

## History Task – 9.6.20

Today we are going to travel back in time and look at the History of British food and how it developed over the years in Britain.



During our previous History tasks, we explored food rationing and found out about the types of food people ate during World War 1.

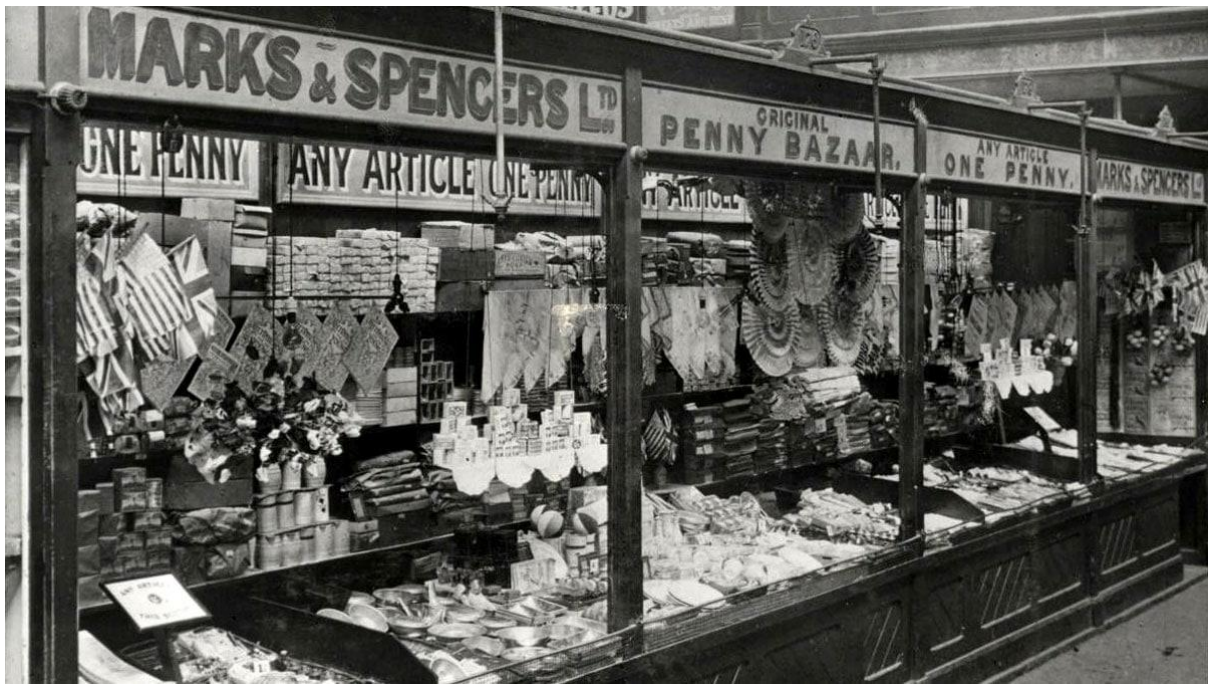


Today we are going to be finding out about the history of food in Britain and how it changed and developed over the years.

**Our History focus today is:**

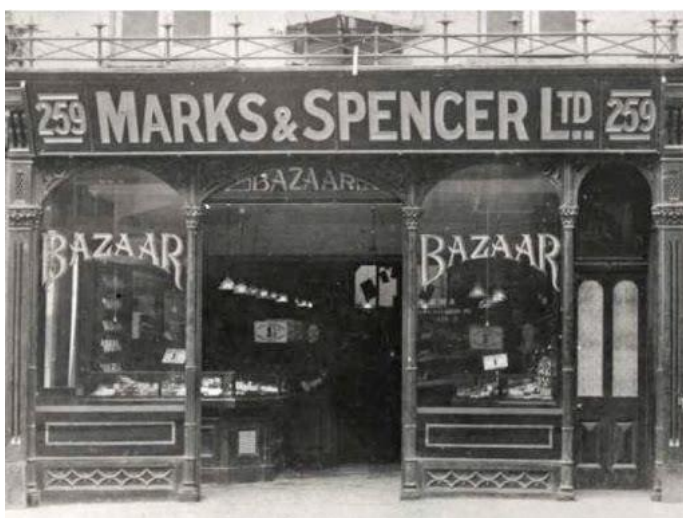
*To use a timeline within a specific time in history to set out the order things may have happened.*

We are going to look specifically at the food store Marks and Spencers, a British retailer that specialises in selling clothing, home products and food products. M&S was founded in 1884 by Michael Marks and Thomas Spencer in Leeds.



Marks and Spencer, known as "Marks and Sparks", or "M&S", made its reputation in the early 20th century with a policy of only selling British-made goods. It worked with British manufacturers, and sold clothes and food under the "St Michael" brand, which was introduced in 1928. The brand honours Michael Marks. It also accepted the return of unwanted items, giving a full cash refund if the receipt was shown, no matter how long ago the product was purchased, which was unusual for the time.

M&S began selling Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings in 1958. In an effort to improve the quality of their Swiss rolls, they hired the food expert Nat Goldberg, who made a major improvement across their entire cake range. As a later measure to improve food quality, food labelling was improved and "sell by dates" were introduced between 1970 and 1972.



Look at the timeline [HERE](#) of the history of British food at Marks and Spencers.

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## M&S FOOD TIMELINE



1884

M&S Penny Bazaar market stalls sold some types of packaged food, such as flour, spices and sweets.



M&S  
EST. 1884

Cardiff c.1900

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### Task

Your task today is to create your own timeline of how food developed across the years. You can use the Marks and Spencer's timeline to help you to create your own one. Click [HERE](#) for a blank timeline or you can make your own one in your homework book.

What is a timeline?

Timelines are a listing of events, such as historical periods, which can make history much easier to understand. It is demonstrated by showing what happened first, what went on next until what took place last (chronological order).

### Extension

Can you find out any other interesting facts about food products from the past?