



Storytime Kit: The Gingerbread Man

Read, sing, talk, write, and play when engaging with your young child. Use the books and toys in this kit, along with the activities below, to support the development of early literacy skills and instill a love of reading.

Read

Read the books in this kit with your child. Take time to look at and talk about the pictures.

Make the story come alive! Don't be afraid to use voices and have fun with reading.

Ask your child questions about what is happening in the story and what they think may happen next.

Encourage your child to participate: filling in rhymes, chanting refrains, making sounds, and acting out parts of the story.

A lot of different animals try to eat the Gingerbread Man as he runs! Make the sounds that each animal makes as they appear in the story.

Sing

Five Gingerbread Men

Five gingerbread men lying on a tray
One jumped up and ran away
Shouting, "Catch me, catch me, catch me if you can!
I run really fast, I'm the gingerbread man!
The gingerbread man, the gingerbread man
I run really fast, I'm the gingerbread man!"
Repeat, counting down from five to one.

Where is My Gingerbread Man?

Tune: Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?
Oh where, oh where is my Gingerbread Man?
Oh where, oh where can he be?
He popped right out of the oven and ran out the door.
Oh where, oh where can he be?

Do You Know the Gingerbread Man?

Tune: The Muffin Man

Oh, do you know the Gingerbread Man,
The Gingerbread Man, the Gingerbread Man?
Oh, do you know the Gingerbread Man,
Who ran and ran and ran?

He said, "Catch me if you can,
If you can, if you can."
He said, "Catch me if you can,"
Then ran and ran and ran.

I can run like the Gingerbread Man.
The Gingerbread Man, the Gingerbread Man.
I can run like the Gingerbread Man.
Now catch me if you can.

Talk

How is *The Gingerbread Man* by Eric A. Kimmel different from *The Gingerbread Man: Loose in the School* by Laura Murray and Mike Lowery? How are the two Gingerbread Men different from each other? Do they want the same thing, do they act the same way?

Make up a new version of "The Gingerbread Man" where the Gingerbread Man doesn't get eaten in the end! Where does he eventually go?

Tell the story of *The Gingerbread Man* by Eric A. Kimmel using the Storytelling Glove. Place a felt character on the front of the glove when that character appears. Move it to the back of the glove when the character's part is over. If you have more than one reader, place each reader in charge of certain characters. They will be excited to be responsible for moving their pieces at the right times.



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Write

Draw your own Gingerbread Man! Draw an outline first, and then draw and color in everything your Gingerbread Man needs.

The Gingerbread Man likes to say, “Catch me if you can, you can’t catch me, I’m the Gingerbread Man!” The word “man” rhymes with the word “can.” Can you think of any other words that rhyme with “man” and “can”? Write them down in a list!

Play

The Gingerbread Man loves to walk and run! After you’re finished reading, go on a walk outside like the Gingerbread Man does.

Take turns hiding the felt Gingerbread Man (or your own drawing of a gingerbread man) around your house. Can you find your Gingerbread Man after he has run away?

The class in *The Gingerbread Man: Loose in the School* bake gingerbread cookies at the beginning of their story. With permission and help from an adult in your home, find a recipe for gingerbread cookies and make them together.

This tip sheet stays with the kit. For a copy of your own, visit dtdl.org/littlethings. For more books, songs, rhymes, and activity ideas to share with your child, visit dtdl.org/storytimes.