



Apple



History of the Apple—Apple trees have been growing for thousands of years. In fact, archeologists have found evidence of people eating apples since at least 6500 B.C. Apples are mentioned in the histories of ancient nations and the Bible. They are thought to have originated in either the area between the Black and Caspian Seas or in Kazakhstan, a country in Asia.



The apples that we know and eat today were not originally found in the United States. The only apple native to North America is the crab apple. Apples first came to the U.S. when the pilgrims settled in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Today, apples have been successfully grown in all 50 states!

Apple Pioneer—John Chapman travelled across the Ohio River Valley carrying bags of apple seeds to plant. He returned yearly to his apple nurseries to care for the young trees and plant new ones and continued this tradition for 40 years. Today, he is better known by the name Johnny Appleseed.



Fun Facts

- Apples are fat, sodium and cholesterol free—and they taste great too!
- There are over 7,000 apple varieties grown across the world.
- Apple trees take 8-10 years to produce their first fruit.
- The largest apple ever picked weighed over 3 pounds.
- One of George Washington's hobbies was pruning apple trees.
- National Apple Week has been celebrated since 1904. It is now a three-month period from September through November.
- Granny Smith apples were first grown by Maria Anne Smith in Australia in 1867.
- Apples will float in water because they are 25% air.
- Apples were used as symbols of love in ancient Rome and Greece.
- In 1665, Sir Isaac Newton watches an apple fall to the ground and, wondering why it fell in a straight line, is inspired to discover the laws of gravitation and motion.

