



The Story of

ICE CREAM



by Gloria Koster

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Words in **bold** appear in the glossary.

A Tasty Treat

Ring! Ring! Here comes the ice cream truck. People line up to buy a sweet treat. Everyone has a favorite flavor. What's yours?





Someone is celebrating a birthday. Guests share a giant sundae. There are so many scoops of ice cream topped with whipped cream! Yum!

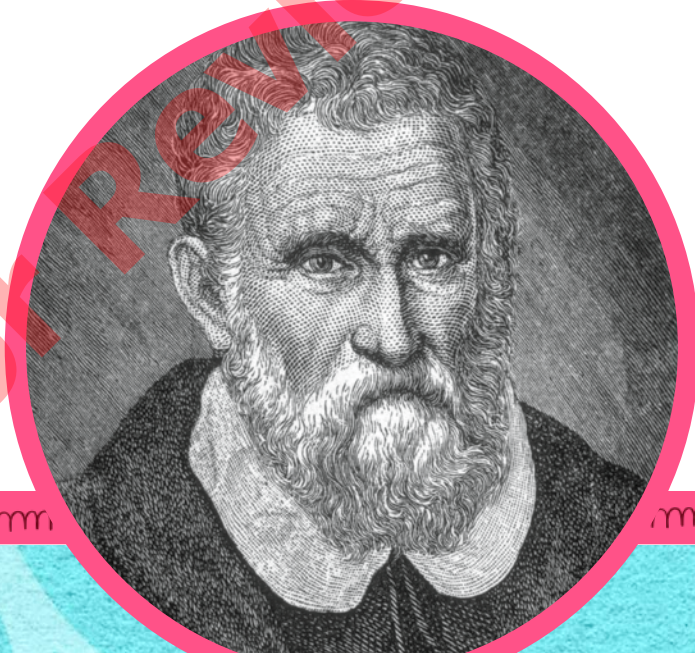
Whether it comes in a cone, a bar, a sundae, a sandwich, or a shake, lots of people love ice cream. So where did it come from?

The First Ice Cream

Ice cream has been around for thousands of years. Long ago, people in Persia ate sweet ice water. They put fruit on top. In ancient China, people mixed snow, milk, and rice together.



More than 1,000 years later, an Italian explorer named Marco Polo traveled to China. Back home, he talked about the tasty treat. Cooks started to experiment. They added cream. This dessert was a bit like modern ice cream.



Marco Polo



King Charles I with his wife
and two of their children

News of the dessert soon spread through Europe. An Italian duchess introduced ice cream to France. In England, King Charles I tried to keep it a secret. He paid his chef to stay quiet.

The king's plan didn't work. Ice cream made its way to the American **colonies** in the 1700s.

At first, ice cream was only for the rich. Later, people took ice from frozen lakes and ponds. They stored it in ice houses. This meant ice cream could be made all year.