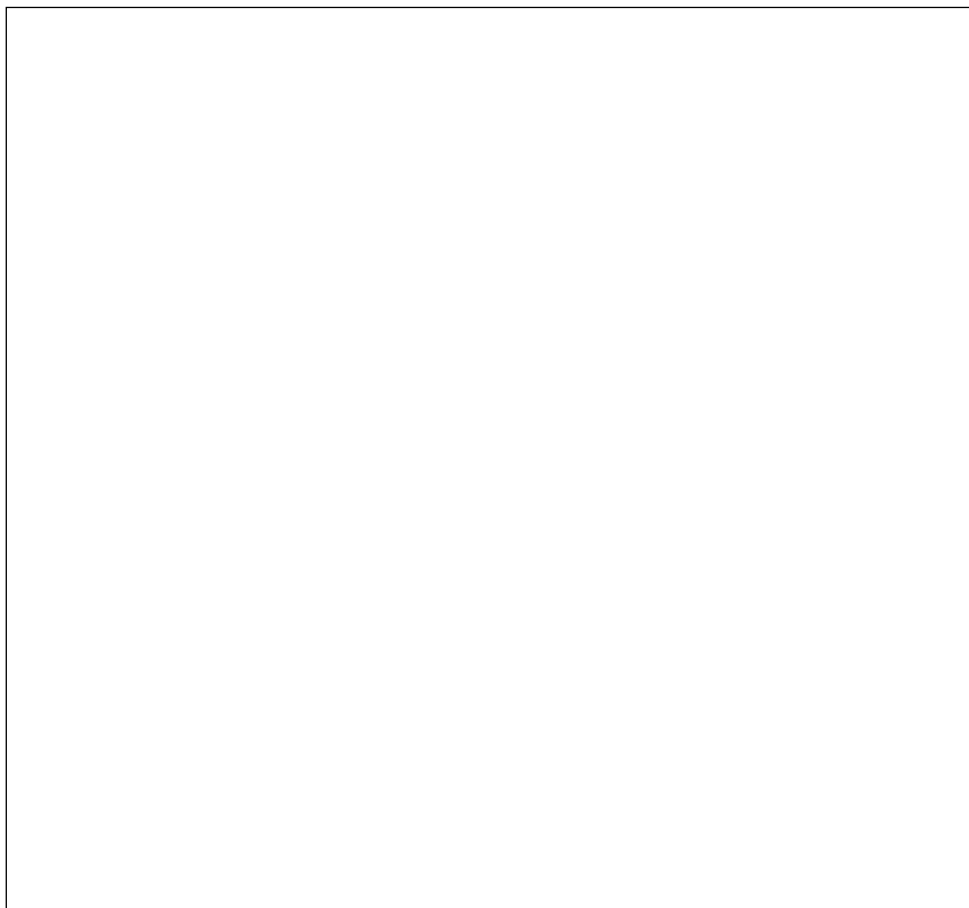


# The Gingerbread Man

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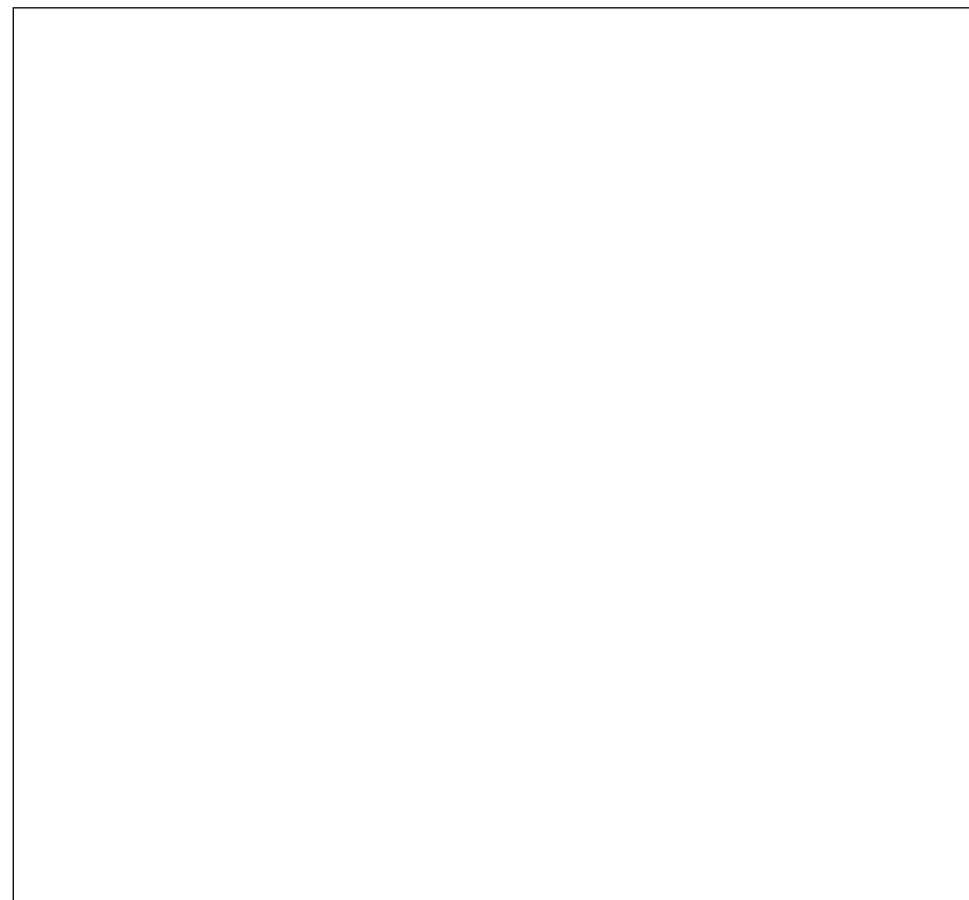
Illustrated by \_\_\_\_\_

Once upon a time there was a little old woman and a little old man. They had no children and were lonely, so the little old woman decided to make a boy out of gingerbread.



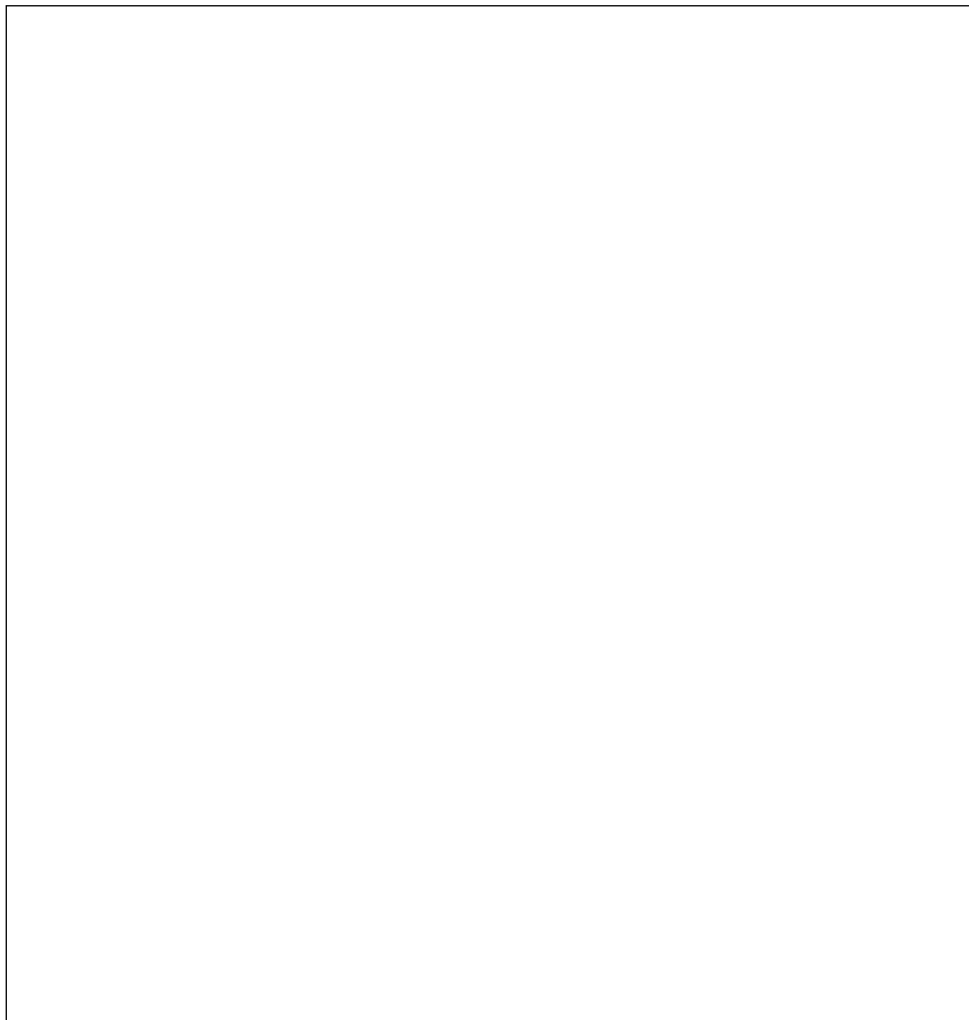
When he was cooked, the little old woman opened the oven door. The gingerbread man jumped out of the oven and ran away saying, "Run, run, as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the gingerbread man."

When they reached the other side of the river, the fox tossed the gingerbread man into the air, opened his mouth very wide and SNAP went his teeth.



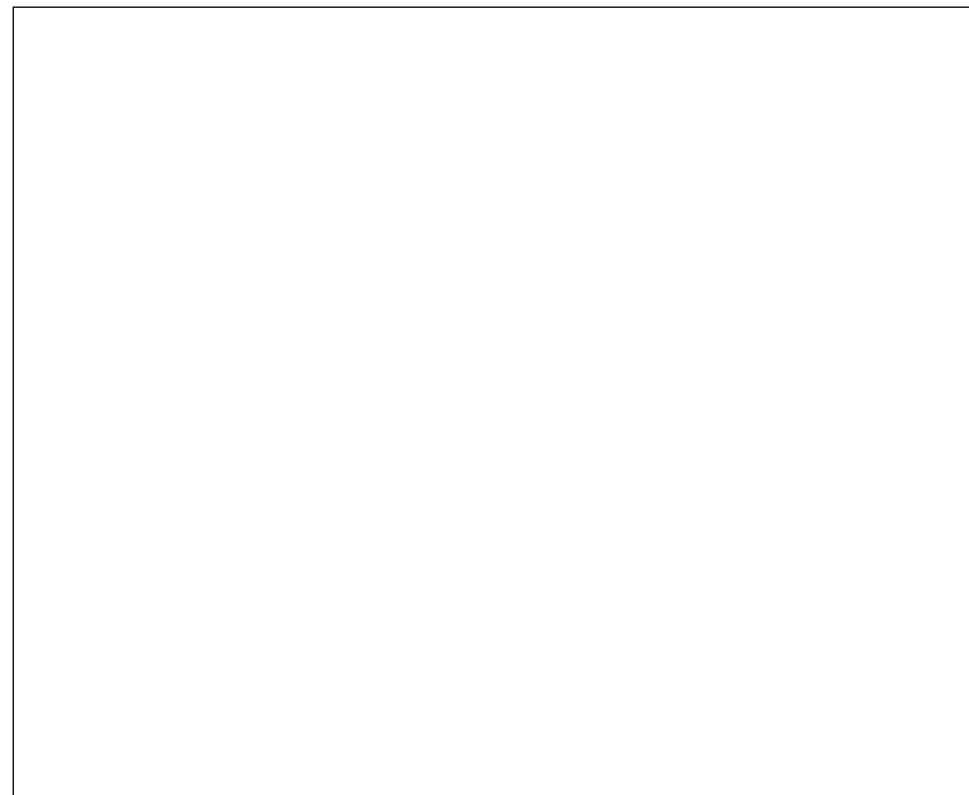
The gingerbread man shouted out, "Oh dear, I'm one quarter gone!" Then he said, "Oh dear, I'm one half gone!" Then he said, "Oh dear, I'm three-quarters gone. Finally he said, "I'm all gone!" And that was the end of the gingerbread man.

Suddenly the gingerbread man came to a big river and he had to stop.



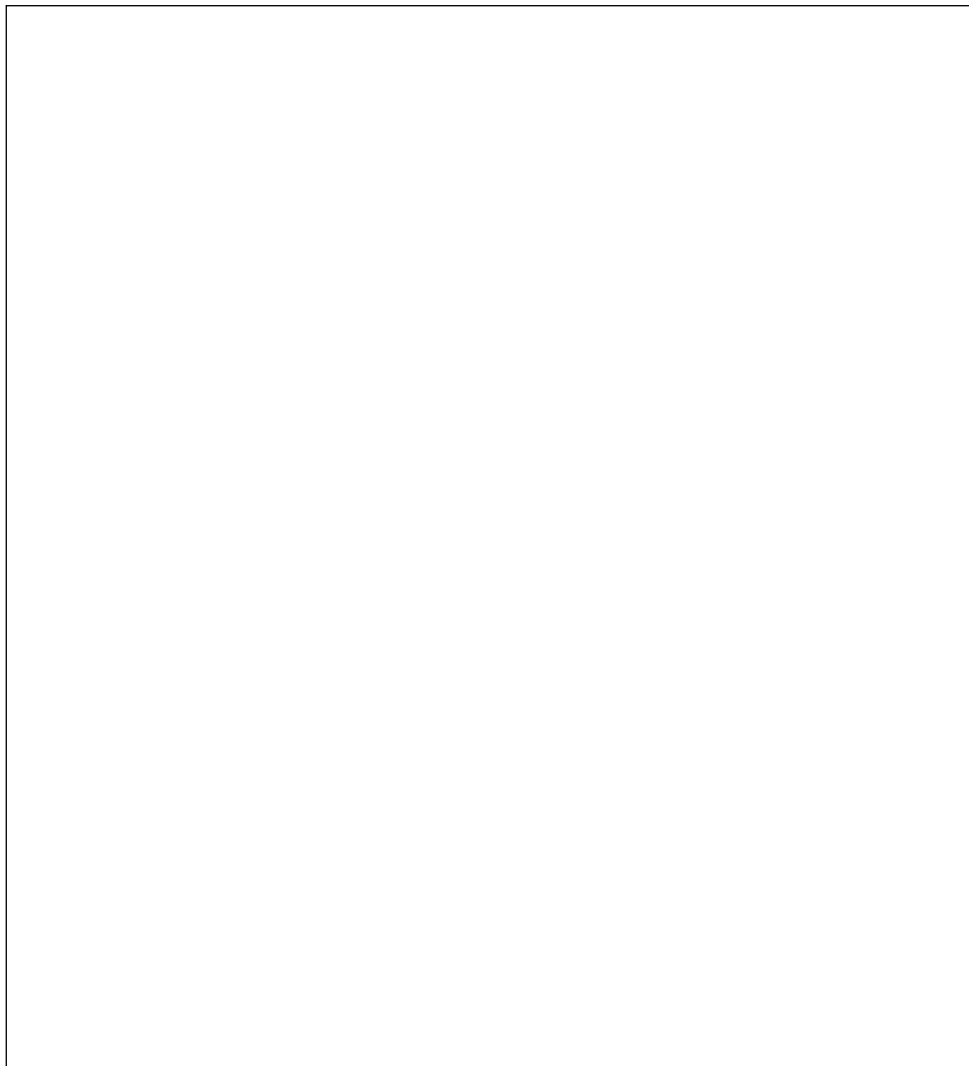
The fox told the gingerbread man to climb on to his tail so that he could take him across the river. Then he told him to climb on to his back, then his head and then his nose.

He ran out of the front door and past the little old man. "Stop, stop little gingerbread man," shouted the little old man. The gingerbread man said, "Run, run, as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the gingerbread man." And they could not catch him.



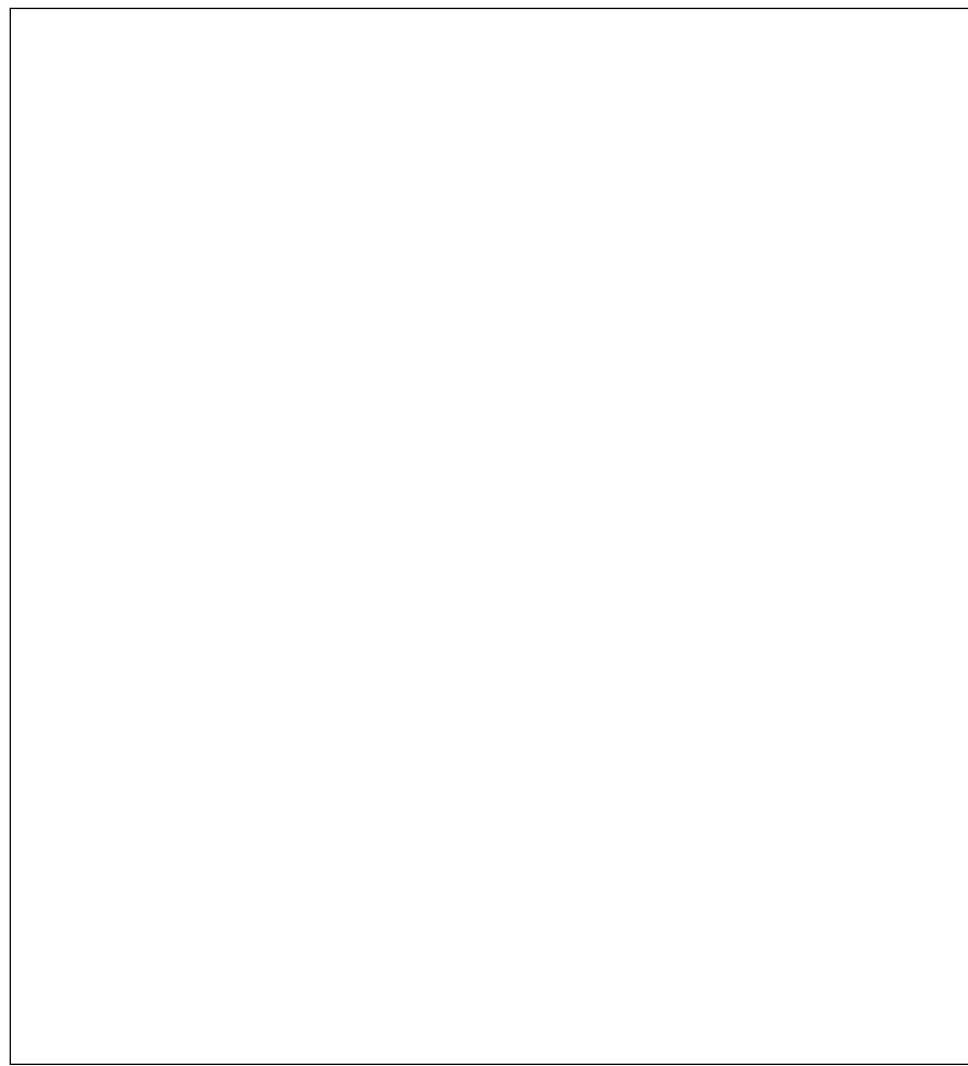
The gingerbread man met a cow. "Stop, stop, you look good to eat," said the cow. But the gingerbread man kept running and said, "Run, run, as fast as you can, you can't catch me I'm the gingerbread man." And the cow could not catch him.

The gingerbread man met a horse.



“Stop, stop, you look good to eat,” said the horse. But the gingerbread man kept running and said, “Run, run, as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread man.” And the horse could not catch him.

The gingerbread man met a fox.



“Stop, stop, I want to talk to you,” said the fox. But the gingerbread man kept running and said, “Run, run, as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread man.”