

Chocolate — A Sweet Treat from a Tree

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Chocolate is one of the most **popular** foods in the whole world. It is soft, **brown**, and very **sweet**. Almost everyone loves to eat it! People enjoy chocolate in candy bars, cakes, cookies, and warm drinks. But do you know where this yummy treat comes from? At first, it does not come from a store. It comes from a plant!

Chocolate begins on a **tree** called the cacao tree. This **tree** likes to **grow** in hot, wet places near the middle of the Earth. On the tree are big fruits called pods. Inside each pod are many seeds. We call these seeds cacao **beans**. Each **bean** is small, but it holds the special **taste** of chocolate.

First, farmers pick the pods and take out the **beans**. The **beans** dry in the warm sun. Then trucks take them to a big **factory**. At the **factory**, machines clean the beans and turn them into chocolate. Workers add **sugar** to make it sweeter. Sometimes they add **milk**, too. This makes soft, creamy milk chocolate.

There are different kinds of chocolate. Dark chocolate has lots of cacao and only a little **sugar**. **Milk** chocolate has more **milk** and tastes very **sweet**. White chocolate is not really **brown** at all! People all around the world **taste** these different kinds and pick their favorite.

Long ago, people did not eat chocolate. They drank it as a bitter drink! Today, chocolate is a **popular** treat that makes many people happy. So the next time you eat a piece of **sweet** chocolate, remember its long trip — from a tiny **bean** on a **tree** to the candy in your hand.

A. Vocabulary

1. bean ____	a. to get bigger, like a plant or a child
2. tree ____	b. a big building where things are made by machines
3. sweet ____	c. a sweet white food we add to make things taste better
4. taste ____	d. a small seed; cacao beans are used to make chocolate
5. brown ____	e. a tall plant with a trunk, branches, and leaves
6. sugar ____	f. having a taste like sugar
7. milk ____	g. the flavor of food in your mouth

8. factory ____ h. the color of chocolate, wood, or soil

9. popular ____ i. a white drink that comes from cows

10. grow ____ j. liked by many people



B. True or False

1. Chocolate is one of the most popular foods in the world. ____
2. Chocolate comes from a tree called the cacao tree. ____
3. The cacao tree likes to grow in cold, dry places. ____
4. Cacao beans are found inside the pods on the tree. ____
5. The beans are dried in the warm sun before going to the factory. ____
6. Workers add sugar and sometimes milk at the factory. ____
7. White chocolate is dark brown in color. ____
8. Long ago, people drank chocolate as a bitter drink. ____
9. Milk chocolate tastes very sweet. ____



C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: tree, beans, factory, sugar, sweet

1. Chocolate begins on a cacao _____.
2. Inside each pod are seeds called cacao _____.
3. Trucks take the beans to a big _____.
4. Workers add _____ to make the chocolate sweeter.
5. Milk chocolate is soft, creamy, and very _____.

D. Comprehension Questions

1. What does chocolate look and taste like?
2. Where do cacao trees like to grow?
3. What is inside the pods on a cacao tree?
4. What do workers add at the factory to make chocolate sweet and creamy?
5. How did people enjoy chocolate long ago?

E. Discussion Questions

1. What is your favorite kind of chocolate? Why do you like it?
2. Do you like other sweet foods? What are they?
3. Chocolate makes a long trip from a bean to your hand. What other foods travel a long way before we eat them?





Answer Key

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A. Vocabulary: 1-d, 2-e, 3-f, 4-g, 5-h, 6-c, 7-i, 8-b, 9-j, 10-a

B. True/False: 1-T, 2-T, 3-F, 4-T, 5-T, 6-T, 7-F, 8-T, 9-T

C. Fill Blanks: 1-tree, 2-beans, 3-factory, 4-sugar, 5-sweet

D. Comprehension:

1. Chocolate is soft, brown, and very sweet.
2. Cacao trees like to grow in hot, wet places near the middle of the Earth.
3. Inside the pods are many seeds called cacao beans.
4. Workers add sugar to make it sweeter, and sometimes milk to make soft, creamy milk chocolate.
5. Long ago, people drank chocolate as a bitter drink instead of eating it.

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