

Oral Introduction

Chapter 5 The History of Ice Cream

The Surprising History of Food

Do you like ice cream? Almost all of you probably love ice cream. What kind of flavors do you like? Vanilla, chocolate, strawberry or matcha? Except for these, you have found various kinds of ice cream in the supermarkets, so you may have tried many more flavors so far. Have you ever thought about the history of ice cream here in Japan? Do you know when ice cream was first made in Japan? Has it been made only recently? Surprisingly enough, it has a long history. It is said that ice cream was first made in Japan in the 19th century. We celebrate May 9th as Ice Cream Day. However, do you imagine what the history of ice cream in the world is like? Does it have a much longer history? Where is the birthplace of ice cream? I'm sure you will have a better understanding about ice cream with this passage.

Part 1 (p. 76)

Ice cream has a long history. It was quite different from what we now know. Do you know how ice cream was created in Italy? We tend to consider ice cream as an unhealthy dessert, but was this true in the days when ice cream was first made?

Part 2 (p. 78)

In the 14th century a famous Italian had a great influence on ice cream. He wrote a famous traveler's account. This is called "*Tohokembunroku*" in Japanese. In the 16th century a great but easy method to keep water frozen without a freezer was discovered. How was that?

Part 3 (p. 80)

What kind of ice cream was served at a royal wedding in Europe in 1533? This is the model of today's ice cream. At first like in Europe ice cream was a favorite dessert for royal people such as Presidents in America. When was ice cream sold at a local shop in America?

Part 4 (p. 82)

A very important development in the way of eating ice cream has changed the history of ice cream. What is that? Now we can find various kinds of ice cream. Let me know any unusual ice cream you have eaten like tofu, grilled lamb, pizza or *kimuchi* flavors.