Living in New Plymouth

What was life like in Plymouth? At Plimoth Plantation in Massachusetts, where these photos were taken, people dress up and show visitors what Pilgrim life may have been like. The facts may surprise you!



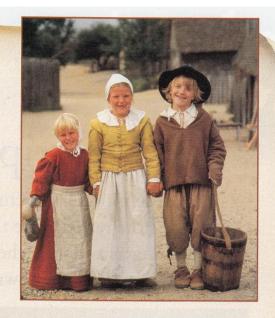
Children spent most of the day working! Their chores included fetching water, gathering firewood, herding animals, and gathering berries. They also helped their parents cook, clean, plant and harvest crops, and care for younger children.

Children and adults probably took baths only a few times a year. They thought bathing was unhealthy.

Pilgrim children still had time to play.
They probably played marbles, ball games, board games, and running games.



At seven years old, children began dressing like their parents. Before that, both boys and girls wore gowns.





There was no school in the early years of New Plymouth. Children learned to read and write from their parents or from neighbors.

Older children were expected to serve meals to their parents. Children ate only after their parents had been served. They often ate while standing at the table.



In this passage, the author describes daily life at Plimoth Plantation. Think about the details the author used to tell about the lives of children in this time period.

Write a diary entry where you are a child at Plimoth Plantation describing one day of your life. In your entry, be sure to use what you have learned from "Living in New Plymouth" as you tell about your day.

	 	 	
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