

TURKEY TALKING TIPS



HOW TO TALK TURKEY ABOUT EDUCATION!

Back by popular demand, CER's famous Turkey Talking Tips to make your gathering more digestible this year!

Here's the conversation starter:

"Speaking of turkeys, Uncle Keith, remember the Alamo? Well, there's another big battle being fought in Texas right now as we speak! At this time last year, a bunch of white, rural **Republican turkeys** killed a bill to give poor and needy kids a chance at the education they deserve. Earlier this month, **Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick** "declare[d] school vouchers an emergency item to allow lawmakers to get a head start on pushing the bill through the Legislature. By law, the Legislature cannot pass any bills within the first 60 days of the session unless the governor has deemed them emergency items. If Gov. Abbott names school choice an emergency item, the Senate will take up and pass school choice in the early weeks of session, instead of having to wait 60 days until March."

Experts say that you're never supposed to start a sentence with "you never..." or "you make me so mad when..." When you're feeling that urge, try sharing a great story instead. "Hey, Cuz, have you heard about the **charter school in the Bronx that centers their curriculum around the basketball industry**? Since 2021, this pioneering school has unlocked career opportunities for hundreds of students offering specialized "major" tracks such as athletics, sports journalism, and sports business, finance, and law."

Worried about starting the culture wars with Aunt Carol when you are on your third glass of wine? Pah! Just share the story from the National Constitution Center about how the first Thanksgiving sit down didn't include pies and cranberry sauce. Why? Sugar and flour were hard to find in Massachusetts, so the **Wampanoags and Pilgrims ate codfish, lobster, eel and clams**. And guess what else? The Native Americans didn't think there would be enough food, so they brought 5 whole deer!

Instead of arguing about the 2024 election, educate your family and read **President Lincoln's Proclamation in 1863**.

"One of Lincoln's most famous correspondents was Sarah J. Hale, who sent him [a] letter after writing a series of editorials in Godey's Lady's Book (a popular women's periodical at the time, which she edited) on the need for a national day of Thanksgiving. Americans already celebrated the holiday at different times in different places, but Hale wanted a specific national day of giving thanks...for the blessings received during the past year. The Civil War context made such a day even more necessary, as both sides occasionally proclaimed days of Thanksgiving to recognize and potentially foster divine support for their respective causes." So let's recognize and respect one another's causes at this time.

And what happens after the plates are cleared?

Entertain and inspire all of your dinner guests with remarkable stories of innovation from around the country. Debate which of the **25 leading education innovators of 2024** you would love to see transform your local school from the 1800s classroom we still see today!

Wishing you and yours a Happy, Healthy & Engaging Thanksgiving! From the CER family!

No matter where you travel this Thursday, remember, be patient, expect delays, and prepare to spread the importance of education and choice in America. For more information, and to explore additional topics, follow us on Twitter and visit our website:

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