

Lesson: The Gingerbread Man

Objectives: Children will

- Explore gingerbread cookies.
- Listen to and participate in the story.
- Retell the story.
- Explore Centers and stories.

Materials: Mascot (Lamby or another stuffed animal), gingerbread men cookies, Five Sense chart (p 4), blocks, storytelling props (grandparents dollhouse figures, miniature oven, felt gingerbread figure, cow, horse, fox, blue felt or foam stream), materials for Centers

Notes: Ahead of time, gather your storytelling props and practice the story. You can either purchase or make gingerbread men cookies. Gather materials for the Gingerbread town poster: Print out enough copies of page 5 on light brown cardstock so each child has one. Cut out the pictures as necessary. Cut blue bulletin board paper in half for the background, so you have a long but thinner strip of paper. Gather the rest of the materials listed in Centers. If you want to also have the children make gingerbread men, gather all materials and make the dough ahead of time. Use the illustrated instructions found on page 6.

Gather for Motivation

- Sing [Welcome Song](#)
- **Show** the children the gingerbread men cookies and the chart.
- **Ask:** "How do these cookies look?"
- **Point** to that word on the chart.
- **Children** respond.
- **Pass** out the cookies.
- **Say:** "Don't eat the cookies just yet."
- **Ask:** "How do the cookies feel?"
- **Children** respond.
- **Ask:** "How do the cookies smell?"
- **Children** respond.
- **Ask:** "How do the cookies taste?"
- **Children** respond.
- **Ask:** "How do the cookies sound when you eat them?"
- **Children** respond.

Lesson

Main Point: *The Gingerbread Man* is a fun pretend story to tell.

- **Say:** “Those were good ideas! Today I am going to tell you the story of *The Gingerbread Man*. You can help me tell it. First, let’s work together to build a house out of blocks.”
- **Together** build a house out of blocks.
- **Take** out the objects.
- **Tell** the story found below. (You might want to let a few children help you act it out.)

Story

Once upon a time there was an old man and old woman who lived in a house on a farm. (Place the figures in the house. Place the horse and cow outside the house.) One day they decided to bake a gingerbread man cookie. (Show them the little felt gingerbread man.) They put the cookie in the oven to bake. (Put the cookie in the oven. Put the oven in the house.) But while they were waiting, suddenly the gingerbread man popped out of the oven and ran out of the house, saying, “Run, run, run as fast as you can. You can’t catch me, I’m the gingerbread man!” (Act out.) The little old man and old woman ran after the gingerbread man. (Act out.) Well the horse and the cow saw that little gingerbread man running and shouting, “Run, run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me, I’m the gingerbread man!.” (Hold up the horse and the cow.) They saw the old man and woman running after the gingerbread man and decided to join in the chase. All four ran after the gingerbread man, but they couldn’t catch him. (Act out.) But then the gingerbread man came to a river. (Take out the river. Put the gingerbread man by it.) Nearby was a clever fox. (Take out the fox and put it by the gingerbread man.) The fox told the gingerbread man, “Quick, climb on my back and I will take you across the river.” The gingerbread man did what the fox said... Uh oh! (Put the gingerbread man on the fox’s back .) The fox swam with the gingerbread man on his back. (Act out.) When the little old man, woman, cow, and horse got to the river, they were nowhere to be found! (Place the four by the river and take away the fox and the gingerbread man.) What do you think happened to the gingerbread man? (Open-ended question; allow the children to respond.)

Closure

- **Say:** “What a funny story! Do you think gingerbread man cookies can really come to life?”
- **Children** can chorally respond to the question with a “no”.
- **Say:** “This is a pretend story. It isn’t real.”
- **Invite** the children to move in each way:
Run, run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me. I’m the gingerbread man.
Jump, jump, jump as fast as you can...
Skip, skip, skip...
Crawl, crawl, crawl...
Stomp, stomp, stomp...

Centers

Invite the children to go explore Centers.

Art Center: Children can work together to make a snowy gingerbread town. If able, they can cut out the gingerbread shapes. Decorate them using markers. Then glue towards the bottom of the blue bulletin board paper. Then they can use washable white paint and sponge brushes to paint snow at the bottom of the paper. Display this in your classroom as a winter decoration.

Dramatic Play: Place brown playdough, cookie cutters, rolling pins, bowls, wooden spoons, cookie sheets, cookie tins, chef hats, and aprons in the center, along with the kitchen set.

Book Center: Provide a variety of gingerbread stories and stuffed gingerbread pillows or toys.

Blocks: Place the storytelling props in this Center. Invite a few children at a time to retell the story to you.

Handouts (Next Page)

Senses Chart

Look

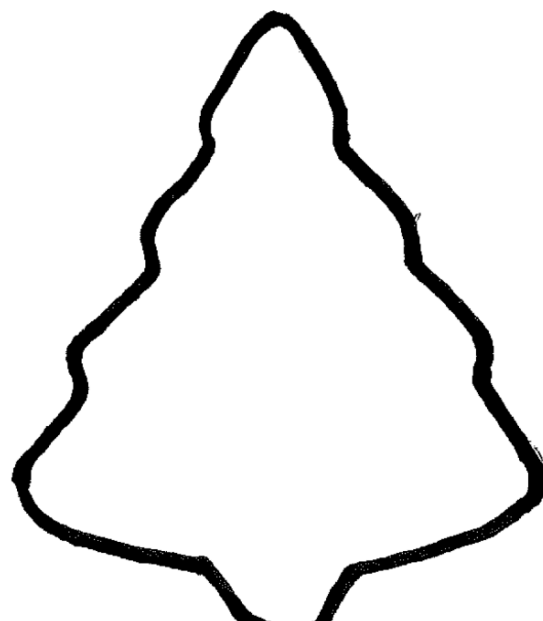
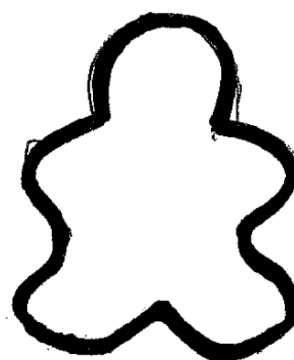
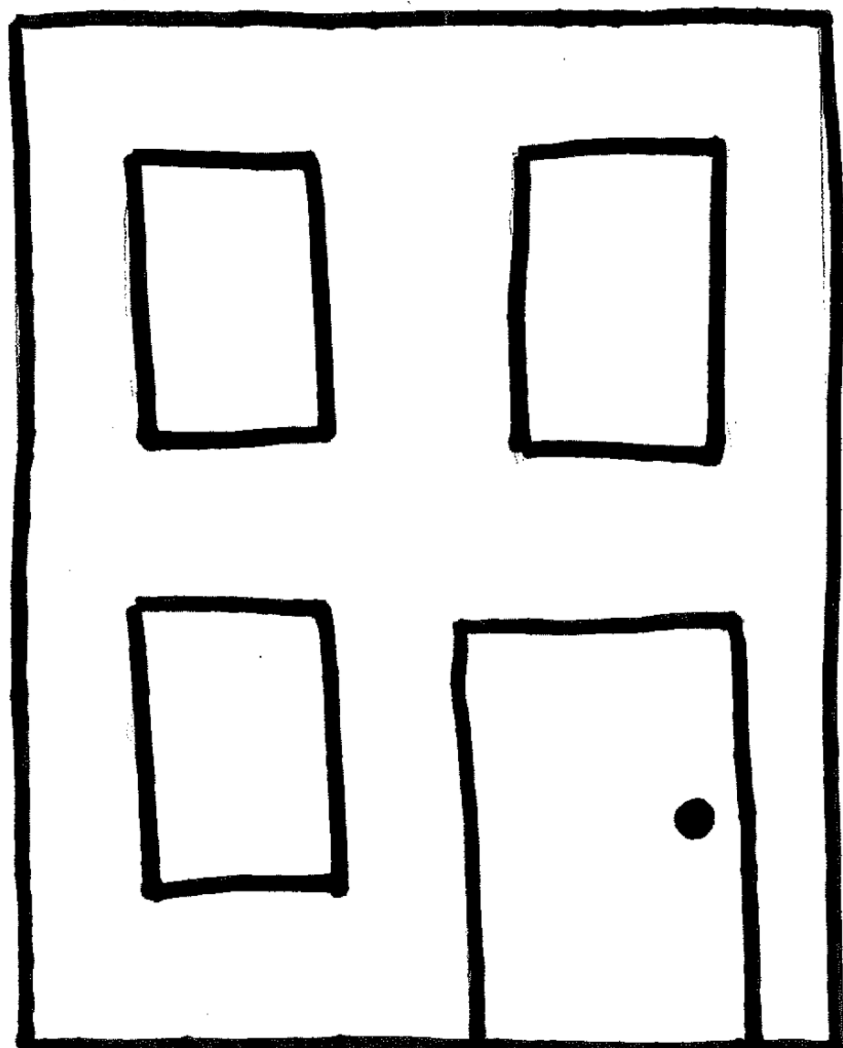
Feel

Smell

Taste

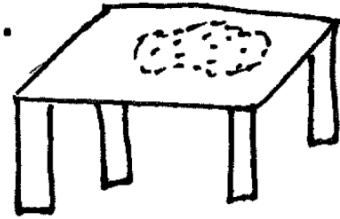
Hear

Gingerbread tree, house, and people patterns:



Making a Gingerbread Man Cookie

1. Put a little flour on the table.



2. Put a small ball of dough on the flour.



3. Use the rolling pin to roll out the dough.



4. Press the cookie cutter into the dough hard.



5. Peel off the extra dough.



6. Use raisins for eyes, nose, mouth, and buttons.



QR Codes for Links



Welcome Song

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=si-k1sqvbO0>