



Bio4Kids: Milton Hershey (1857-1945)

Brief Outline

You've seen his name on millions of candy bars. But you probably don't know all the different ways he tried to make life sweeter for others. Milton Hershey was born in Derry Church, Pennsylvania, on September 13, 1857. He moved around a lot as a kid. He went to seven different schools in eight years. He may not have had much schooling, but he did learn a lot about candy. At the age of 15, he went to work for a candy maker in Lancaster.

After several failures, Hershey started his first successful candy business. He did it by making caramels, not his famous chocolate. He created the Lancaster Caramel Company in 1886. Hershey only began to make chocolate to use with his caramels. He started the Hershey Chocolate Company in 1894. His chocolate was so popular that he sold his caramel business by 1900. That was around the same time he began selling the Hershey bar. He created more chocolate delights. Hershey's Kisses rolled off the production lines in 1907. The Hershey bar with almonds soon followed. And those sweet treats are still popular today.

As much as he liked candy, Hershey wanted to help people too. In his hometown he built a factory in 1903. Then Hershey moved his entire company there in 1905. The community renamed the town after him in 1906. Hershey and his wife, Catherine, started a special school for orphan boys in the town. Today the

school, now open to girls, continues to give young people in need a free education. Hershey also set up a foundation to help fund education and community activities in the town. He died there on October 13, 1945.

Related Websites

Find out more about Hershey and famous candies

www.hersheys.com

Explore Hershey's hometown

<http://www.hersheypa.com/>