

URBAN TACTICS; For Halloween, Candy as Sweet As the Old Country

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Byline: By SETH KUGEL

Body

NEW York's immigrant children may be light years ahead of their parents in adopting American customs, as the preponderance of Bangladeshi Spider-Men and Peruvian SpongeBobs in the streets this **Halloween** should demonstrate.

But children's **sweet** teeth don't necessarily become American as fast as the rest of them.

In stores throughout the city's immigrant neighborhoods, wonderfully unusual imported **candy** is as common as Hershey's Kisses. And although many immigrant families will hand out traditional American **candy** on Thursday, other, more unexpected items may find their way into trick-or-treat bags. Here are favorites among some of New York's newer ethnic groups.

SETH KUGEL

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Graphic

Photos: EAST ASIA -- Japanese gum; from China, White Rabbit **candy**, ginger **candy**, corn suckers that taste like sugary corn porridge, apple-flavored chews, dried-plum hard **candy** popular among pregnant women; MIDDLE EAST -- Natural gum from Egypt, Lebanese fruit-filled chocolate, sugary Lebanese **candies** made of sesame, pistachio or almonds, Shaarawi Bros. spiced gum from Jordan; RUSSIA/BELARUS -- Coconut-covered Belarussian truffles; from Moscow, Limping Bear chocolates and Crawfish Neck hard **candy** made with cacao and peanuts; COLOMBIA/ECUADOR -- From Colombia, coffee hard **candy**, Bon Bon Bum lollipops and Supercoco nougat; from Ecuador, liquid-filled Kataboom gum and colorfully wrapped chocolate bars with peanuts; JAMAICA -- **Sweet** and sour tamarind balls, fruity Paradise Plums; INDIA -- Gem sesame balls, Mango Mood and fennel-flavored Pan Pasand hard **candy**; MEXICO -- Miguelito chili powder and sugar, chili with tamarind, chili-covered corncob-shaped lollipops (Photographs by Tony Cenicola/The New York Times)

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