

A vintage-style map on aged, yellowish paper. A large compass rose is centered, with a red wax seal in the middle. The seal is circular and embossed with the letters 'IM'. The map shows outlines of continents and various sea creatures like whales and a shark. The text is overlaid on the compass rose.

Join us on an
EPIC JOURNEY

aboard the
MAYFLOWER

30th September 1620

My dearest,

In this time, when you are crossing the deepest ocean, the separation tugs at me. It makes me think you are at the end of a very long rope which is being pulled further and further from me each day and tied and chewed and knotted by the waves.

Everyone is talking about you here. Your names go around the village like beads, passing from house to house. I wish I had your courage. I am half here and half there, with you all. I understand why you had to go. I hope you can understand why we can't follow.

We miss you. I miss you. I was looking at the geese the other day and then my cheeks were wet and I'd fallen to my knees. They remind me of you as a baby, and now there you are at sea with your own babies - my angels - now amongst saints and strangers on a boat of adventurers.

I heard there were so many of you, too many. I worry. I wish there was a way to get word to you sooner and for you to get word to us. I keep thinking of wrecks. I used to be told a story about storms at sea. The thought of it alone makes me feel tilted.

It's hard for us to be the ones left behind. I suppose it's just as hard to leave. Oh but what tales you'll have to tell at the fire, what adventure! I wonder if you've seen a whale? Imagine that! You'll feast no doubt, when you can plant your seeds in the new land and watch them grow taller than you.

If you close your eyes do you still see us? Hear us? I wonder that too. Me imagining you imagining me. What's it like? Do write as soon as you can.

I pray every night for your safe passage. I'm comforted by thinking of all the ways your life will be better and just how you dreamed it when this great voyage is behind you. I'm wondering what you'll have left to hope for once you're all there and everything you hoped is alive in your heart and you have freedom to do the work you were born to do.

Be safe and be you. I miss you bitterly and love you fiercely.

Love ever,
Mother

DID you KNOW?

The Mayflower was a ship that sailed from England to America 400 years ago.

There were **102** passengers on the Mayflower



when it sailed in



1620

18 of them were women

3

were pregnant

39 were men

33

were children aged 1-18

there were

19

family groups

and

12

servants

20-30

sailors got them all across the Atlantic

Visit

imaginationmuseum.co.uk/carepackage
for links to more information
about the Mayflower

More about the MAYFLOWER PASSENGERS

The Mayflower passengers were people of all ages, birthplaces, backgrounds and beliefs. There were many factors involved in their decisions to join the ship, and we cannot know for certain what exactly motivated each of them to travel.

One of the passengers – William Bradford – wrote their story in his book *Of Plimoth Plantation*. He explains that nearly half of them had been living in Leiden in Holland. His reasons for leaving included concerns about money, aging, worries about their children and wanting to 'advance their gospel'. Bradford calls them 'saints'. He refers to others on board as 'strangers'.

The 'strangers' began their journey in London, although they came from all over England. We don't know their individual reasons for leaving, but a few had been in trouble with the Church of England and one had been to America before. Many, perhaps, just wanted new lives.

We will never know exactly why each passenger left, but no matter what their motivations were, they left everything they knew behind, and risked a dangerous journey (which, after multiple problems, ended up taking them 66 days) in order to make a fresh start in a new country.

Only half of the passengers and half of the crew would survive their first year in America. Many died of disease and exposure.

The survivors were supported by the Wampanoag people. They, the People of the First Light, had lived in this part of America for 10,000 years. The Wampanoag taught the new arrivals to farm – and to survive.

Should the passengers have made the journey? What was the impact on them – and the people they met?

the Imagination Museum



The Care Package Project is managed by Made By Katie Green as part of The Imagination Museum: Mayflower 400 project, a dance/heritage project developed with communities that are significant to the stories of the Mayflower passengers, designed to bring those stories to life in a new way.

It has been created collaboratively by choreographer Katie Green, writer Anna Selby, workshop designer Ruth Pigott and designers Root Studio, with additional writing and consultation from Jo Loosemore. Thanks also to all our partners for their support in making sure these Packages reach you safely.



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Made By
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SPIRIT OF

1620—2020

Mayflower
400