

# Sweet Reading

• Keep 'em Reading •

by | Pat Miller

**D**ecember 28 is National Chocolate Day. Those who love chocolate don't need a day to celebrate, but if you need an excuse, check the calendar for a chocolate celebration day in each month ([www.candyusa.org/Classroom/calendar.asp](http://www.candyusa.org/Classroom/calendar.asp)). They range from Chocolate-Covered Cherry Day in January through Fudge Day in June to the two special chocolate days in December. During the hectic weeks prior to the winter holidays, use some of the following Web sites and books to share the love of chocolate, and introduce students to some sweet reads and delicious facts. Perhaps you can share a bit of the stuff with them as you read.

## Chocolate and Math

### Cadbury Maths in the Factory

[www.cadburylearningzone.co.uk/maths/index\\_content.htm](http://www.cadburylearningzone.co.uk/maths/index_content.htm)

This site is based on the Numeracy Strategy of the United Kingdom and contains an irresistible mix of solid math practice and chocolate. There are forty online interactive activities with matching reproducible sheets. Content includes place value, fractions, decimals, basic operations, geometry, graphing, weight and time and organizing math data. As you'd expect, students will encounter words like lorries and litres. When they are ready to answer, students click "Have a Go."

### Books to Share (K-5):

*Hershey's Milk Chocolate Weights and Measures* by Jerry Pallotta. Scholastic, 2003.

*The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Fractions Book* by Jerry Pallotta. Scholastic, 1999.

*The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Multiplication Book* by Jerry Pallotta. Scholastic, 2002.

*More M&M's® Chocolate Candies Math* by Barbara Barbieri McGrath. Charlesbridge Publishing, 1998.

## Biography of Milton S. Hershey

### Discover Milton S. Hershey

[www.hersheys.com/discover/milton/milton.asp](http://www.hersheys.com/discover/milton/milton.asp)

Click on the time line for a list of events in Milton's life. Click on an event to read information and see related pictures. It is fascinating that Hershey began two candy businesses that failed. His third, the Lancaster Caramel Company, became a success after much hard work and he obviously didn't stop there. Milton Hershey is an excellent example of perseverance.

### Books to Share (K-2):

*Milton Hershey: The Man with the Chocolate Dream* by Jennifer Blizin Gillis. Heinemann Library, 2005.

### Books to Share (3-5):

*Chocolate by Hershey: A Story About Milton S. Hershey* by Betty Burford. Lerner Publishing Group, 1994.

*Milton Hershey: Chocolate King, Town Builder* by Charnan Simon. Scholastic Library Publishing, 1998.

## History of Chocolate

### The History of Chocolate—Nestlé's of Switzerland (Grades 4-5)

[www.wonka.com/WonkaSchool/WillysClassroom/learn/chocolate/lla1.html](http://www.wonka.com/WonkaSchool/WillysClassroom/learn/chocolate/lla1.html)



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Read five pages about the history of chocolate from the Aztecs to Nestlé's Willy Wonka Chocolate Factory. Site includes narrative, activities, a reading quiz and a teacher's guide.

### How Chocolate is Made [manufacturing.stanford.edu](http://manufacturing.stanford.edu)

Stanford University's Alliance for Innovative Manufacturing has a site called "How Everyday Things Are Made." Click anywhere on the home page to go to the contents page. On the left, under "Candy," click on "Chocolate" for a 5:21 minute video that takes you from cacao pods to finished bars (many segments are from the Hershey's video).

### Books to Share (K-2):

*Beans to Chocolate* by Inez Snyder. Children's Press, 2003.

*Chocolate* by Claire Llewellyn. Scholastic Library Publishing, 1998.

*Chocolate* by Saviour Pirotta. Smart Apple Media, 2004.

*Chocolate: A Sweet History* by Sandra Markle. Penguin Putnam, 2005.

*Curious George Goes to a Chocolate Factory* by Margret and H. A. Rey. Houghton Mifflin, 1998.

*From Cocoa Bean to Chocolate* by Robin Nelson. Lerner Publishing Group, 2003.

*How Is Chocolate Made (How Are Things Made?)* by Angela Royston. Heinemann Library, 2005.

*Oh Ducky! A Chocolate Calamity* by David Slonim. Chronicle Books, 2003.

### Books to Share (3-5):

*Chocolate: Riches from the Rainforest* by Robert Burleigh. H. N. Abrams, 2002.

*The Official M&M's® Book of Chocolate*. Charlesbridge Publishing, 2001.

*The Story of Chocolate* by Caryn J. Polin. Dorling Kindersley, 2005.

*Chocolate From Start to Finish* by Samuel G. Woods. Blackbirch Press, 1999.

*Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot: A True Story of the Berlin Airlift and the Candy That Dropped From the Sky* by Margot Theis Raven. Sleeping Bear Press, 2002.

## Fun with Chocolate

### Name that Candy Bar

[www.smm.org/sln/tf/c/crosssection/namethatbar.html](http://www.smm.org/sln/tf/c/crosssection/namethatbar.html)

This site, from the Science Museum of Minnesota, shows cross-sections of candy bars. The viewer thinks what he or she thinks the bar is, and then clicks on it to see the name and wrapper.

Some, like Aero Mint, may not be familiar to students in all parts of the country.



### Godiva Chocolatier

[www.godiva.com/godivaCollection/chocolate\\_guide.asp](http://www.godiva.com/godivaCollection/chocolate_guide.asp)

At the site of the chocolate guide, examine a chart of the eight main types of chocolates, like caramels and truffles. Click on any of the eight, and see the chocolates in that class. The caramels class has twelve gorgeous chocolates. The luscious pictures are guaranteed to make you crave a chocolate.

### Hershey's Kidztown

[www.hersheys.com/kidztown](http://www.hersheys.com/kidztown)

Take a video or photo tour of the Hershey Candy Factory, play games and see simple recipes.

### Chocolate Syrup Personality Test and Other Games

[www.hersheys.com/syrup/parents/games/index.asp](http://www.hersheys.com/syrup/parents/games/index.asp)

I got sidetracked here at the Hershey's solitaire game which can be extracted and put on your desktop to play whenever you need a no-cal chocolate fix. Find out if students' take on the chocolate blobs proves to be an accurate description of their personalities.



**Books to Share (K–2):**

*I Like Chocolate* by Robin Pickering. Scholastic Library Publishing, 2000.

*Lucky Pennies and Hot Chocolate* by Carol Diggory Shields. Penguin Putnam, 2002.

**Books to Share (3–5):**

*Chock Full of Chocolate* (Kids Can Do It) by Elizabeth MacLeod. Kids Can Press, 2005.

## Chocolate Fiction

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### Lesson Plans for *Chocolate Fever* by Robert Kimmel Smith

[www.webenglishteacher.com/rksmith.html](http://www.webenglishteacher.com/rksmith.html)

Choose from a number of sites that supply activities and lessons for *Chocolate Fever* by Robert Kimmel Smith (Penguin Putnam, 1989, 1972).

### Web Quest for *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

[projects.edtech.sandi.net/brooklyn/chocolate](http://projects.edtech.sandi.net/brooklyn/chocolate)

Ruthie Roché and Lynn Ryan, teachers at the Brooklyn Elementary School in San Diego, California, have developed this Web quest that contains chapter assignments and questions for the book (suited to fifth grade). Students are also expected to learn about the history and origin of chocolate, invent their own candy and create a board game as a culminating activity to show what they have learned about Dahl's book and chocolate. Needed sites are included in this well-designed site.

**Books to Share (K–2):**

*Lilly's Chocolate Heart* by Kevin Henkes. HarperCollins, 2003.

*Max's Chocolate Chicken* by Rosemary Wells. Penguin Putnam, 2000.

*Roald Dahl* by Chris Powling. Lerner Publishing Group, 1998.

**Books to Share (3–5):**

*Boy: Tales of Childhood* by Roald Dahl. Penguin Putnam, 1999.

*Cam Jansen and the Chocolate Fudge Mystery* by David Adler. Viking, 1993.

*The Chocolate Touch* by Patrick Skene Catling. Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1996.

*Going Solo* by Roald Dahl. Penguin Putnam, 1999.

*Roald Dahl* by Adam Woog. Thomson/Gale, 2004.

*Roald Dahl: The Storyteller* by Jason Hook. Raintree Publishers, 2004.

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