



Meet Amazing Americans



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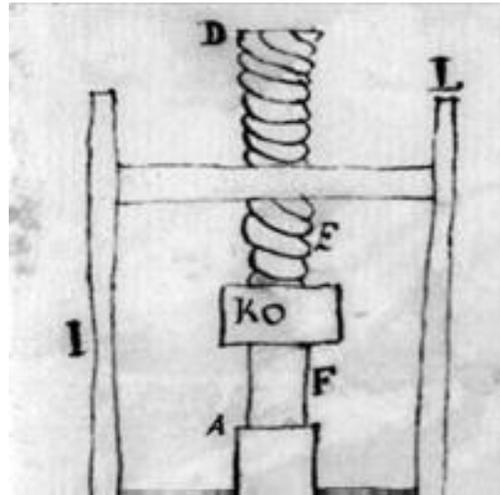
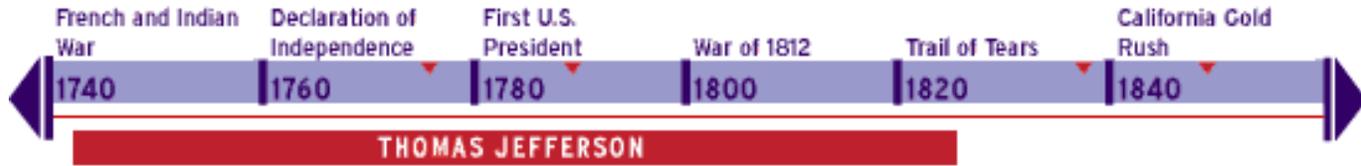
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See, Hear and Sing

Meet Amazing Americans ▶

U.S. Presidents ▶ Thomas Jefferson



Thomas Jefferson At Home

Thomas Jefferson was a man of many interests. While serving as the American minister to France in the 1780s, he developed quite a taste for European cooking. When he returned to the U.S. from France, he brought with him a French cook and many recipes from France and Italy. One of the Italian foods he ate was pasta. In his drawing of a macaroni machine you can see that Jefferson was figuring out how the dough was made. What do you think some of Jefferson's favorite foods were?

Thomas Jefferson's drawing of a macaroni machine



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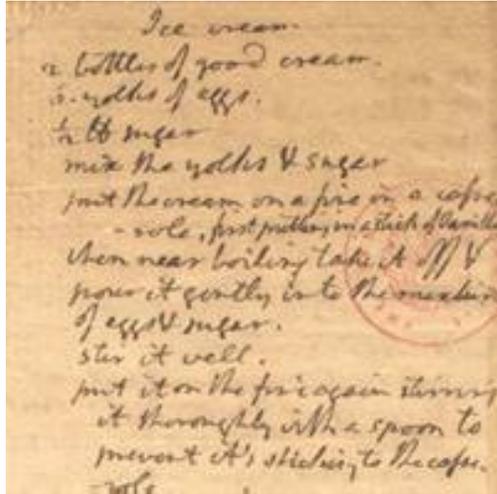
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Jefferson's recipe for vanilla ice cream

Thomas Jefferson At Home

Some of Jefferson's favorite dishes to serve guests included macaroni, macaroons, peach flambé (flaming peaches), and ice cream! While in France, Jefferson collected many French recipes for things such as sauces, fruit tarts, french fries, blood sausages, pigs' feet, rabbit, and pigeon. One of the recipes he brought home has since become an American favorite: vanilla ice cream. This was one of the most popular dishes at his home in Monticello, and this recipe was written by Jefferson himself. On the back is his recipe for Savoy cookies to go along with the ice cream. Would you like to have been a guest at one of Jefferson's dinners?

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Monticello, one of the finest estates in Virginia, 1912

Thomas Jefferson At Home

Jefferson had to have a nice place to invite his friends and serve them delicious food. His home in Charlottesville, called Monticello ("little mountain"), was known as one of the finest estates in Virginia. He designed his home himself and he included a series of rooms where he entertained guests. He also created a room just for his books and an office with a copy "machine." Some of his public rooms displayed things he had collected: Native American artifacts, fossils discovered by Lewis and Clark, and images of people he admired. Today you can visit Monticello, which is recognized as a national treasure.



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