



Level 2

# The Gingerbread Man



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# The Gingerbread Man

*Retold by Sue Arengo*  
*Illustrated by Garry Parsons*



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An old woman lives here. An old woman and an old man. They don't have any children.







The old woman's in the kitchen.  
She's making something. It's a  
gingerbread man.

He has a head. He has arms and legs.  
He has two eyes, a nose, and a mouth.



The old woman is happy.  
'You're a little boy,' she says.  
'My little boy!'  
'In you go!' says the old woman.







But soon the old woman hears a little voice. It's coming from the oven. 'Open the door!' says the voice. 'I want to come out!' The old woman opens the oven door. And the gingerbread man jumps out. 'Oh!' says the old woman.





‘Stop!’ says the old woman. ‘Come here!’  
But the gingerbread man doesn’t stop.  
He runs across the kitchen and out of  
the door.



'Stop!' shout the old man  
and the old woman.

'Come here!'

But the gingerbread man  
doesn't stop. He runs  
faster and he shouts:  
'Run, run! You can run.  
Yes, you can! But you  
can't catch me. I'm the  
gingerbread man!'

You can't catch me.





The little gingerbread man runs and runs. Soon he sees a cow.

‘Stop!’ says the cow. ‘Come here! I want to eat you.’

But the gingerbread man doesn’t stop. He runs faster. And now the cow runs after him.





‘I can run away from an old woman,’ says the gingerbread man. ‘I can run away from an old man. So I can run away from a cow!’

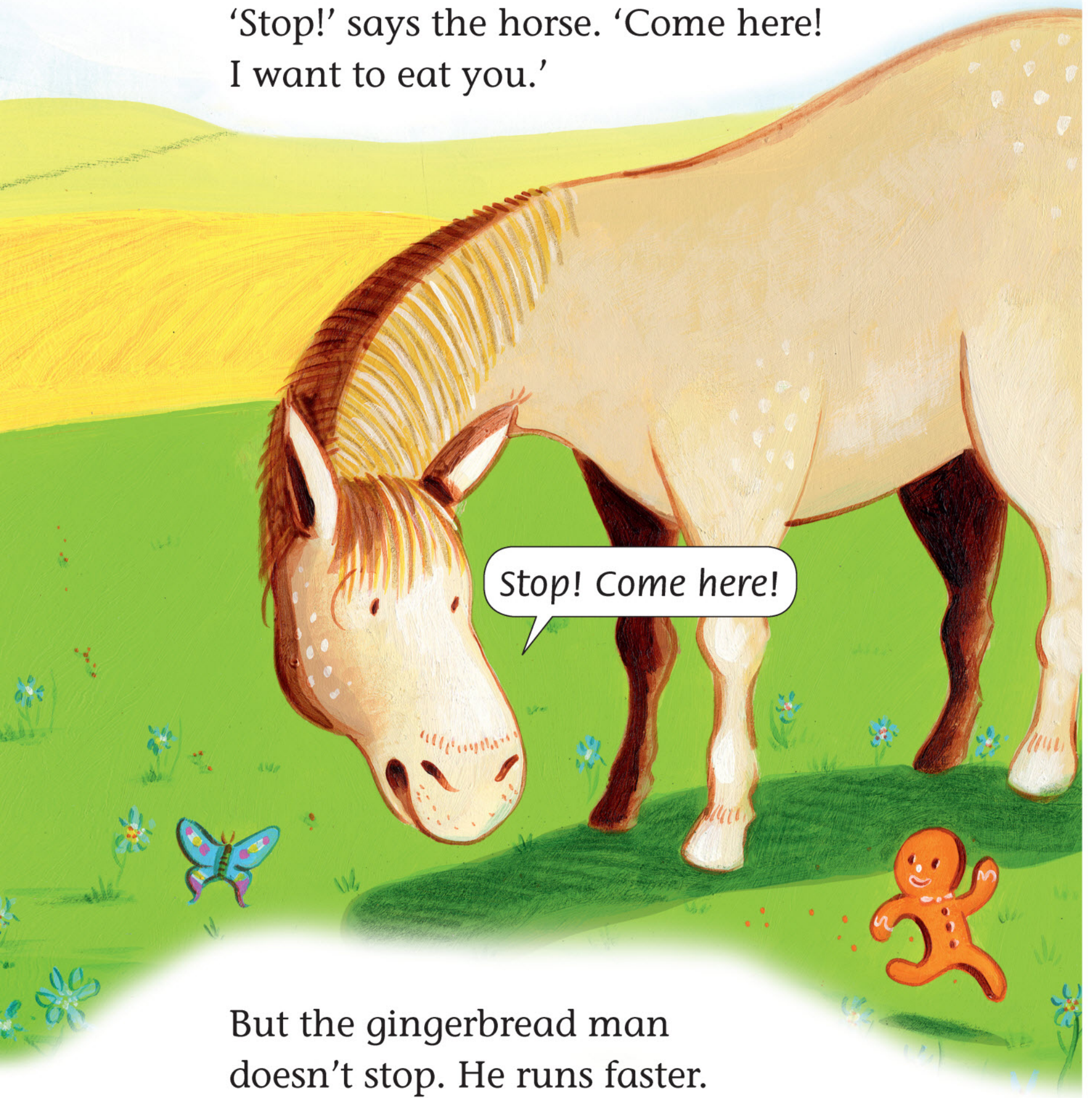


They all run after him. And the gingerbread man shouts: ‘Run, Run! You can run. Yes, you can! But you can’t catch me. I’m the gingerbread man!’



The little gingerbread man runs and runs.  
Soon he sees a horse.

‘Stop!’ says the horse. ‘Come here!  
I want to eat you.’



But the gingerbread man  
doesn't stop. He runs faster.  
And now the horse runs after him.



'I can run away from an old woman,'  
says the gingerbread man. 'I can run  
away from an old man and a cow.  
So I can run away from a horse. Yes,  
I can! You can't catch me. I'm the  
gingerbread man!'



You can't catch me.  
I'm the gingerbread man!





The gingerbread man runs and runs.

‘They can’t catch me!’ he says.

‘Nobody can catch me.’

Just then he sees a fox.

‘Stop!’ says the fox. ‘Come here!’

But the gingerbread man doesn’t stop.

He runs faster. And now the fox runs after him.





‘I can run away from an old woman,’ says the gingerbread man. ‘I can run away from an old man. I can run away from a cow and a horse. So I can run away from a fox!’

They all run after him and he shouts: ‘Run, run! You can run. Yes, you can! But you can’t catch me. I’m the gingerbread man!’

A gingerbread man is running through a forest. He is orange with white icing decorations on his chest and limbs. He is running towards the right. In the background, there are several tall, thin trees with brown bark. The ground is brown and there are some small mushrooms with white caps and red spots. A speech bubble is coming from the gingerbread man, saying "You can run. Yes, you can!".

You can run. Yes, you can!





‘Stop!’ says the fox. ‘I don’t want to eat you. I want to talk to you. I want to be friends with you!’

But the gingerbread man doesn’t stop. He runs faster. And now the fox runs faster too.





The gingerbread man runs and runs.  
Soon he sees a river.

‘Oh no!’ he cries. ‘A river! I can’t swim!’

‘Listen,’ says the fox. ‘I can help you.  
I can swim across and you can sit on  
my tail.’







So the gingerbread man sits on the fox's tail. And the fox begins to swim.

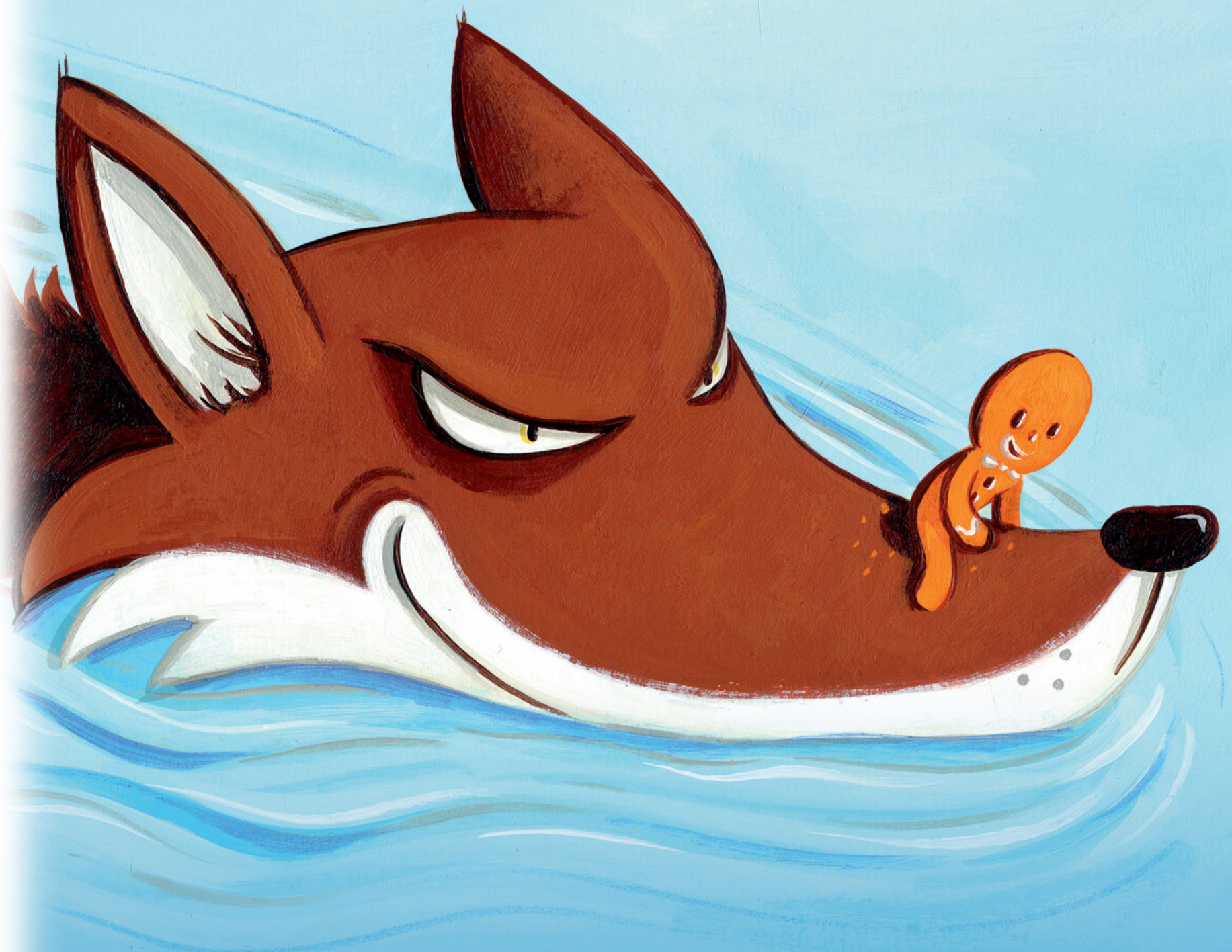
But soon the fox says, 'Listen! You are too big for my tail. Sit on my back.'

So the gingerbread man sits on the fox's back.





But soon the fox says, 'Listen! You're too big for my back. Sit on my nose.'  
So the gingerbread man sits on the fox's nose.





The fox swims across the river and  
jumps out.

The fox throws the gingerbread man up.  
Up! Up! Up!



Then he opens his mouth and ...  
catches him!





‘Help!’ he says. ‘My legs! My legs!’

‘Help!’ he says. ‘My arms! My arms!’

Then the fox eats the gingerbread man’s head. Now the gingerbread man doesn’t say anything.

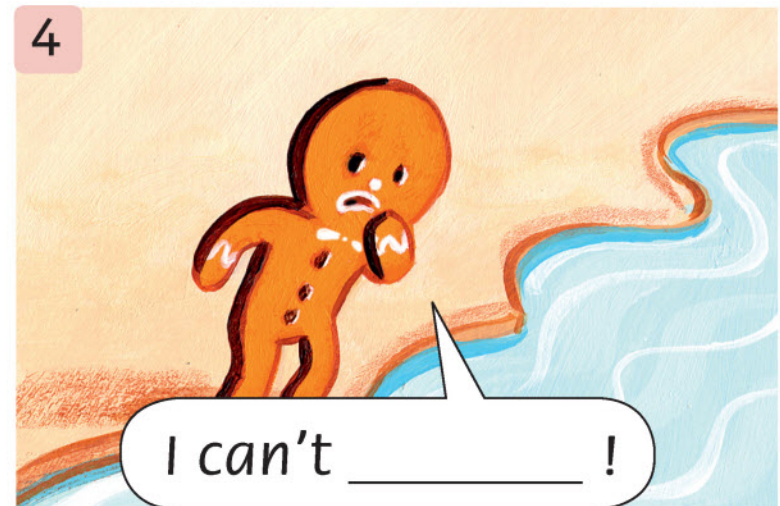
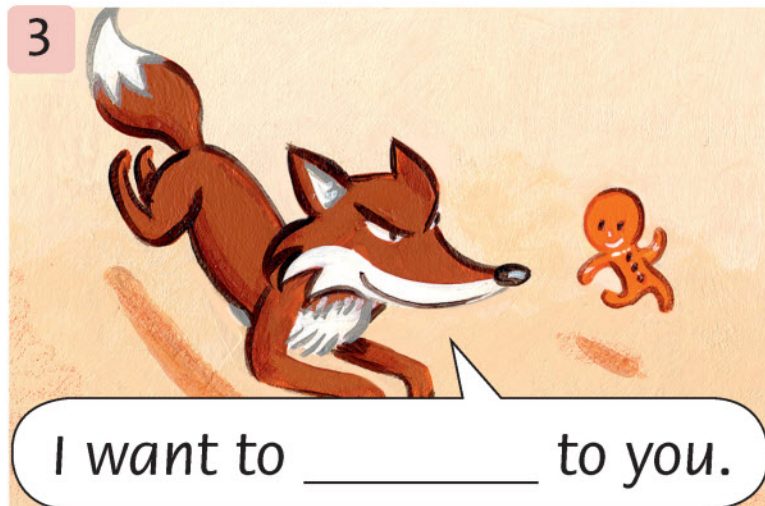
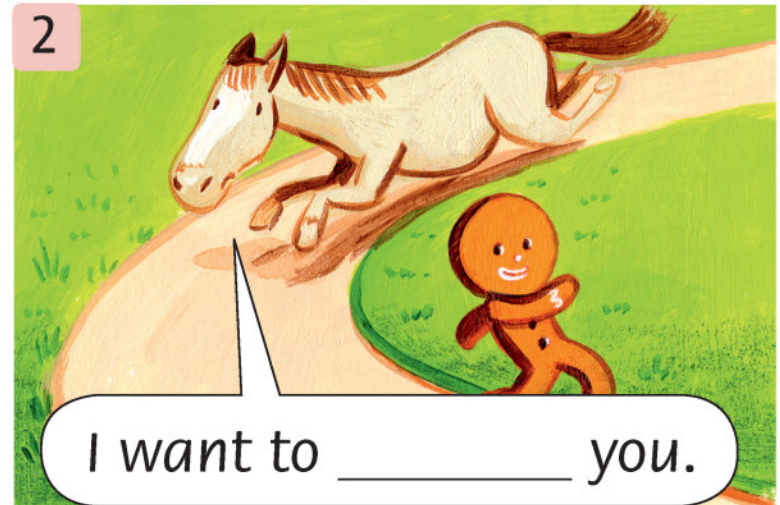
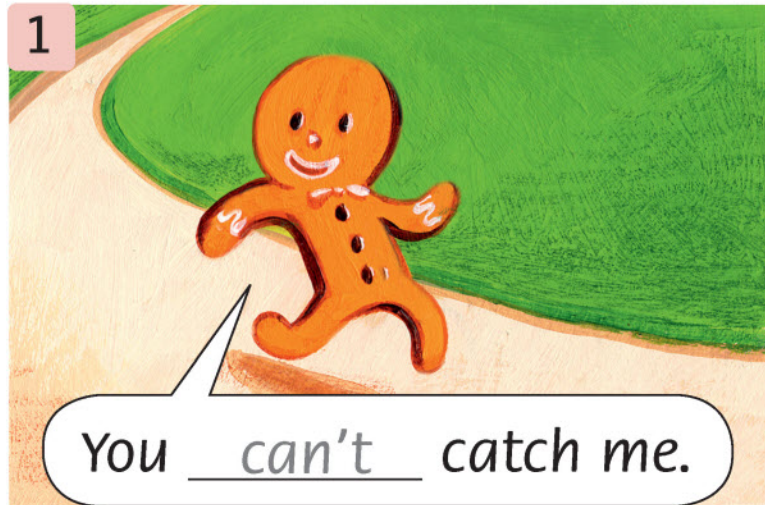
And that is the end. Yes, that is the end of the gingerbread man.





# Exercises

## 1 What do they say? Write the words.



## 2 Put the words in the correct order.

1 The kitchen woman's in old the.

The old woman's in the kitchen.

2 and little runs The gingerbread runs man.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 to with I be you want friends.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 river fox out across and The swims jumps the.

\_\_\_\_\_



### 3 Make sentences about the story.

- 1 The gingerbread man has two eyes, ...
- 2 The old woman opens the oven door ...
- 3 He runs away from ...
- 4 He sees a river ...
- 5 The fox says, ...
- 6 So the gingerbread man ...

a cow and a horse.  
'I can help you.'  
a nose, and a mouth.  
sits on the fox's tail.  
but he can't swim.  
and he jumps out.

### 4 Write the end of the story again, correcting the mistake in each sentence.

The horse swims across the river and jumps out. He throws the gingerbread man down. Then he catches him in his arms. He eats the old man's legs and arms. Then he eats the gingerbread man's mouth. That isn't the end of the gingerbread man.



The fox swims across the river and jumps out.

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# Picture Dictionary

across *across the river*



eyes



arms



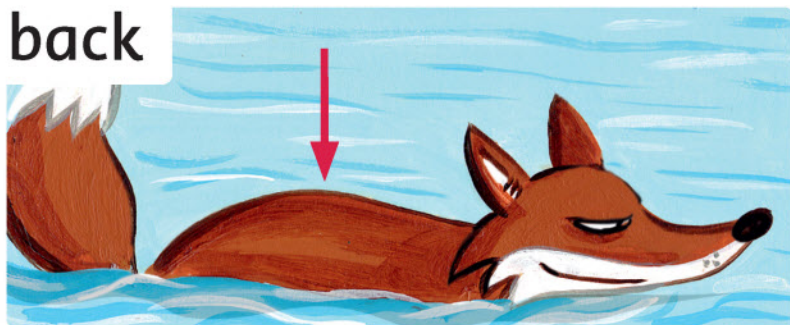
fox



head



back



catch



hear



COW



horse





jump



river



kitchen



run away



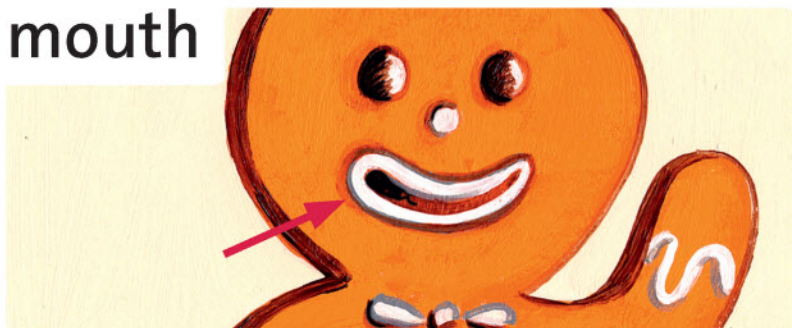
legs



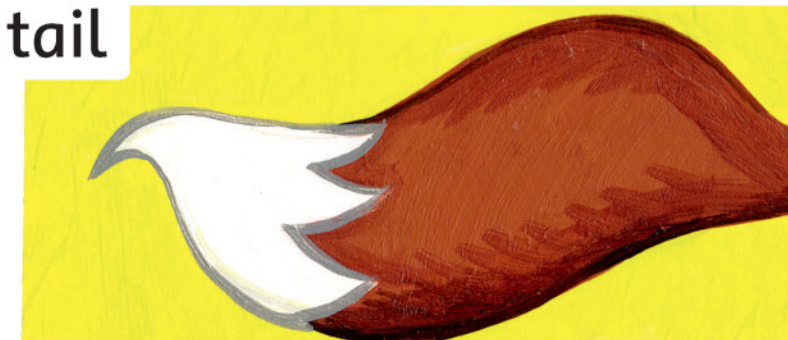
shout



mouth



tail



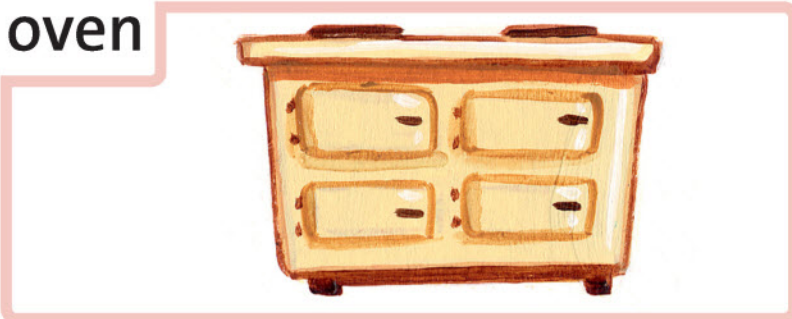
nose



throw



oven



voice





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- The Little Red Hen
- Lownu Mends the Sky
- The Magic Cooking Pot
- Mansour and the Donkey
- Peach Boy
- The Princess and the Pea
- Rumpelstiltskin
- The Shoemaker and the Elves
- Three Billy-Goats

## Level 2: 150 headwords

- Amrita and the Trees
- Big Baby Finn
- The Fisherman and his Wife
- The Gingerbread Man
- Jack and the Beanstalk
- Thumbelina
- The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse
- The Ugly Duckling

## Level 3: 200 headwords

- Aladdin
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- The Heron and the Hummingbird
- The Little Mermaid
- Little Red Riding Hood
- Rapunzel

## Level 4: 300 headwords

- Cinderella
- The Goose Girl
- Sleeping Beauty
- The Twelve Dancing Princesses

## Level 5: 400 headwords

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*Illustrated by:* Garry Parsons





Level 2

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Find out what happens when the old woman makes a gingerbread man and he runs and runs ...

A retelling of the classic story for learners of English

Retold by Sue Arengo  
Illustrated by Garry Parsons

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|---|--|
|  Level 1: 100 headwords        |  Level 4: 300 headwords |
|  <b>Level 2: 150 headwords</b> |  Level 5: 400 headwords |
|  Level 3: 200 headwords        |  |

**Word count for this story: 675**

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