

## THE GINGERBREAD BOY

Once upon a time in a tiny country in Europe . . .

. . . in a tiny village . . .

. . . in a tiny house . . .

. . . there lived a little old woman and a little old man.

They were very lonely, for they had no children of their own to fill their home with laughter and happy songs.

1. The little old woman and the little old man lived:

- A) in a tiny European village
- B) in a crowded French city
- C) outside a small town in Norway

(A) They lived in a tiny house in a tiny village in a tiny country in Europe.

One day, while baking, the little old woman said to herself out loud, "I'll make a Gingerbread Boy."

So she mixed the gingerbread dough and rolled it out with great care.

Then with a round cookie cutter she formed a head . . .

. . . and with her clever fingers she shaped a little round body, with a pair of arms and two sturdy legs from the gingerbread dough.

"And now for the clothes," she laughed, as she poured some hot chocolate syrup over the gingerbread dough . . .

. . . and smoothed it into a nice little jacket and a pair of trousers.

2. The jacket and trousers of the Gingerbread Boy were made of:

- A) fudge
- B) gum drops
- C) chocolate syrup

(C) The little old woman "poured some hot chocolate syrup over the gingerbread dough and smoothed it into a nice little jacket and a pair of trousers."

With six fat raisins she made pretty buttons for his coat . . .

. . . and with pink sugar frosting she fashioned a little mouth.

For his eyes she used two tiny lumps of sugar . . .

. . . and for his nose a gum drop.

3. The Gingerbread Boy's eyes were made of \_\_\_\_\_ and the buttons on his coat were made of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) chocolate syrup . . . pink sugar frosting
- B) lumps of sugar . . . raisins
- C) gum drops . . . lumps of sugar

(B) "For his eyes she used two tiny lumps of sugar" and with "six fat raisins she made pretty buttons for his coat."

Then she placed him on his back on the pan, put him in the oven . . .

. . . and closed the door.

She swept and cleaned the house while waiting for the little Gingerbread Boy to bake glossy brown.

All of a sudden, the little old woman heard a little voice calling from the oven.

"Help! Help! Let me out!"

She dropped her broom . . .

. . . and happily ran to open the oven door.

4. The woman went to take the Gingerbread Boy out of the oven when:

- A) the timer which she had set for 10 minutes went off
- B) she heard a voice calling her from the oven
- C) she noticed by the clock that it was time

(B) All of a sudden she heard a voice from the oven.

Out jumped the Gingerbread Boy to the floor. But, instead of playing about the kitchen . . .

. . . the naughty little Gingerbread Boy ran out the open door shouting:

"A Gingerbread Boy, I am, I am; I can run from you, I can, I can."

"Stop! Stop!" shouted the little old man in the garden . . .

. . . but the Gingerbread Boy paid no attention and slipped through the gate.

He ran down the road as fast as his gingerbread legs would

go.

5. What happened next?

- A) The little old woman and the little old man sat down and ate the freshly-baked Gingerbread Boy.
- B) The Gingerbread Boy ran out of the kitchen and down the road.
- C) The old woman placed the Gingerbread Boy on the window sill to cool.

(B) The Gingerbread Boy shouted at the woman, ignored the man, and ran down the road.

By and by, he came to a field where some men were mowing the tall grass with long scythes.

end of Part 1

"Stop! Stop!" shouted the mowers.

But he only answered: "A Gingerbread Boy, I am, I am; I ran away from a little old woman, and I ran away from a little old man, and now from you I can run, I can!"

After a while he met a Red Cow with soft brown eyes.

"Stop! Stop!" she called, with a motherly moo. But he only answered:

"A Gingerbread Boy, I am, I am! I ran away from a little old woman, a little old man, a field full of mowers, and now from you I can run, I can!"

6. As he ran, the Gingerbread Boy passed:

- A) a field full of mowers
- B) a Red Cow with soft brown eyes
- C) both A and B

(C) He passed both of these as he ran.

By and by he almost bumped into a big, fat pig, with little curly tail.

"Stop! Stop!" called the pig. But the little Gingerbread Boy only answered:

"A Gingerbread Boy, I am, I am: I ran away from a little old woman, a little old man, a field full of mowers, an old red cow, and now from you I can run, I can!"

So on and on he ran . . .

. . . until at last he came to where the road ran right into a river.

7. The Gingerbread Boy stopped to talk to the big, fat pig.

- A) true
- B) false

(B) The Gingerbread Boy kept running as he called to the pig.

Standing beside the river was a sly, old fox. He smiled at the Gingerbread Boy . . .

. . . and with a little bow, he said:

"Would you like to cross the river, my friend?"

Now the little Gingerbread Boy smiled at the fox because he was new to the ways of the world and didn't know to be afraid.

8. When he got to the river, the Gingerbread Boy met a:

- A) fox
- B) pig
- C) cow
- D) girl

(A) At the river, he met a fox.

"Yes, I would," he said.

"Then, hop on my back and I will take you across," the fox told him.

So the Gingerbread Boy hopped on the fox's back . . .

. . . and the fox started swimming across the river. When they reached the middle, the fox said:

"Hop up on my shoulders, you will get wet there on my back."

So the Gingerbread Boy hopped up to the fox's shoulders, and the sly old fox licked his lips hungrily.

After they had gone a little farther, the fox said:

"Hop up on my nose and I'm sure you won't get wet!"

And the little Gingerbread Boy was about to hop up on the fox's nose . . .

. . . when a duck swam along beside the fox, and called out:

"Quack, quack! Don't hop up to the fox's nose, Gingerbread

Boy, or he will eat you up!"

9. A \_\_\_\_\_ warned the Gingerbread Boy about the fox.

- A) fish
- B) duck
- C) cow
- D) pig

(B) A duck warned the Gingerbread Boy not to get too close to the fox's mouth.

The Gingerbread Boy became frightened and cried out, "But I can't swim. If I get in the water I'll melt. What shall I do?"

"Quack, quack. Hop over to my back and hang onto my wings, and I will take you home to the old woman who loves you very much," the duck told him.

So the Gingerbread Boy hopped over to the duck's back . . .

. . . held on to his wings, and they flew away.

10. From the fox's back, the Gingerbread Boy hopped to the:

- A) duck's back
- B) cow's shoulders
- C) pig's head
- D) old man's lap

(A) The Gingerbread Boy hopped to the duck's back.

They flew past the big, fat pig . . .

. . . past the old red cow . . .

. . . past the mowers in the field . . .

. . . and past the old man in the garden . . .

. . . and right to the kitchen door where the old woman was waiting.

11. How did the Gingerbread Boy get back to the kitchen?

- A) He flew on the duck's back.
- B) He ran back as fast as his legs could carry him.
- C) He got a ride in a farmer's wagon.

(A) The Gingerbread Boy was on the duck's back, and the duck flew to the kitchen door where the little old woman was waiting.

The Gingerbread Boy jumped right into her outstretched arms and she pressed him to her heart.

And as the duck flew away the old woman and the Gingerbread Boy waved goodbye to him . . .

. . . and so, the little Gingerbread Boy returned home; and he never ran away again.

12. How did the story of the Gingerbread Boy end?

- A) The Gingerbread Boy was happy to be back home and he didn't run away again.
- B) The Gingerbread Boy went off with the duck to join a large number of ducks.
- C) The old woman decided never to bake again.

(A) The "little Gingerbread Boy returned home; and he never ran away again."

The End.