ORIGINAL CANDY HOUSE

How candy got its name

Ten classic candy names and the real stories behind them.

Milk Duds

The first caramels came out lumpy, not round. The makers called them "duds".

Tootsie Roll

Named for inventor Leo Hirshfield's daughter Clara, nicknamed "Tootsie".

PayDay

The first bars were made on payday at the Hollywood Candy Company.

Junior Mints

A pun on "Junior Miss", a Broadway play the founder loved.

Pez

Short for PfeffErminZ, German for peppermint.

3 Musketeers

It began as three flavors in one bar: chocolate, vanilla and strawberry.

Lemonhead

Named after the founder's grandson, whose head looked lemon-shaped at birth.

Nik-L-Nip

A nickel, plus "nips", the tiny bottles it copies.

Dum Dums

Picked because any child could say it.

Hubba Bubba

From "hubba hubba", a World War II cheer of approval.

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Sources: Company histories and articles named on each Original Candy House candy page. Checked October 2026.
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