

GINGERBREAD WEEK THEMATIC UNIT



FOR GRADES




2-4





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BOOK LIST

Grab these books from your local library or bookstore for more gingerbread fun!

Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett

Gingerbread Friends by Jan Brett

Gingerbread Christmas by Jan Brett



The Gingerbread Girl by Lisa Campbell Ernst



The Gingerbread Boy by Paul Galdone

**The Gingerbread Man Loose in the School
by Laura Murray**

**The Gingerbread Man Loose at Christmas
by Laura Murray**

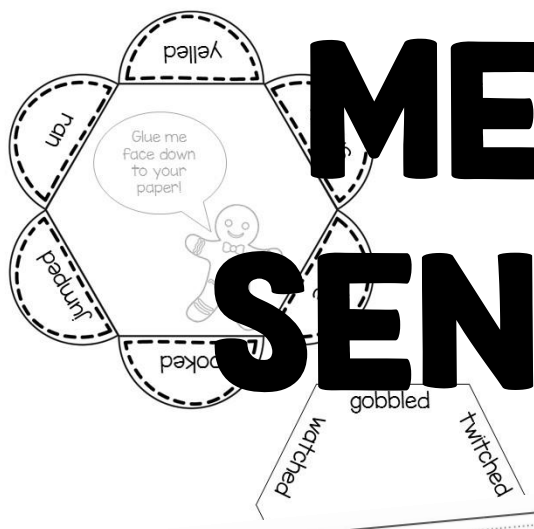
The Gingerbread Cowboy by Janet Squires

He pranced around
the big blue bowl.

~Gingerbread Baby

Vivid Verb Flower

Cut out the flower. Glue the hexagon into the flower so
the petals fold down over each matching vivid verb.
Write a sentence with each vivid verb.



Name: Answer Key

Editing Assessment
he pranced around the big blue bowl.
1. Circle the 2 mistakes in the sentence.
He pranced around the big
blue bowl.

2. Match the verbs that are most similar.

ran	_____	bounced
fell	_____	sniffed
shook	_____	tumbled
jumped	_____	twitched

MENTOR SENTENCE LOWER AND UPPER GRADE QUIZZES PROVIDED

He pranced around the big blue bowl.
~Gingerbread Baby
He pranced around the big blue bowl.
~Gingerbread Baby
He pranced around the big blue bowl.
~Gingerbread Baby
He pranced around the big blue bowl.
~Gingerbread Baby
He pranced around the big blue bowl.
~Gingerbread Baby

Monday – possibilities of things to notice
*vivid verb – pranced
capital at the beginning of the sentence
period at the end (telling/declarative sentence)
adjectives – big blue
past tense verb
repetition of beginning “b” sound – alliteration

Tuesday – lab
He – noun
pranced – verb
around – preposition
the – article
big, blue – adjective
bowl – noun

Wednesday – possibility of revised sentence
He pr Name: _____ around the giant blue bowl.
(repl) Answer Key

Thursday – he pranced around the big blue bowl.
He _____

Editing Assessment
Date: _____

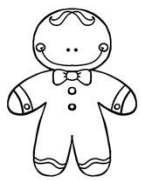


Circle 3 mistakes in the sentence.
Rewrite the sentence correctly:

They popped him into the shape of a gingerbread boy and
Gingerbread Baby tumbled through his legs and out the door.
5. He somersaulted across the goats' backs.
6. The Gingerbread Baby twisted in the air.
7. He lifted the lid and lowered himself inside.

Change the verbs below to make the sentences more vivid.
(The verbs have already been underlined.)







The Gingerbread Baby

by Jan Brett


pranced




sprang



strolled



tweaked

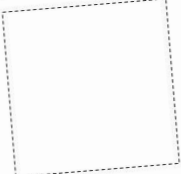


VOCABULARY

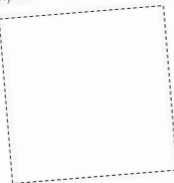
Name: _____ Date: _____

VIVID VERBS


Vivid verbs are more exciting versions of boring verbs. Cut and glue the vocabulary squares from the bottom of the page to match the synonyms.



jumped or pounced



pinched or squeezed



danced or skipped

pranced

sprang

Name: **ANSWER KEY** Date: _____

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Use the text and picture clues to help you infer the meaning of these words.

WORD	PART OF SPEECH	BOOK CLUES	YOUR DEFINITION
pranced	verb	Gingerbread Baby was dancing on the bowl	danced
sprang	verb	The cat jumped to try to eat him	pounced or jumped
strolled			

Name: **ANSWER KEY** Date: _____

WHAT DID THEY SAY?

Imagine these people are speaking using the vocabulary words. What could they say?

this is a great time to **prance** around

My cat is **strolling** around the house

could say the family is **strolling** in the snow

could say he **sprang** off his bed

could say he **tweaked** his arm

Name: **ANSWER KEY** Date: _____

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

1. Which of these people look like they are strolling?

2. What word can you use instead of sprang?

3. Someone who is prancing is most likely:

4. Is it respectful to tweak someone's ear? Why or why not?

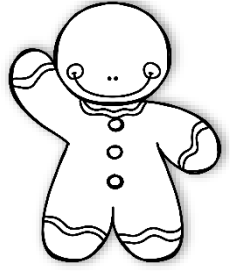
No it is not respectful because it can hurt.



GINGERBREAD BABY

by Jan Brett

FLAPBOOK



Cause	Effect
Matti opened the oven too early.	Gingerbread Baby was away.
The girls tried to catch the Gingerbread Baby.	Gingerbread Baby hid the girls' braids.
Gingerbread Baby goes into the Gingerbread house.	Gingerbread Baby was safe and sound.

Problem:	Solution:
Matti opened the oven too soon and the Gingerbread Baby ran away. —OR— Everyone wants to catch and eat Gingerbread Baby.	Matti made a gingerbread house for Gingerbread Baby to hide in. —OR— Gingerbread Baby hides in the gingerbread house.

Author's Purpose:
entertainment

Prove with evidence:
The gingerbread baby comes to life, runs, and sings.

GINGERBREAD BABY by Jan Brett	
This flapbook belongs to:	Answer Key



Name: **Possible Answers**

Date: _____

Gingerbread Baby

Describe the Gingerbread Baby and prove with evidence.



TRAIT:

naughty

WORDS:

"Catch me if you can!"

"Look at me!"

"You'll never find me!"

ACTIONS:

He tied Martin and Madeline's braids together.

He brags about being fast.

He tweaked the milk maid's nose.

He hid from those trying to catch him.





Name: **Possible Answers**

Date: _____

Gingerbread Baby

Describe Matti and prove with evidence.



TRAIT:

determined

WORDS:

"I will catch him if I can."

OPTIONS:

He stayed inside and continued to bake.

He made a gingerbread house to catch the baby.



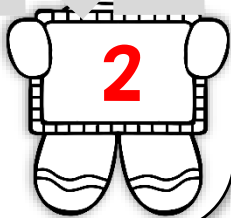
Name: **Answer Key**

Date: _____

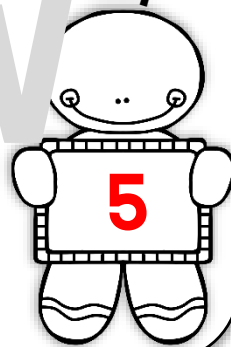
Gingerbread Baby

Number the boxes to show the order things happened in the story.

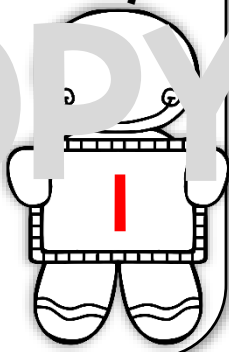
The dog barked at
Gingerbread Baby
from the wall.



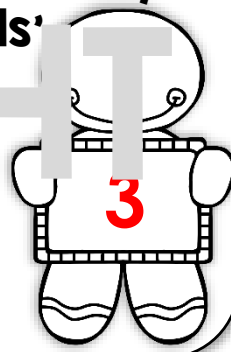
Gingerbread Baby
ran from the fox.



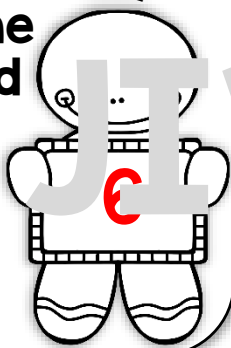
Gingerbread Baby
ran by the
tomb cut.



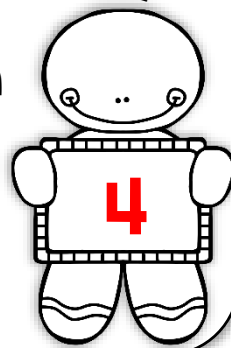
Gingerbread Baby
tied the girls'
braids in
a knot.



Gingerbread Baby
hid inside the
gingerbread
house.



Gingerbread Baby
rode in the
wagon with
many pig.





Name: **Possible Answers** Date: _____

Gingerbread Baby

Answer the 5 Ws.

Who made the Gingerbread Baby?	Martha and her mother made the Gingerbread Baby.
What did Matti do to get Gingerbread Baby back?	Matti built him a gingerbread house to hide in.
When did Matti peek in the oven?	After five minutes. Mattie peeked even though he was supposed to wait eight minutes.
Where did Martha and Madeline find Gingerbread Baby?	They found him at the well.
Why did the father think Gingerbread Baby had met his match?	The father saw crumbs in the snow, so he thought something ate him.

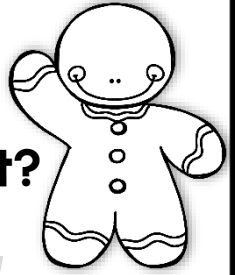




Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Baby

What do you think Matti is going to do with the Gingerbread Baby? Why do you think that?



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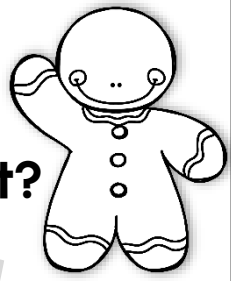




Name: _____ Date: _____

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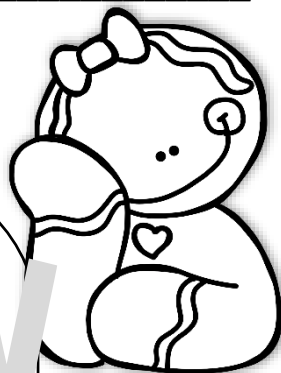




Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Books

Compare two gingerbread books:



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Design a Gingerbread Person

Give students the page of your choice. You might have them design or color their person on a full page or on the missing poster page. Students should describe their gingerbread boys or girls well enough that someone could “find” it.

Lesson Ideas:



Give the students the full page to design/color. Students cut out the gingerbread and write their name on the back so you can identify it later. Tape them around the room. Students should describe their gingerbreads well enough on the full writing page that someone could read and find their hanging gingerbread boy/girl. As students read a partner's writing, they can fill in the “Missing Poster” with a list of important descriptions they read, and design/color based on what they read. Compare their work to the original. Students can discuss possible revisions that could help their gingerbread writing match their actual picture.

Give the students the full page to design/color. Cut out the gingerbread and display in the hall with the full page descriptive writing.

Give students the “Missing Poster” to design/color and then describe their gingerbread boy/girl. (Makes a great hallway display.)

Design a Gingerbread Boy

Color the Gingerbread Boy

POSTER

Design a Gingerbread Girl

Color the Gingerbread Girl

OPTIONS

© jivey 27

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Boy

Oh no! Your Gingerbread Boy is missing! Describe your gingerbread boy well so that someone can find him.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Girl

Oh no! Your Gingerbread Girl is missing! Describe your gingerbread girl well so that someone can find her.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Boy

Oh no! Your Gingerbread Boy is missing! Describe your gingerbread boy well so that someone can find him.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Girl

Oh no! Your Gingerbread Girl is missing! Describe your gingerbread girl well so that someone can find her.

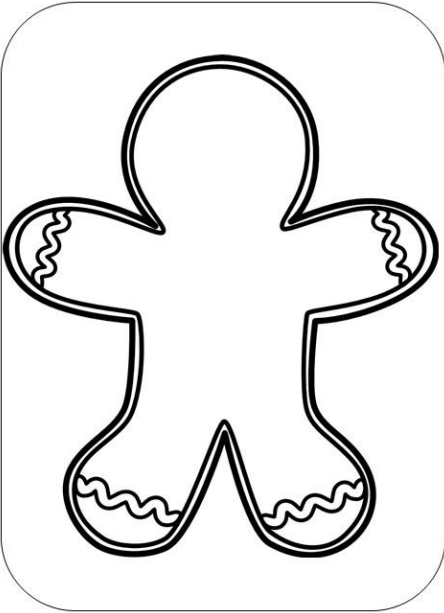
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Name: _____ Date: _____



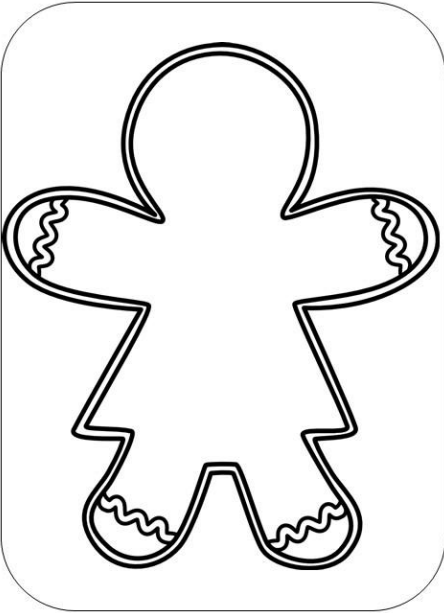
MISSING!
Gingerbread Boy

Name: _____ Date: _____



MISSING!
Gingerbread Boy

Name: _____ Date: _____



MISSING!
Gingerbread Girl

Name: _____ Date: _____



MISSING!
Gingerbread Girl

History of the Gingerbread Man

Why do we shape cookies like people? This tradition started in Europe. It began in the 10th century. Then, the gingerbread was made by mixing bread crumbs, molasses, ginger, and rosewater. This dough was easy to shape. People would mold the gingerbread into flowers, religious symbols, and people. Some unmarried women ate gingerbread men. They thought it would bring them their husband.

By the 15th century, gingerbread was getting fancy. It became more of a cookie. It was made with flour and eggs instead of bread crumbs. Queen Elizabeth I of England had gingerbread men baked to look like her dinner guests.

This tradition made its way to North America when the colonists settled. Ginger was a cheap spice. Today, gingerbread is still made with ginger. Sometimes other spices like cinnamon, cloves, and nutmeg are added.

Answer these questions about History of the Gingerbread Man.

When did people begin making gingerbread cookies?

What has changed the most about gingerbread cookies?

- a. the size b. the shape c. the recipe

What is a synonym for mold in the passage?


- a. mildew b. shape c. cookie




History of the Gingerbread Man

Why do we shape cookies like people? This tradition started in Europe in the 10th century. Then, the gingerbread was made by combining bread crumbs, molasses, ginger, and rosewater. This dough was easy to shape. People would mold the gingerbread into flowers, religious symbols, and more. Some unmarried women believed if they ate a gingerbread man, it would bring them a husband.

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c. cookie






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This tradition made its way to North America when the colonists settled. Ginger was a very affordable spice. Today, gingerbread is still made with ginger, and some modern recipes like cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg.

Answer these questions about History of the Gingerbread Man.

When did people begin making gingerbread cookies?

What has changed the most about gingerbread cookies?

What is a synonym for mold in the passage?

a. mildew

b. shape

c. cookie





History of the Gingerbread Man Answer Key

When did people begin making gingerbread cookies?

They began making gingerbread cookies in the 10th century.

PREVIEW

What has changed the most about gingerbread cookies?

a. the size

b. the shape

☒ c. the recipe

What is a synonym for mold in the passage?

a. mildew

☒ b. shape

c. cookie

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Answer these questions about History of the Gingerbread Man.

When did people begin making gingerbread cookies?

They began making gingerbread cookies in the 10th century.

What has changed the most about gingerbread cookies?

The recipe has changed most

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What is a synonym for mold in the passage?

a. mildew

☒ b. shape

c. cookie



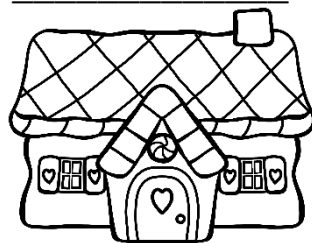


Name: _____

Date: _____

Gingerbread House

Design the inside of a gingerbread house with four rooms!



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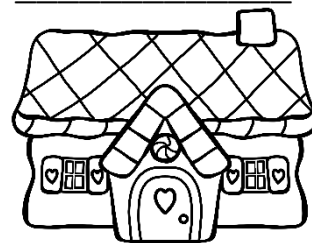
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Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread House



What are the measurements of your rooms?

Room 1: _____

Area: _____ x _____ = _____

Perimeter: _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____

Room 2: _____

Area: _____ x _____ = _____

Perimeter: _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____

Room 3: _____

Area: _____ x _____ = _____

Perimeter: _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____

Room 4: _____

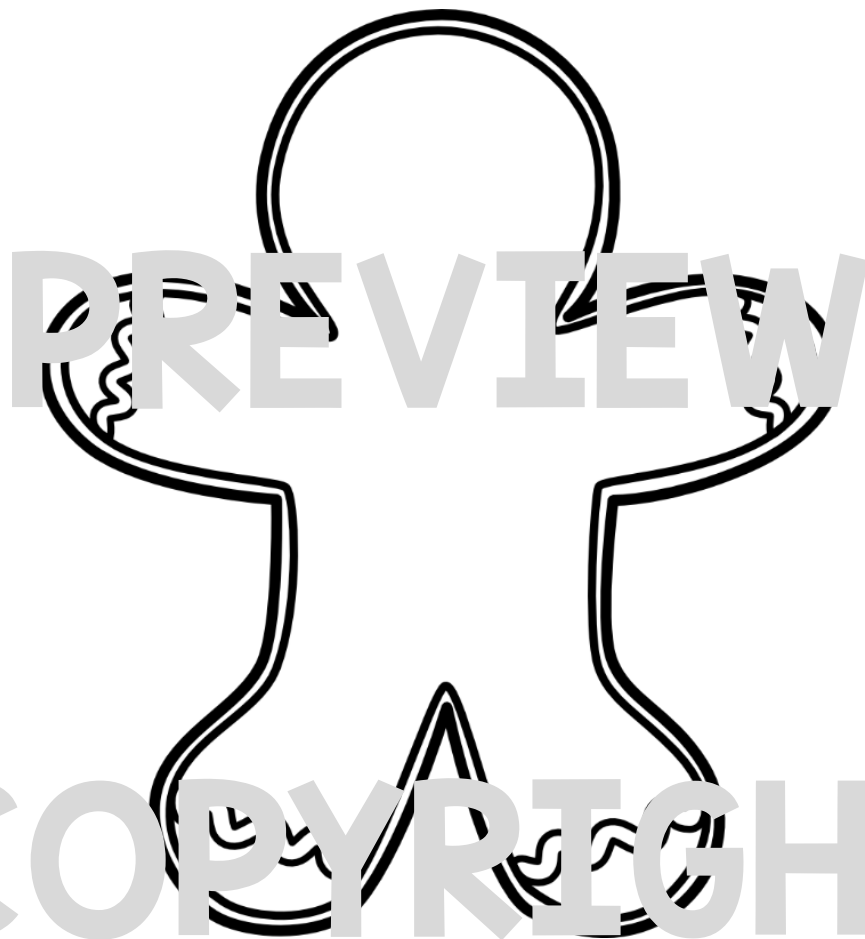
Area: _____ x _____ = _____

Perimeter: _____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____





Name: _____ Date: _____



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Gingerbread Glyph

1. Double your age. If that number is more than 17, draw three buttons. If that number is less than 17, draw two buttons.
2. Triple the number of brothers you have. If that number is less than four, draw curly hair. If that number is more than 4, draw straight hair.
3. Triple the number of sisters you have. If that number is less than 4, draw a bow or a bow tie on your gingerbread. If that number is more than four, draw a scarf on your gingerbread.
4. Match the gingerbread to the color of your eyes.
5. Did you wake up on time today? If you did, draw a smile on your gingerbread. If you didn't, draw a zig-zag mouth.





Name: _____ Date: _____

Gingerbread Man Recipe

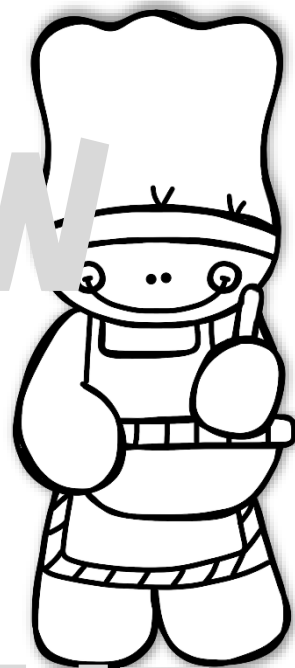
Ingredients:

- 3 cups of flour
- 2 teaspoons of ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon of baking soda
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon of ground nutmeg
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon of salt
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of softened butter
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of brown sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of molasses
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract

Prep: 5 hours

Cook: 10 minutes

Preheat: 350°F



Directions:

1. Mix the flour, ginger, cinnamon, baking soda, nutmeg, and salt in a large bowl. Set to the side. Beat the butter and brown sugar in a large bowl on medium speed until it is light and fluffy. Add molasses, egg, and vanilla. Mix well. Slowly pour in the flour mixture, beating on slow speed until it is mixed well. Press the dough into a flat disk on a smooth surface. Refrigerate the dough for four hours and thirty minutes, wrapped in plastic wrap.
2. Roll out the dough to a fourth-inch thickness on a lightly floured smooth surface. Cut the dough into gingerbread men using a cookie cutter.
3. Bake for 8-10 minutes or until the edges of the cookies just start to brown. Cool the cookies completely before decorating.





Name: **Answer Key**

Date: _____

Gingerbread Man Recipe

Answer the questions using the recipe.

1. Do I need more cinnamon or nutmeg for my recipe?

cinnamon

2. Do I need more brown sugar or molasses for my recipe?

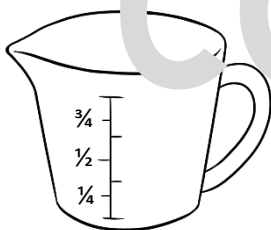
brown sugar

3. Do I need more butter or vanilla for my recipe?

butter

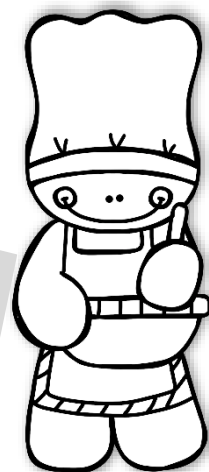
4. How much more butter do I need than molasses?

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup more is needed



5. I got home from school at 4:00 PM. I want to make gingerbread men in time for dessert after dinner. We usually eat dinner at 7:00. Will the gingerbread men be ready for dessert at 7:30 PM? Why or why not?

No, you need to chill the dough for one and a half hours. It will be 6:30 before you can even begin to bake them, and then they have to cool!





Name: **Answer Key**

Date: _____

Gingerbread Man Recipe

Answer the questions using the recipe.

1. How much more cinnamon than nutmeg do I need?

$\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon more of cinnamon

2. Do I need more butter or vanilla for my recipe?

You need more butter. Cups are bigger than teaspoons.

3. How much more butter do I need than molasses?

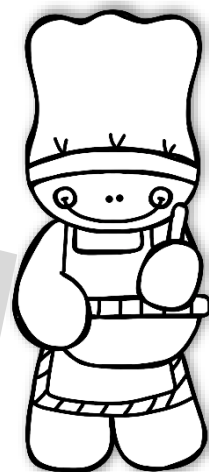
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup more butter than molasses

4. I have a bowl that holds 4 cups. Will this be enough to hold everything when I beat the ingredients together at the end of step 1?

No. 3 cups of flour, plus $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of butter, plus $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of brown sugar, plus $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of molasses is already 5 cups, plus there are more ingredients.

5. I got home from school at 4:00 PM. I want to make gingerbread men in time for dessert after dinner. We usually eat dinner at 7:00. Will the gingerbread men be ready for dessert at 7:30 PM? Why or why not?

No, you need to chill the dough for 1 and a half hours. It will be 6:30 before you can even begin to bake them, and then they have to cool!





Name: _____ Date: _____

Dissolving Gingerbread

Materials:

Three Gingerbread Men Cookies

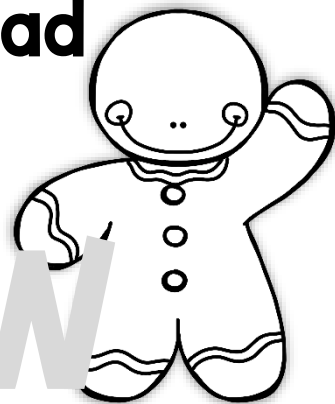
Cup of Ice Water

Cup of Hot Water

Cup of Milk

Timer/Clock

optional: pack of cocoa to mix in hot water



1. Make a hypothesis (educated guess) about which gingerbread man will dissolve first in which liquid.
2. Place the gingerbread men in the liquids at the same time (suggestions: three people could put one in each cup).
3. Start the timer or record the time on the clock.
4. Watch the gingerbread men carefully. Record your observations.
5. After the first one dissolved, record how many minutes passed. Draw what you see. Determine if your hypothesis was correct.

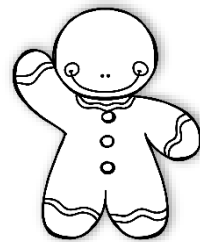




Name: _____ Date: _____

Dissolving Gingerbread

1. Which liquid do you think will dissolve a gingerbread man the fastest?

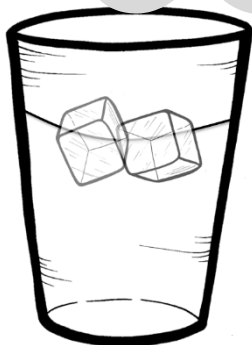


Why do you think that?

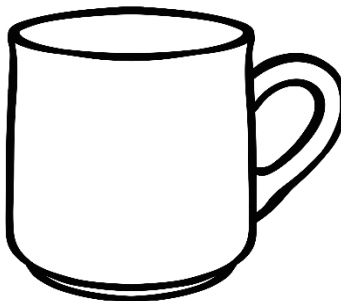
2. What do you observe?

3. Minutes Passed to Dissolve First One: _____

4. Draw the gingerbread man in:



ice water



hot cocoa



milk

5. Was your hypothesis correct?

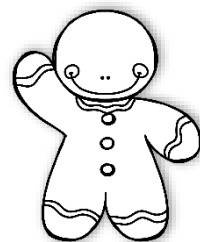




Name: _____ Date: _____

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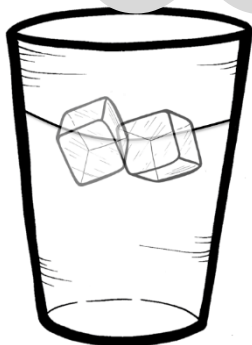


Why do you think that?

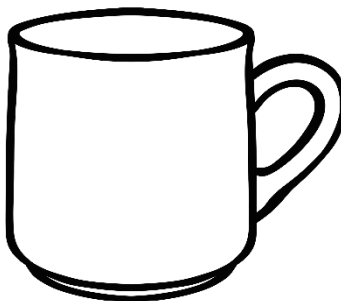
2. What do you observe?

3. Minutes Passed to Dissolve First One:

4. Draw the gingerbread man:



ice water



hot water



milk

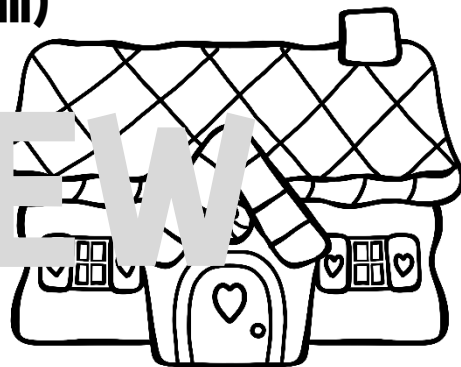
5. Was your hypothesis correct?



Gingerbread House Directions

Materials:

empty clean milk cartons (small)
graham crackers
frosting
candy of your choice
paper plates
spoons



Instructions:

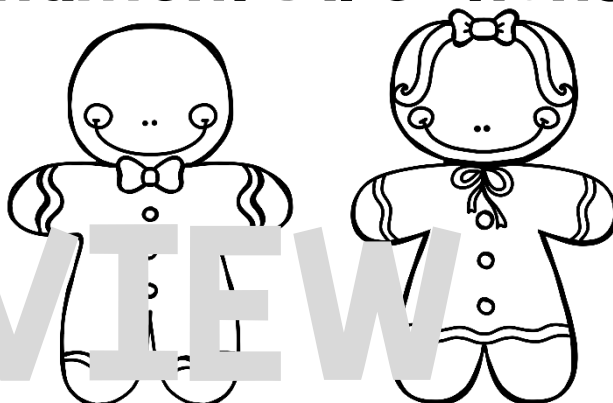
1. Put the milk carton and graham crackers on a paper plate ahead of time. Use muffin tins to sort the candies for the students to get easily.
2. Students carefully attach graham crackers with frosting to each side of the milk carton, including the top, using a spoon to spread the frosting. (You might also want parent volunteers to attach ahead of time.)
3. Use frosting as "glue" to stick the candy on the house.

**Suggestions:*

M&Ms, Twizzlers, mints, sprinkles, gum drops, marshmallows... Peeps also makes gingerbread men now!

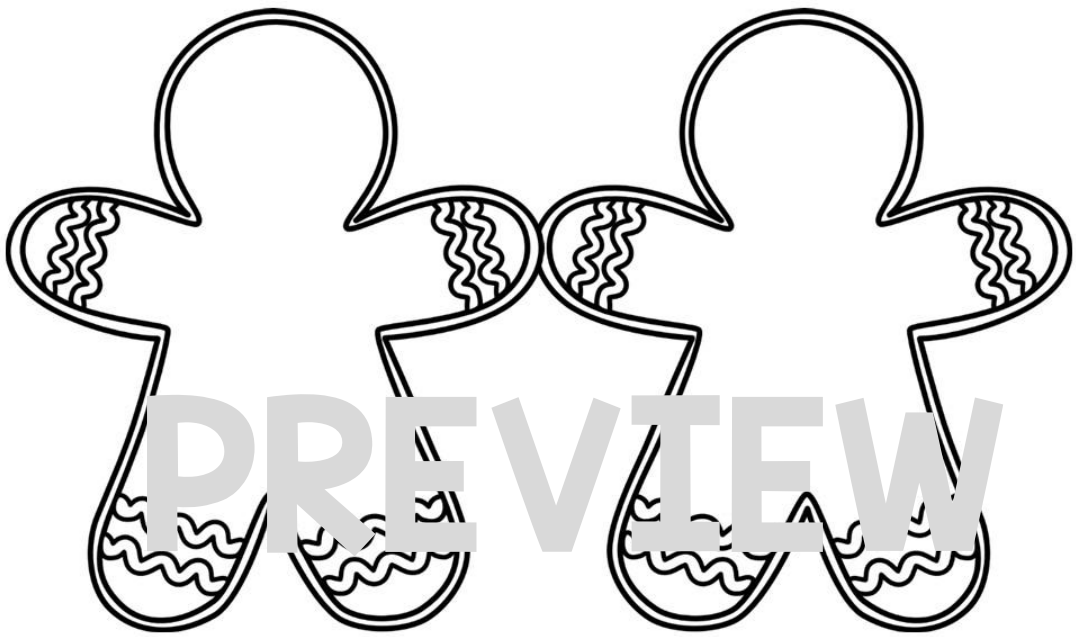
Gingerbread Ornament Directions

Materials:
templates
hole punch
cotton balls
ribbon

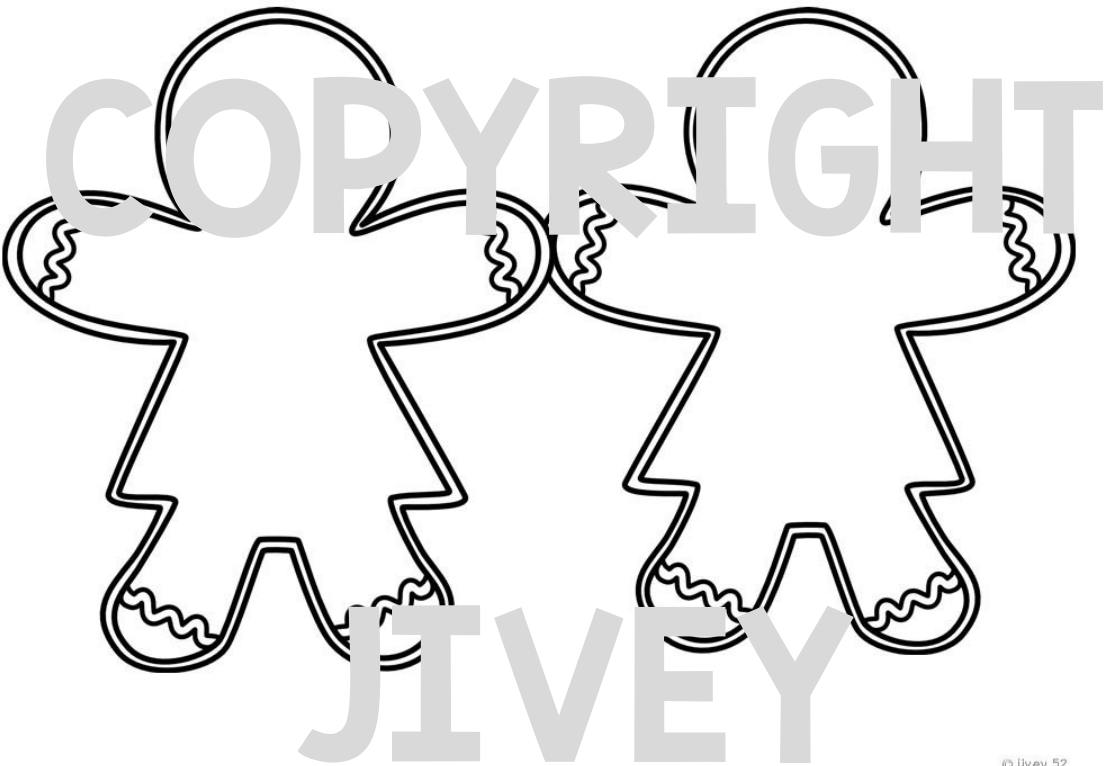


Instructions:

1. Pass out the templates. Students should decorate both sides and **CAREFULLY** cut along the black lines.
2. Students should draw a thin line of glue around the edges of one side of the template **EXCEPT** on the head. Fold over the template where the hands meet to glue the edges of the arms, legs, and body together.
3. Once the glue is dry, carefully stuff the inside with cotton balls. Pull and stretch the cotton balls before putting them inside. Do not overstuff!
4. Put cotton in the head, then glue the edges of the head together. (May need to tape to hold better.)
5. Use a hole punch to make a hole through the top of the head and thread a ribbon through it.

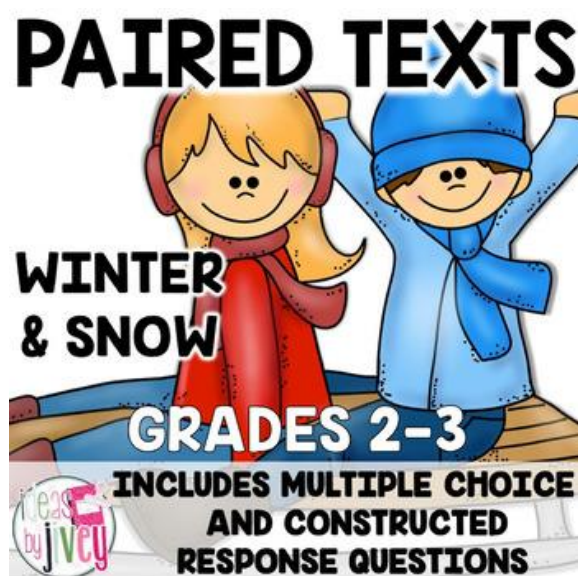
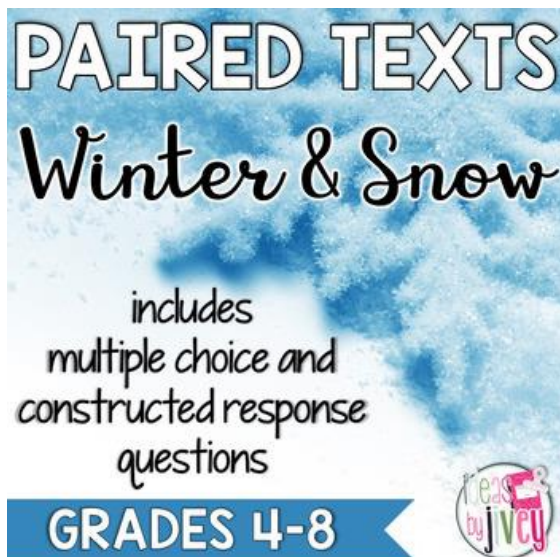
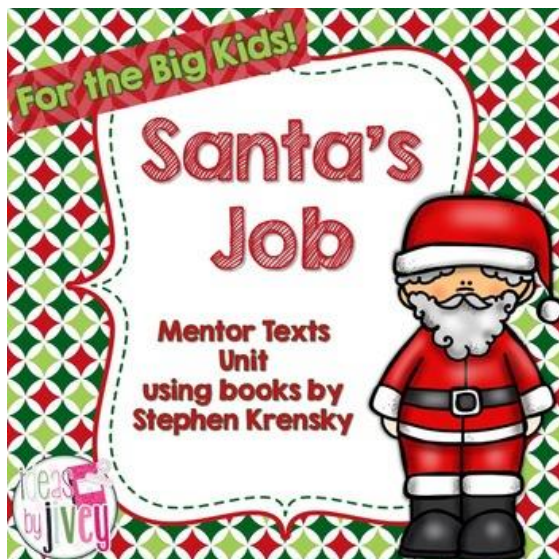


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