

## Pilgrim Children

Pilgrim children had very different lives than you do. Parents were very strict and children were expected to do as they were told. They were punished harshly if they did not behave. They had to be polite and respectful to all adults. They also had to work hard.

Young children helped by gathering firewood, picking berries, and fetching water. Older children had more chores. Boys learned to hunt and fish. They cared for animals and planted crops. Girls did all of the household chores. They washed and mended clothes, cleaned, cooked, and watched younger children.

There was no school for pilgrim children. Some children learned to read and write from their parents, but the most important skills were the ones needed to survive.

Although they worked hard, there was still time for play. Pilgrim children played games similar to hide and seek, tag, and keep away. They blew bubbles and played with marbles, hoops, stilts, pinwheels, and other handmade toys.

◆ IT: vocabulary, compare and contrast

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TEXT  
TIME 20

### Show What You Know

1. How were pilgrim children expected to treat adults?  
a) harshly b) cheerfully c) kindly d) respectfully
2. Do you agree with this statement: Pilgrim children had hard lives. \_\_\_\_\_ Use evidence from the text to support your answer:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why didn't pilgrim children go to school?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Use the chart to list some ways that your life is the same and different from a pilgrim child's life.

same	different