The Gingerbread Man

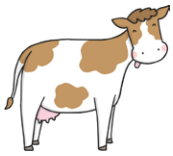
Once upon a time, there lived a little old woman and a little old man. One day, the little old woman made a gingerbread man. But when she opened the oven, he ran away! The little old woman and the little old man ran after him yelling, "Stop! Stop!" but they could not catch him. The gingerbread man said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man came to a cat. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cat and chased him.
The gingerbread man said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

He came to a dog. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the dog and chased him.
The gingerbread man said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

He came to a cockerel. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cockerel and chased him.
The gingerbread man said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

He came to a pig. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the pig and chased him.
The gingerbread man said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

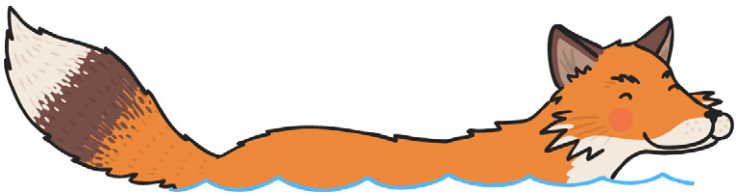


He came to a cow. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cow and chased him.
The gingerbread man said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

He came to a horse. “Stop! You look good enough to eat!” said the horse and chased him.
The gingerbread man said, “Run, run, as fast as you can! You can’t catch me, I’m the gingerbread man!”

He came to a boy. “Stop! You look good enough to eat!” said the boy and chased him.
The gingerbread man said, “Run, run, as fast as you can! You can’t catch me, I’m the gingerbread man!”

He came to a girl. “Stop! You look good enough to eat!” said the girl and joined in the chase. He ran until he came to a river. He stopped, as he could not swim!



Just then, a fox came by. “I can help you cross the river,” said the fox. “Hop onto my tail.” The gingerbread man saw the others coming and didn’t want to be eaten, so he jumped on. When he began to get wet, the fox said, “Climb onto my back,” so he did. The water got deeper. The fox said, “Jump onto my nose.” So he did. Just then, the fox tipped back his head and the gingerbread man flew into the air. The fox opened his mouth and SNAP! That was the end of the gingerbread man.

The end.

The Gingerbread Man

1. What did the gingerbread man do when the little old lady opened the oven door?

2. Which characters started chasing the gingerbread man at the beginning?

3. Who did the gingerbread man come to next?

4. What did the gingerbread man say over and over again?

5. What did each of the characters say when they saw the gingerbread man?

6. Who was the last character to chase the gingerbread man?

The Gingerbread Man **Answers**

1. What did the gingerbread man do when the little old lady opened the oven door?
   When she opened the oven, he ran away!

2. Which characters started chasing the gingerbread man at the beginning?
   The little old woman and the little old man ran after him.

3. Who did the gingerbread man come to next?
   The gingerbread came to a cat.

4. What did the gingerbread man say over and over again?
   He said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

5. What did each of the characters say when they saw the gingerbread man?
   They said, "Stop! You look good enough to eat!"

6. Who was the last character to chase the gingerbread man?
   The girl joined in the chase last.

7. Why did everyone want to catch the gingerbread man?
   They wanted to catch him so that they could eat him.

8. Should the gingerbread man have climbed onto the fox's nose?
   No because the fox wanted to eat him. It was a trick.

The Gingerbread Man

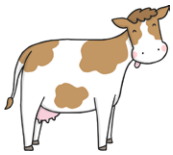
Once upon a time, there lived a little old woman and a little old man. One day, the little old woman made a gingerbread man. When she opened the oven, the gingerbread man jumped off the baking tray and ran away! The little old woman and the little old man ran after him, yelling, "Stop! Stop!" but they could not catch him.
The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran until he came to a cat. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cat and chased him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran until he came to a dog. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the dog and chased him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran on, then he came to a cockerel. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cockerel and chased him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran down the lane and came to a pig. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the pig and chased him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"



A little further on, the gingerbread man came to a cow. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cow and chased him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran on, then he came to a horse. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the horse and chased him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

It was not long before the gingerbread man came to a boy. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the boy and chased him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man kept running and came to a girl. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the girl and joined in the chase. The gingerbread man ran on, until he came to a river. He stopped as he could not swim!

Just then, a fox came by. "I can help you cross the river," said the fox. "Just hop onto my tail and I will swim across." The gingerbread man saw the others coming and worried that he would be eaten, so he jumped on. Soon the gingerbread man began to get wet. "Climb onto my back," suggested the fox, so he did. The water was getting even deeper. The fox said, "Jump onto my nose so that you don't get wet." So he did. Just then, the fox tipped back his head and the gingerbread man flew into the air. The fox opened his mouth and SNAP! That was the end of the gingerbread man.

The end.

The Gingerbread Man

1. What did the gingerbread man jump off at the beginning?

2. Who did the gingerbread man run away from?

3. Which is your favourite word or phrase in the story?

4. What does the gingerbread man say over and over again?

5. What did each of the characters say when they saw the gingerbread man?

6. Who were the first five characters that chased the gingerbread man?

7. How do you think the gingerbread man was feeling when he was being chased?

8. Why was it tricky for the gingerbread man when he reached the river?

9. Who do you think was the scariest character in the story and why?

The Gingerbread Man **Answers**

1. What did the gingerbread man jump off at the beginning?
   The gingerbread man jumped off the baking tray.

2. Who did the gingerbread man run away from?
   He ran away from the little old woman and the little old man.

3. Which is your favourite word or phrase in the story?
   (Answers will vary, accept any reasonable response.)
   E.g. I like how the gingerbread man teases everyone who's trying to catch him by saying, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!" because it's funny that he manages to run away from everyone.

4. What does the gingerbread man say over and over again?
   The gingerbread man says, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!" over and over again.

5. What did each of the characters say when they saw the gingerbread man?
   They say, "Stop! You look good enough to eat!"

6. Who were the first five characters that chased the gingerbread man?
   The little old woman, the little old man, the cat, the dog and the cockerel ran after the gingerbread man.

7. How do you think the gingerbread man was feeling when he was being chased?
   (Answers will vary, accept any reasonable response.)
   E.g. When he was being chased he would have been feeling frightened but also pleased / smug because nobody could catch him.

8. Why was it tricky for the gingerbread man when he reached the river?
   (Answers will vary, accept any reasonable response.)
   E.g. When he came to a river he stopped as he could not swim! The gingerbread man saw the others coming and worried that he would be eaten, so he had to jump onto the fox, even if he didn't trust him.

9. Who do you think was the scariest character in the story and why?
   The fox was the scariest because he tricked the gingerbread man into climbing onto him so he could eat him.

The Gingerbread Man

Once upon a time, there lived a little old woman and a little old man. One day, the little old woman was baking a delicious gingerbread man. When she opened the oven, the gingerbread man jumped off the baking tray and ran out of the house! The little old woman and the little old man ran after the cheeky gingerbread man, yelling, "Stop! Stop!" Sadly, they could not catch him. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran until he came to a cat. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cat. The little old woman, the little old man and the cat ran after the gingerbread man.
The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran until he came to a dog. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the dog. The little old woman, the little old man, the cat and the dog ran after the gingerbread man.
The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran on, then he came to a cockerel. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cockerel. The little old woman, the little old man, the cat, the dog and the cockerel ran after the gingerbread man.
The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran down the lane and came to a pig. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the pig. The little old woman, the little old man, the cat, the dog, the cockerel and the pig ran after the gingerbread man. The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

A little further on, the gingerbread man came to a cow. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the cow. The little old woman, the little old man, the cat, the dog, the cockerel, the pig and the cow ran after the gingerbread man.
The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

The gingerbread man ran on, until he came to a horse. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the horse. The little old woman, the little old man, the cat, the dog, the cockerel, the pig, the cow and the horse ran after the gingerbread man.
The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

It was not long before the gingerbread man came to a boy. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the boy. The little old woman, the little old man, the cat, the dog, the cockerel, the pig, the cow, the horse and the boy ran after the gingerbread man.
The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"

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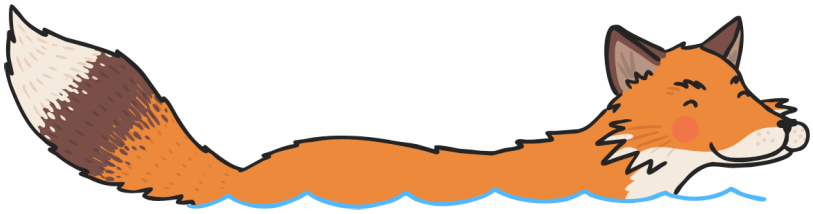
The gingerbread man kept running and came to a girl. "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" said the girl and joined in the chase.



The gingerbread man ran on, until he came to a river. He stopped as he could not swim! Just then, a fox came by. "I can help you cross the river," said the fox. "Just hop onto my tail and I will swim across." The gingerbread man saw the others coming. He knew that if he did not go with the fox he would be eaten, so he jumped onto his tail. Soon the gingerbread man began to get wet. "Climb onto my back," suggested the fox, so the gingerbread man did. The water was getting even deeper. This time the fox said, "Jump onto my nose so that you don't get wet." The gingerbread man climbed onto the tip of his nose. Just then, the fox tipped back his head and the gingerbread man flew into the air. The fox opened his mouth and SNAP! That was the end of the gingerbread man.

The end.

The Gingerbread Man

1. Why did the gingerbread man run away?

2. Which is your favourite word or phrase in the story. Why?

3. Write down two phrases that are repeated throughout this traditional tale.

4. Which characters chased the gingerbread man **before** he came to the cow?

5. Why were the characters chasing the gingerbread man?

6. Which characters chased the gingerbread man **after** the cow?

7. How do you think the gingerbread man was feeling when he was on the baking tray, when he was being chased and when he met the fox?

8. Explain whether this story has a happy ending for all the characters.

9. Describe the fox using three adjectives.

10. What would you have done if you were the gingerbread man at the river? Why?

The Gingerbread Man **Answers**

1. Why did the gingerbread man run away?
   He jumped off the baking tray and ran out of the house because he did not want to be eaten.

2. Which is your favourite word or phrase in the story. Why?
   (Answers will vary, accept any reasonable response.)
   E.g. I like how the gingerbread man teases everyone who's trying to catch him by saying "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!" because it's funny that he manages to run away from everyone.

3. Write down two phrases that are repeated throughout this traditional tale.
   The gingerbread man just laughed and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!" and "Stop! You look good enough to eat!" are repeated.

4. Which characters chased the gingerbread man before he came to the cow?
   The little old woman, the little old man, the cat, the dog, the cockerel and the pig ran after the gingerbread man.

5. Why were the characters chasing the gingerbread man?
   They wanted to eat him, because he looked good enough to eat!

6. Which characters chased the gingerbread man after the cow?
   The horse, the boy and the girl ran after the gingerbread man.

7. How do you think the gingerbread man was feeling when he was on the baking tray, when he was being chased and when he met the fox?
   (Answers will vary, accept any reasonable response.)
   E.g. When he was on the baking tray, he would be feeling scared. When he was being chased he would have been feeling frightened but also pleased because nobody could catch him. When he met the fox he would have felt relieved because he thought the fox was saving him, but he might also have been feeling suspicious.

8. Explain whether this story had a happy ending for all the characters.
   The story did not have a happy ending for the ten characters chasing the gingerbread man because they didn't get to eat him. It definitely did not have a happy ending for the gingerbread man because the fox ate him. It did have a happy ending for the fox because he got to eat the gingerbread man.

9. Describe the fox using three adjectives.
   (Answers will vary, accept any reasonable response. They might include: cunning, clever, sneaky, mean, nasty, evil, deceitful, dishonest, etc.) E.g. The fox was clever, cunning and mean.

10. What would you have done if you were the gingerbread man at the river? Why?
    (Answers will vary, accept any reasonable response.)
    If I were the gingerbread man, I would have climbed onto the fox's back and head, but not onto his nose. I would have jumped off his head onto the other side of the river as soon as possible.