## The Gingerbread Man



One day a little old woman said to herself, "Today I will make a gingerbread man."









She weighed.



She poured.



She mixed.



She rolled.



Then she put the gingerbread man into the oven. "The oven is good and hot, so in you go!"





After a while, a most delicious smell filled the kitchen and the little old woman said,

"Well sir, let's see if you are ready!"

The gingerbread man was perfect! The little old woman decorated him with cherries for buttons and sweets for eyes. She made him a big smile with icing sugar.





"Well, you are the best gingerbread man I have ever made, and you will be the tastiest!" said the little old woman. She went to get two plates.



The gingerbread man sat up!
He jumped down from the table!
He ran out of the kitchen.







"Come back! Come back!
I want to eat you!" called the little old woman and she ran after him.



The gingerbread man ran down the road. As he ran he shouted,

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

The little old woman ran and ran, but she could not catch the gingerbread man.

A little old man was in the garden. He saw the gingerbread man.

"Come back! Come back! I want to eat you!" yelled the little old man and he ran after him.



The gingerbread man ran down the road. As he ran, he shouted,



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

I'm running from a little old woman and I can run from you, I can, I can!"

The little old man ran and ran, but he could not catch the gingerbread man.

A pink pig was in a pigsty. He saw the gingerbread man.

"Come back, come back!
I want to eat you!"
snorted the pink pig and he ran after him.





The gingerbread man ran down the road. As he ran, he shouted,

"Run, run as fast as you can, You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man! I'm running from a little old woman and a little old man and I can run from you, I can, I can!"

The pink pig ran and ran, but he could not catch the gingerbread man.

A brown cow was in a field. She saw the gingerbread man.

"Come back, come back!
I want to eat you!"
mooed the brown cow and she ran after him.





The gingerbread man ran down the road. As he ran, he shouted,

"Run, run as fast as you can,
You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!
I'm running from a little old woman,
a little old man
and a pink pig
and I can run from you, I can, I can!"

The brown cow ran and ran, but she could not catch the gingerbread man.

A grey horse was in a stable. He saw the gingerbread man.

"Come back, come back! I want to eat you!" neighed the grey horse and he ran after him.





The gingerbread man ran down the road. As he ran, he shouted,

"Run, run as fast as you can,
You can't catch me I'm the gingerbread man!
I'm running from a little old woman,
a little old man,
a pink pig
and a brown cow
and I can run from you, I can, I can!"

The grey horse ran and ran, but he could not catch the gingerbread man.

The gingerbread man ran and ran until he came to a deep river.

"Oh!" he thought, "What will I do now?" He saw a little fox sitting on the riverbank. "Hello," said the fox.





The gingerbread man shouted,
"Run, run as fast as you can,
You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!
I'm running from a little old woman,
a little old man,
a pink pig,
a brown cow
and a grey horse
and I can run from you, I can, I can!"



The little fox smiled and said,

"I can help you to cross the river. Climb onto my tail and I will swim across!"

The gingerbread man looked behind him. Everyone was still running after him! He jumped onto the fox's tail and the fox began to swim.





"The river is deep. You will get wet. Climb up onto my back!" said the fox.

The gingerbread man jumped onto the fox's back and the fox continued swimming across the river.

"The river is deeper. You will get wet. Climb up onto my head!" said the fox.

The gingerbread man jumped onto the fox's head and the fox continued swimming across the river.





"The river is very deep.
You will get wet.
Climb up onto my nose!" said the fox.

The gingerbread man jumped onto the fox's nose....



The fox smiled and licked his lips. He threw back his head.

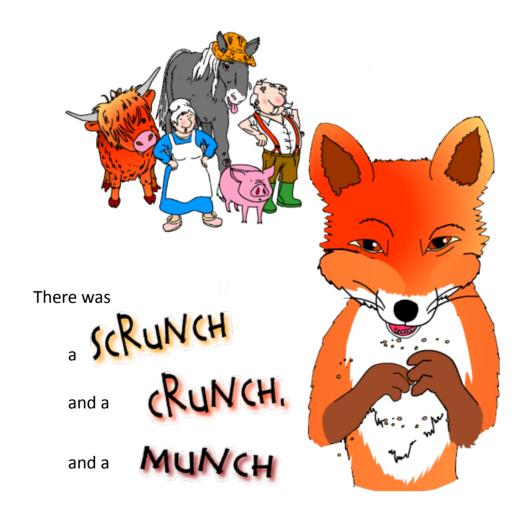
The gingerbread man went up, up, up in the air ...



... then down, down, down, right into the open mouth of the hungry fox!







and that was the end of the gingerbread man!