

Part 2: Reading the British Folktale

A Read the second part of the Folktale of The Gingerbread Man.

The little Gingerbread Man came to a dog by the roadside.

When the dog **smelled** the Gingerbread Man, he tried to snap him up, and said,
"Don't run so fast, little Gingerbread Man; you look very good to eat."

But the little Gingerbread Man ran harder than ever, and as he ran he cried out,
"I have run away from a little old woman, A little old man, A bird, A cat, And
I can run away from you, I can!"

And, as the dog chased him, he looked over his **shoulder**
cried,

"Run! run! as fast as you can!"

can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man!"



and
You

And the dog couldn't catch him.

Then the little Gingerbread Man ran faster than ever. He ran and ran until he
came in a **playground** full of children.

When the **children** saw how fine he looked, they ran after him, calling out,
"Wait a bit! wait a bit, little Gingerbread Man, we wish to eat you!"

But the little Gingerbread Man laughed harder than ever, and ran like the wind.

"Oho! oho!" he said, "I have run away from a little old woman, A little old
man, A bird, A cat, A dog, And I can run away from you, I can!"

And when he found that he was ahead of the children, he turned and shouted
back to them,

"Run! run! as fast as you can!

You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man!"

And the children couldn't catch him.

By this time the little Gingerbread Man was so **proud** that he didn't think anybody could catch him. He was certain he was the best runner there ever was. Pretty soon, he had left the town behind and was running through the countryside, when what should he see in some **bushes** but a fox. The fox looked at him and began to run. But the little Gingerbread Man shouted to him, "You can't catch me!"

The fox began to run faster, and the little Gingerbread Man ran faster, and as he ran he taunted, "I have run away from a little old woman, A little old man, A bird, A cat, A dog, A playground full of children, And I can run away from you, I can.

Run! run! as fast as you can!

You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man!"

"Why," said the fox, "I wouldn't catch you if I could. You see, I'm also running from the little old woman, the little old man, the bird, the cat, the dog, and the playground full of children. I don't want them to catch me either."

Just then, the little Gingerbread Man came to a river. He couldn't swim across as he was made of gingerbread, and he wanted to keep running away the little old woman, the old man, the animals and the children.

"Here. Jump on my **tail**, and I will take you across," said the fox, "but hurry up or I'll leave you behind. I don't want the dog to get me."

So the little Gingerbread Man jumped on the fox's tail, and the fox swam into the river.



When the fox was a little way from shore he turned his head, and said, "You are too heavy on my tail, little Gingerbread Man, I fear I shall let you get wet; jump on my back."

A little farther out, the fox said, "I am afraid the water will cover you on my back. Jump on my shoulder."

The little Gingerbread Man jumped on his shoulder, for he wasn't sure what would happen if he got wet, but he feared at the least it might harm his pretty chocolate jacket with the red cinnamon candy buttons.

In the middle of the stream the fox said, "Oh, dear! little Gingerbread Man, my



shoulder is getting wet; jump on my nose, and I can hold you out of water." So the little Gingerbread Man jumped on his nose.

The fox was within three strokes of the other bank of the river, and the little Gingerbread Man thought eagerly of how soon he was going to be able to run and run and run

again. He was so far ahead now of the little old woman, the little old man, the bird, the cat, the dog, and the playground full of children that he knew they would have a near impossible time catching him. No, he exulted, they would never be able to catch him! How awfully clever and fast he was.

Now, the fox was climbing out of the river onto its bank, and the little Gingerbread Man got ready to jump off the fox's snout and begin running again.

The fox threw back his head and gave a snap! He had the little Gingerbread Man in his mouth!

"Dear me!" said the little Gingerbread Man, "I am a quarter gone!"

A few seconds later, he said, "Why, I am half gone!"

A few seconds after that, he said, "My goodness, I am three quarters gone!"
And then, the little Gingerbread Man never said anything more at all.

B. Complete the following charts with appropriate information. Be brief and accurate.

Story Analysis

Story elements	Description	Example
Setting		
Conflict		

Characterization	Direct(personality traits)	Indirect (STEAL)
The Gingerbread man		
Old couple		
Fox		

Plot	Description
Exposition (setting, characters, conflict)	
Rising Action	
Climax	

Falling Action	
Resolution	

Writing Connection



C. Free Writing.

Research a Costa Rican Folktale and write your findings below. Then, based on the research or your imagination, create your own Folktale. Finally, present your findings and your story to your classmates. Illustrate the story with at least three pictures: one at the beginning, another in the middle, and one at the end of the story.
