



**Title: The Chocolate Touch**  
**Author: Patrick Skene Catling**  
**Illustrated by Margot Apple**

John Midas loves chocolate. He loves it so much that he'll eat it any hour of any day. He doesn't care if he ruins his appetite. He thinks chocolate is better than any other food! But one day, after wandering into a candy store and buying a piece of their best chocolate, John finds out that there might just be such a thing as too much chocolate. . . .

### Let's Talk

Would you like to eat only chocolate? Why or why not?  
What is your favorite food to eat?

Character names are important. Why do you think the protagonist (main character) is called John Midas?

Some people say, "That's too much of a good thing." What does that mean to you?

Why did the candy store not reappear until the very end?

What did John have to choose between in the end? What would you have done?

John has a problem with chocolate. Have you ever had a problem that other people couldn't understand or see? What did it feel like?

What does a healthy variety of food look like? (See online resources) How much chocolate is enough?

Fables are fictional stories that try to teach a lesson. Is the author trying to tell you something in this book? What?

### Try This

Put out various kinds of foods and drinks. Blindfold half the group and have them taste something and guess what it is. Then let the other half of the group have the blindfolds with other foods.

Do a chocolate tasting with dark, milk, semisweet and white chocolates. Serve with some fresh fruit like raspberries or strawberries.

### Online Resource:

Visit the United States Department of Agriculture's website for information about healthy food choices, sample menus and how to have a balanced diet. [www.choosemyplate.gov](http://www.choosemyplate.gov)

### Explore More in the Library

Chocolate Riches from the Rainforest  
(J 641.3374)

King Midas: The Golden Touch by Demi  
(J 398.2093)

The Adventures of King Midas by Lynn Reid Banks  
(J Fiction Banks)

12 Fabulously Funny Folktale Plays / by Justin McCory Martin. (J 372.64 Martin)

King Midas and the Golden Touch DVD  
(J DVD 398.2093 King)

Candy bomber : The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot" / Michael O. Tunnell (J 943.155 Tunnell)

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl (J Fiction Dahl)

Chocolate fever / Robert Kimmel Smith (J Fiction Smith)