



**Turkey, Turkey on My Table**  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Social Studies/Music  
Josh Roberts, Blackridge Elementary

**Core Curriculum,  
Social Studies, 1.1.1.c**

Recognize and demonstrate respect for the differences within one's community.

**Music, 1.M.P.3. a,b**

Explore the range and various qualities of the voice. Sing a variety of simple songs.

**Objective:** In a Thanksgiving twist on a classic folk song, *Bluebird, Bluebird*, students will sing and create new variations on the song. They will respectfully compare and contrast how they celebrate Thanksgiving with their families.

**Materials:**

Bluebird, Bluebird, from the USBE Songbook

<https://www.schools.utah.gov/curr/finearts/elementarysongs>

An open space to play the game

---

Bluebird, is an easy song to learn and teach. The USBE songbook site has tracks to listen to, so you can teach yourself and your students. In my variation, I change the words to:

Turkey, turkey on my table,  
Turkey, turkey on my table,  
Turkey, turkey on my table,  
Oh, Johnny aren't you hungry.

Discuss Thanksgiving, what it means, why we celebrate it. Have a class discussion about how people celebrate and different activities people do on the holiday. Eventually bring up the foods we eat. I like to explain that some people eat traditional foods like turkey, while others may eat something different.

Create a list of favorite Thanksgiving foods to put up on the board. Have students pick their favorite food to use in the game. Explain that it is okay to use a food not listed on the board, or to have the same favorite as someone else.

**Gameplay:**

All students make a circle and hold hands. In the song you insert the name of the child who is it and their favorite food. When the song starts, the students raise their hands creating "windows" for the student who is it to weave through (like they are passing their favorite food around the table). When the song finishes, whoever the student is about to pass or is standing in front of is the new person it. Repeat.

For faster gameplay and to make sure everyone gets a turn, you can create multiple smaller circles to play simultaneously. Only do this once the students know how to play the game.