



## On the *Chocolate Trail*

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# Stories Connecting People and Chocolate Around the World

Many organizations have invited Deborah Prinz to be a speaker or scholar-in-residence for special occasions or food related events or book clubs. The next time you pick up a piece of chocolate, consider that you are partaking in an aspect of global history. Use *On the Chocolate Trail* (3rd printing) creatively with adults and young people. Quantity discounts are available. Also, chocolate accompaniments and author book signings are very popular.

***Learning Topics:*** Possible topics for exploring the stories of chocolate and religion include:

1. *Faith Diffuses Chocolate Around the World:* This talk explores chocolate's religious narratives and rituals. It unwraps tantalizing information about how faith groups spread chocolate around the world. It combines age-old passions for chocolate and religion while exploring delightful new themes. (uses slides)
2. *What is the Best Chocolate? Values Mix into our Chocolate Eating:* Faced with a mélange of options when selecting our chocolate, chocolate lovers might be informed by contemporary food values. The interactive session explores the complexities that surface when measuring these food values against our chocolate choices and consumption. (uses slides and handout)
3. *What Did Hamilton Drink? North American Colonial Traders Dip Into Chocolate:* In colonial North America, chocolate interests could be uncovered in



the holds of ships, in shops and in homes. Merchants dipped deeply into the chocolate culture of their time. (uses slides)

4. *Chocolate Revives World War II Refugees*: Chocolate provided succor and support for immigrants and refugees. It contributed to survival and renewal in strong contrast to the deprivations of that time. (uses slides)

5. *Israelis: Meshuga (Crazy) for Chocolate*: Chocolate permeates Israel. A chunk of Israel's growth as a state may be seen through its chocolate industry, which reflects both immigrant stories and the entrepreneurship of Israel. (uses slides)

6. *Chanukah and Christmas Chocolate Coins Melt Together*: This presentation demonstrates how Chanukah and Christmas chocolate melt into coins by unraveling some celebratory themes of these December holidays. (uses slides)

7. *Stories of Chocolate Recipes*: Customize a presentation for your group based upon the relevant season and your preferred palate, using chocolate recipes and their stories of culture, history, and/or ethics. Prepare one recipe to enjoy together.

8. *Resilience through Chocolate*: An opportunity to learn how chocolate nurtured peoples facing upheaval in earlier generations. Chocolate smoothes things over in times of stress. (uses slides and handout)

### ***Giftng:***

CEO's, educators and non-profit leaders have been gifting *On the Chocolate Trail* to employees, teachers, boards, committees, donors and others. It makes a great gift for holidays, for graduates and others. People often bundle the book with chocolate.

### ***Resources:***

\*Library collections include the book as research material for school projects, for chocolate travel, for an ethics review of chocolate companies around the world and for study of food, history and religions.

\*Teachers refer to the book as source material for lectures and classes.

### ***Engagement Occasions and Chocolate Accompaniments:***



Everyone loves to taste chocolate in connection with *On the Chocolate Trail*. Organizations have offered fun, interactive events such as these:

- \*Tastings of *On the Chocolate Trail*'s contemporary and historical recipes
- \*Chocolate tasting
- \*Bake off of chocolate treats
- \*Multi-course chocolate dinner
- \*Chocolate reception
- \*Mini-chocolate festival
- \*Chocolate making
- \*Chocolate and wine pairing

### ***Seasonal Opportunities:***

\*Make chocolate coins for the celebration of December holidays

\*Couple Chocolate Trail events with Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day and other special occasions.

