



SWEET TALK

1. When the earliest man found honey, he probably thought it was a candy. In your opinion was it candy? Why or why not?

2. The Egyptians actually created candy by combining fruits, nuts and honey. Was that really candy in your opinion? Why or why not?



3. Chocolate. In Central America, thousands of years ago, the local Indians discovered that with the fruit from the cacao tree (pictured on the left) they could brew a very bitter drink. It became hugely popular, and it was called "chocolatl." Imagine what it might have been like when an Aztec Indian first tossed seeds from the cacao fruit into the cook fire and smelled the delicious aroma of chocolate.

Even though chocolate without sugar tastes bitter. It was made into a hot drink and served in golden bowls to the king. The cacao fruit (about the size and shape of a football) was so valuable that it was used as money. The drawing in the circle on the right is copied from a Mayan Indian drawing of what they thought the god of cacao would look like.



4. European explorers took the recipe back home with them and by the 1600s a bitter chocolate drink was also served in English coffee shops. By 1880 sugar was readily available, and the combination of sugar and chocolate became a big hit.

5. People loved the new sugar-filled chocolates, chewing gum, and other kinds of candy. Today the biggest event for candy buying is --- Halloween! Other big days are Valentine's Day, Christmas and Easter. And Sweetest Day. And any other special day! Advertisers tell us that chocolate gives a burst of energy, OR it makes a super gift, OR it comforts us when we feel sad, OR it makes a great reward for someone who has done something good. Now, YOU describe why you like chocolate!

