

Story: The Gingerbread Man

(For the audio track, visit anglaishautegironde.com
- ongles "Other resources")

A long, long time ago an old woman and an old man lived a quiet life in a small cottage by the river. One day the woman decided to make a gingerbread man for them to eat.

She mixed flour, butter and eggs in a bowl and then she rolled out the (1) **dough** carefully. She then cut out a lovely gingerbread man and gave him (2) **blueberries** for his eyes and buttons and (3) **icing** for his mouth and clothes.

The woman put him in the (4) **oven** (5) **to bake**.

(6) **Soon enough**, he was ready and the woman opened the oven door, but to her surprise the Gingerbread man jumped out of it. "Don't eat me!" he shouted in terror and ran out of the window.

The woman and the man started chasing after him. "Stop! Stop!" they shouted, but he was faster than they were.

"Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread man," he laughed and (7) **kept running**.

(8) **As** he was running, he (9) **came across** a pig. The pig tried to take a (10) **bite** out of him but once again the Gingerbread man was faster.

"Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread man," he said and (11) **carried on** running.

The pig joined the chase and now the old woman, the old man and the pig were running after him. But the Gingerbread man was faster.

(12) **Further along** the (13) **path** he came to a cow. "Stop!" called the cow, "I want to eat you." But the Gingerbread man started running again and the cow couldn't catch him.

"Run, run as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread man!" he said.

It was not long before the Gingerbread man came across a horse. "Stop, little man! I want to eat you!", the horse said, but the Gingerbread man (14) **outran** him too.

"Run, run as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread man!"

The horse joined the old woman, the old man and the pig, but the Gingerbread man only laughed at them. He (15) **kept laughing** until he (16) **reached** the river bank. "Oh, no! Now they will get me and eat me! (17) **If only** I could cross the river," he thought.

Suddenly a fox (18) **snuck up** to him. "Please, don't eat me," cried the Gingerbread man. "I won't eat you," the fox promised. "I just want to help you! Jump on my back and I will swim across the river and you will be safe."

The Gingerbread man had no other choice. He jumped on the fox's back and they crossed the river easily and safely.

As soon as they (19) **stepped** onto dry ground, the Gingerbread man thanked the fox. But a second later the fox opened his mouth and (20) **gobbled up** the Gingerbread man.

Vocabulary

- | | | |
|--|--|------------------|
| 1 pâte | 2 myrtilles | 3 glaçage |
| 4 four | 5 cuire (au four) | 6 bientôt |
| 7 il a continué à courir | 8 alors que | |
| 9 il est tombé sur | 10 un bout/une bouchée de | |
| 11 il a continué à courir | 12 plus loin | |
| 13 sentier / chemin | 14 (il l'a) distancé | |
| 15 il a continué à rire | 16 il est arrivé à / il a atteint | |
| 17 si seulement | | |
| 18 un renard s'est approché (sans faire de bruit) | | |
| 19 (ils ont) posé le pied sur la terre ferme | | |
| 20 (il a) englouti | | |

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