






## History of the Candy Cane

One of the treats we think of when we think of Christmas is the candy cane. Why do people eat these red and white treats during Christmas?



There are a few different stories as to who invented the candy cane. As one story goes, it was a German choirmaster over three hundred years ago. At the time, many children enjoyed plain white candy sticks as a treat. The choirmaster changed the shape and gave the sticks a 'hook' so they would look like a shepherd's staff. He gave these 'hooked' candy sticks out to children who came to worship services and nativity plays at church. It is said that they were to help the children sit still during long waits while also reminding them of the shepherds who visited baby Jesus. Over time, the handing the handing out of these candy 'canes' became a Christmas tradition.



This is just one story. Maybe candy canes have a hook so they can be hung from Christmas trees. Maybe there is another reason. How do you think candy canes became a Christmas tradition?

