVID GARDNER

Happy Thanksgiving

