



Yummy British Inventions

Do you enjoy chocolate? What about ice cream? Have you ever thought about who first made these delicious treats and how?

Ice Cream machines

Ice cream is not a British invention. However, the way in which it is made is a British invention. Ice cream came to Britain in 1671. It was very expensive so at first only royalty ate it. Then only the very rich.

One of the first ice cream makers was invented in 1885. It was invented by Agnes Marshall. Agnes' machine promised to freeze ice cream in just 3 minutes. Her machine works in a way like our automatic ones today.

The ingredients were put in a pewter jar. Around the jar was a mix of ice and salt. The salt made the ice colder. Then the ingredients were churned. They froze very quickly. The ice cream was poured into moulds before it set then put in a wooden box of ice to set fully.

R: Who invented the 1885 ice cream maker?

E: Why did they add salt? What did that do?

V: What does the word churned mean? Circle your answer.

Mixed

Frozen

Tasted

Chocolate Bars

Chocolate comes from cacao beans. Cacao beans grow in South America. The Maya ground these beans into powder. They mixed it with chili, spices, and water to make a drink. They drank it cold. This type of chocolate has been around for thousands of years.

Chocolate was expensive. Only the rich drank it. In 1828, people started to drink chocolate with milk. This tasted better. It was more like the hot chocolate we drink today. A British company called J.S. Fry and Sons started to sell it. Then they started to make it. Fry's used steam powered machines. These machines could make the powder quicker and finer. Fry's mixed the powder with other ingredients. This made the chocolate cheaper. More people could buy and enjoy it.

In 1847 Fry's tried adding sugar and cocoa fat to the powder. They mixed this into a paste. Then they moulded it into a bar. This was the first ever chocolate bar. It tasted like dark chocolate. Fry's also had another great chocolate invention: the Easter egg. Decorated eggs were popular gifts at Easter so in 1873, Fry's had the idea to make a chocolate one.

Fry's joined with Cadburys in 1919.

R: How was chocolate first enjoyed? Circle your answer.

Eaten

Drank hot

Drank cold

R: Which company invented chocolate bars?

R: What was the company's other great chocolate invention?