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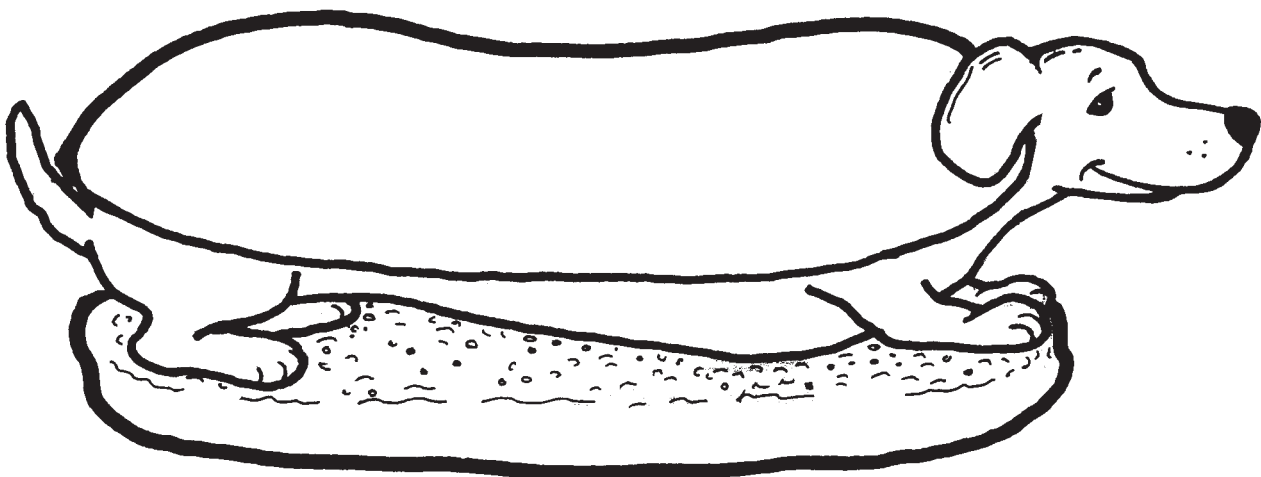
Hot Dogs

A snack seen at baseball games, racetracks, or your backyard barbecue, hot dogs are one of the most popular foods in America. Every hour 1.88 million hot dogs are produced in the United States. On average, every person in the United States eats about 1.2 hot dogs every week. There aren't many foods that were invented in America, but the hot dog is one of them. It's very similar to the sausage that comes from Germany. When did the sausage come to America? How did the sausage become the hot dog? Where did the name "hot dog" come from?

In the 1880s, a man named Charles Feltman moved to America from Frankfurt, Germany. Shortly after he came to America, Feltman sold cold pies from a food cart in Coney Island, New York. But Feltman had competition. He wasn't selling many pies because people preferred to eat in the hotels and restaurants, where they could sit down to eat heated food. Feltman's friends suggested that he sell hot foods, because people might like something warm to eat even if they were too busy to sit down.

Feltman decided to sell something people ate in his old hometown called the frankfurter. He made one important change, though. People in Germany usually ate frankfurters from a plate with a fork. Feltman put the sausage on a bun, covered it with mustard, and offered sauerkraut with it. He called it the "frankfurter sandwich." People loved Feltman's new creation, and the frankfurter sandwich became very popular. Feltman's business grew quickly. Soon, he was able to open his own restaurant.

When did people start calling the frankfurter sandwich a hot dog? At first Feltman's invention was known by many names. People called the frankfurter sandwiches "franks," "red-hots," or "wieners." One day in 1916, a cartoonist named Tad Dorgan was at a baseball game. He heard the frankfurter sellers yelling, "Get your red-hot dachshund sausages!" This gave Dorgan an idea for a new cartoon. Dachshunds are long skinny dogs with short legs. They are shaped very much like a sausage. Dorgan drew a cartoon of a dachshund inside a bun, as if it were a sausage with mustard on it. Dorgan didn't know how to spell the name of the dog, so when he drew the sausage seller, he made him yell, "Get your hot dogs!" The name stuck, and now most people know Charles Feltman's frankfurter sandwich as the "hot dog."



Hot Dogs *(cont.)*

1. Why was Charles Feltman having trouble selling his cold pies?
 - a. People preferred to eat heated food in hotels and restaurants.
 - b. Feltman was from Frankfurt, Germany.
 - c. The cold pies did not taste very good.
 - d. People preferred hot dogs.

2. What did Charles Feltman call his creation of a sausage on a bun with mustard?
 - a. Hot dog
 - b. Cold pie
 - c. Hot dachshund
 - d. Frankfurter sandwich

3. Ted Dorgan wrote “Get your hot dogs!” at the bottom of his cartoon because he—
 - a. did not want people to call the treat “franks,” “red-hots,” or “wieners” anymore
 - b. wanted to be the first person to invent a name for the treat
 - c. did not know how to spell “dachshund”
 - d. wanted to sell hot dogs at baseball games

4. How did Feltman probably feel when his creation became popular?
 - a. Glad
 - b. Tired
 - c. Disappointed
 - d. Puzzled

5. You can tell from the passage that the hot dog—
 - a. is not very popular
 - b. has an interesting history
 - c. was named in Germany
 - d. is usually served with mustard