

## Baking Gingerbread Man Cookies

**Theme:** Baking

**Curriculum Area:** Visual and Performing Arts

Baking encourages children's thinking, problem-solving, and creativity.

Baking gingerbread man cookies will allow children the opportunity to use the knowledge they have and apply it by counting, measuring, following directions, feel the different textures when mixing ingredients, and enhance their vocabulary skills.



**Activity:** Children will be baking gingerbread man cookies

**Age of Children:** Preschool (age 4-5)

**Materials Needed:** “The Gingerbread Man” book by Bonnie Dobkin, flour, ground ginger, ground cinnamon, baking soda, ground nutmeg, salt, softened butter, brown sugar, molasses, egg, vanilla extract, large bowls, mixer spoons, measuring cups, measuring spoons, icing, gingerbread cookie cutter, baking pan, and baking sheets.

**Developmental Objectives/Domains:** By participating in this activity, children will:

- 1.) Develop their measurement skills, texture, stir, scoop, mix and use their senses for each ingredient.
- 2.) Understand why the gingerbread man runs away and why it is not nice to taunt, tease, and trust strangers.
- 3.) Enhance cognitive development by identifying vocabulary words, taunting and teasing, and being creative in making their own gingerbread man cookie.

**Procedure:**

1. Introduce and read the book, “The Gingerbread Man.” In the story, a little old man and woman who own a bakery decide to bake a gingerbread man. They are surprised when the Gingerbread Man comes to life, hops out of the oven, and runs away. The man, the woman, and others try to catch him, but he’s too fast. Is he clever enough to get away from the fox?

2. Set out a large bowl at the center of the table, mixing spoon, measuring cups and spoons, and ingredients.
3. Teacher will show and name each of the items and ingredients set at the table.
4. Children will begin by measuring how much of each ingredient they need in order to make the gingerbread cookies.
5. Ask children what happens when mixing the ingredients? Is it powder? Is it liquid?
6. Ask children what they notice when they combine and mix both powder and liquid? Or all ingredients together? What happens once put in the oven?
7. Children will be provided with a piece of dough to make their own gingerbread man using gingerbread man cookie cutter.
8. Encourage children to touch and feel the texture as they grab their dough.
9. Children will place their gingerbread man onto a baking pan.
10. Teacher will preheat the oven to 370 degrees fahrenheit and bake cookies for 9-10 mins.
11. After the cookies have baked and cooled, children will decorate the cookies adding smiles, eyes, bow-ties, buttons, squiggles, etc., using icing, and they'll be able to enjoy their delicious gingerbread man cookies.