

# CONNECTICUT STATE GRANGE



Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!

Q

Where did  
cookies originate?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 1

# A

The word cookie comes from the Dutch word Koekje, which means little cake. The first cookie dates back to the 7th Century AD in Persia, which is now Iran. Persia was one of the first countries to cultivate sugar. Cakes and pastries were well known in the Persian Empire. The Crusades and the developing spice trade spread Persian cooking techniques and ingredients throughout Northern Europe.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 1

Q

**When did the tradition  
of leaving cookies  
for Santa begin?**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 2

# A

We leave cookies for Santa because of the Great Depression. It wasn't standard practice to leave cookies and milk out for Santa Claus until the 1930s. Historians say that it was something parents encouraged children to do in order to teach them how to share and be charitable during a time of economic depression.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 2

Q

**What practical purpose  
did cookies serve?**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 3

# A

Cookies, at the turn of the century, were originally made to test oven temperature. According to culinary historians, cookies as we know them today were first made not to eat but to test the temperature of an oven. Cooks would take a small dollop of cake batter and bake it as a means of gauging whether the oven was ready or not.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 3

Q

How many cookies does  
Santa consume on  
Christmas Eve?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 4

**A**

**Santa Claus eats over 300 million cookies on Christmas Eve. Every Christmas Eve, Santa visits over 500 million homes where he encounters about billion cookies. If you hypothesize that he takes about two bites of each cookie he is given, it means he eats a total of 336,150,386 cookies.**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 4

Q

How many cookies,  
on average, does each  
person in the US consume  
in their lifetime?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 5

**A**

**The average American eats 35,000 cookies in a lifetime. 95.2% of U.S. households consume cookies each holiday season.**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 5

Q

**What was the size of the largest cookie, according to the Guinness Book of World Records?**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 6

A

The biggest recorded cookie was baked on May 17, 2003 in Flat Rock, NC by the Immaculate Baking Company. It clocked in at 102 feet wide and weighed over 40,000 pounds. For baking, it was covered with a heat-retaining film of polyester and blasted from the sides by 20 propane heaters. Once it reached 300 degrees, baking took about 10 hours.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 6

Q

**What is the World's Record  
for number of cookies  
baked in one hour?**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 7

A

The most cookies baked in one hour is 6,018 and was achieved by Frank Squeo and Baking Memories 4 Kids, in West Nyack, New York, on December 7, 2019.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 7

Q

Who holds the record for the tallest tower of stacked cookies?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 8

**A**

**According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the tallest tower of cookies measured 6 ft 1/8 inches and was constructed by the Girl Scouts of Nassau County on January 9, 2010 in Garden City, New York. Sixty Girl Scouts used 22,800 cookies to build the tower.**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 8

Q

What year were  
Animal Crackers  
introduced?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 9

# A

Animal Crackers, introduced by Nabisco in 1902, were the first commercial cookie to be massed-produced in the US. Their brightly colored boxes were promoted as Christmas tree ornaments (that's what the string was for!) 54 different animals have been represented in Animal Crackers.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 9

Q

What is the best selling  
cookie of all time?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 10

**A**

**The Oreo is the best-selling cookie of all time, developed and introduced by Nabisco in 1912. \$3.28 billion is spent on Oreos each year worldwide.**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 10

Q

What year did the  
Girl Scouts first  
begin selling cookies?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 11

A

The Girl Scouts first began selling cookies in 1917. Girl Scouts sell over 200 million boxes of cookies a year. Thin Mints are the Girl Scouts' most popular selling cookie, accounting for 25% of sales.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

Q

Who first introduced  
cookie cutters to  
the U.S.?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 12

**A**

**Dutch and German settlers first introduced cookie cutters to America in the early 17th century. Early American tinsmiths first made cookie cutters by hand in the 1700s.**



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 12

Q

When did cookie jars  
first appear in  
the US?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 13

A

American cookie jars, descendants of British biscuit jars, were born out of need. They first appeared in the 1930s as Depression housewives slowly abandoned buying bakery-made foods, baking at home instead to save money.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 13

Q

Where were  
Chocolate Chip  
Cookies invented?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 14

A

Chocolate chip cookies were invented in 1930 by Ruth Graves Wakefield at the Toll House Restaurant in Whitman, MA. Mrs. Wakefield sold her chocolate chip cookie recipe to Nestle, who began manufacturing chocolate chips in 1939, and printing her recipe on the package. Massachusetts adopted the chocolate chip cookie as its official state cookie in 1997.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

Q

# Who invented Gingerbread Men?



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 15

A

Queen Elizabeth I invented gingerbread men. While she didn't actually bake the cookies herself, she requested that her royal bakers create gingerbread cookies shaped like visiting dignitaries in order to honor them.



*Let's  
Talk  
Cookies!*

#: 15

