The Main Idea Strategy: Student Practice Lessons

Name

Date

Passage #11

**M&M’s**

M&Ms are small candies that are popular in many countries. They come in six different colors. Originally, these colors were purple, brown, green, yellow, orange, and red. The colors have changed a few times. In 1949, purple was taken out and tan was put in. In 1976, red was taken out because of health concerns. By 1987, red M&Ms were put back in. In 1995, tan M&Ms were changed to blue after a vote. In 2002, purple was added back.

M&Ms are one of the most popular candies in the United States. In England, they were called *Smarties*. Forest Mars saw soldiers in the Spanish Civil War eating chocolate-covered candies. He learned that the candy coating kept the chocolate from melting. He thought that was a great idea.

M&Ms were first sold in America in 1941. In 1954, peanut M&Ms were first sold. In 1990, peanut butter M&Ms were sold. In 1996, a new kind of M&Ms was sold; they were called *M&M Minis*. In 1998, M&Ms created another new kind called *M&M Crispies*.

A few years ago, Mars company started an advertisement called “Help the M&Ms find their colors.” In 1997, they had a game called “The Grey Imposter M&M Game.” If you found a grey M&M, you would win a million dollars. Many people ended up finding uncolored M&Ms and thought they won. M&Ms has also sponsored a NASCAR racecar driver.

M&Ms were also used in a 2004 space mission. Mike Melville opened a bag of M&Ms at the edge of space. He was conducting an experiment. He wanted to show that the candy was weightless. It’s too bad that M&Ms can actually make you gain weight here on Earth.

Otherwise, we’d eat them for breakfast, lunch, and dinner!

310/5.8

© Daniel J. Boudah