

Do you think the candy cane is white candy with red stripes or a red candy with white stripes? Have you ever thought how they put those stripes on? How do they bend that hard candy without breaking it?

Whatever you think, one thing is for sure, everybody loves candy canes, especially the peppermint ones at Christmas. Here is an wonderful story to think about when you look at a candy cane.

The story happened long, long ago and is about a very special person named Jesus. The Bible says He came from heaven and is the Son of God.

Everything was special and different about Him. We celebrate His birth at Christmas time.

The way to remember His name is to think of the curious shape of the Candy Cane. It actually looks like the letter “J.” This reminds us of the first letter in the name “Jesus.” The name Jesus means “Savior.” The prophets of the Bible that came before Jesus predicted that a Savior would one day come that would save us from our sins. His name would be called Jesus.

If you would turn the “J” upside down and

make it really big you would have a long stick with a hook on the end. Long ago shepherds would call this a “staff.” It would help the shepherd to protect the sheep and to grab them if they needed help to get up or if they were stuck in a ditch. The shape of a candy cane like a staff will remind you of a shepherd. The Bible says that Jesus is called the “Good Shepherd.” We are kind of like sheep, and Jesus is the Shepherd. He loves us and takes care of us just like the good shepherd takes care of the sheep.

The white stripes on the candy cane remind us of things that are clean or pure. Everything about Jesus is pure and good. Even His birth was not a regular birth but happened because of the Holy Spirit. White also reminds us that Jesus never sinned. Sin is breaking God’s commandments. A lie is a sin. Stealing is a sin and so is disobeying your parents. Jesus never did anything even a little bad. He obeyed all the commands of God perfectly. He was sinless.

Maybe the most noticeable thing on the candy cane are the red stripes. Sometimes there are big red stripes, and sometimes there are big and little red stripes. These red stripes remind us of the blood of Jesus that was shed for our sins on the cross. The Bible says that the only way

God can forgive our sins is through the blood that Jesus shed on the cross. The small red stripes also remind us that Jesus had stripes on his back when he was beaten. God showed His love for us who believe by sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins.

Another thing about a candy cane is that it is very hard like a rock. A real rock is very solid and strong and can protect us. A house built on a rock instead of sand won’t fall down. Jesus is like a rock. If we build our life on Him, He saves and protects us. He is the Rock of our salvation.

The peppermint flavor of the candy cane reminds us of similar spices that were used on Jesus body after He was crucified on the cross. They placed His body in a cave and sealed the opening with a large stone. After Jesus was dead three days, angels came and rolled the stone away releasing Jesus who had risen from the dead. He appeared to lots of people over a period of many days before He went back to heaven.

If you take 2 candy canes and put the curved parts together, you can make a heart. This reminds us of the love of God and Jesus. Because of God’s great love He sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. If we believe in Him from the

heart He forgives us. The candy cane heart also reminds us that when we are kind and share with others we are also sharing love as Jesus did.

So, what are 7 things the candy cane teaches us about Jesus?

1. The candy cane looks like a big “J” which reminds us of the name Jesus which begins with a “J.”

2. The candy cane shape also looks like a “staff” that a shepherd uses. Jesus is the “good Shepherd.”

3. The white stripes on the candy cane remind us that Jesus was perfectly clean or sinless and that His birth was by the Holy Spirit.

4. The red stripes of the candy cane remind us that Jesus shed His blood on the cross for our sins and that He can be our Savior if we believe in Him.

5. The candy cane is very hard and reminds us of a rock. Jesus is the rock of our salvation.

6. The minty flavor of peppermint reminds us of the spices that were used on Jesus’ body after He died. Then He rose from the dead.



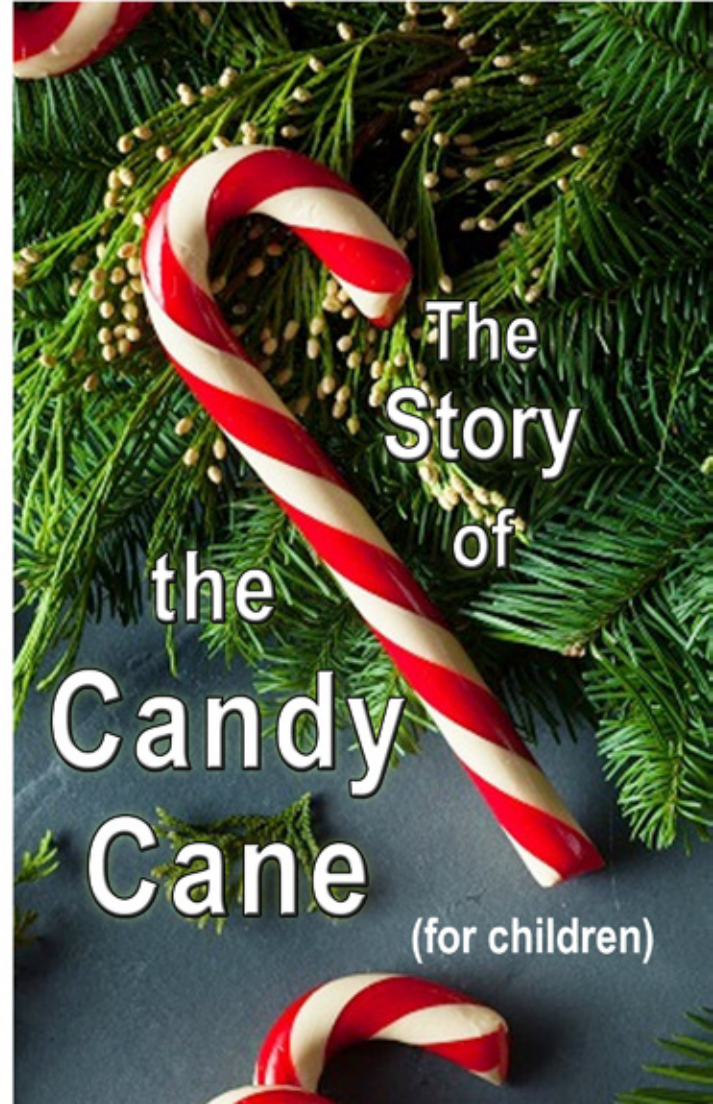
7. If you put 2 candy canes together, you make a heart which reminds us of the love of God for His children and that we should love others.

Next time you eat a candy cane remember all the special things about the candy cane that remind you of Jesus, the Son of God.

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The
Story
of
the
Candy
Cane
(for children)