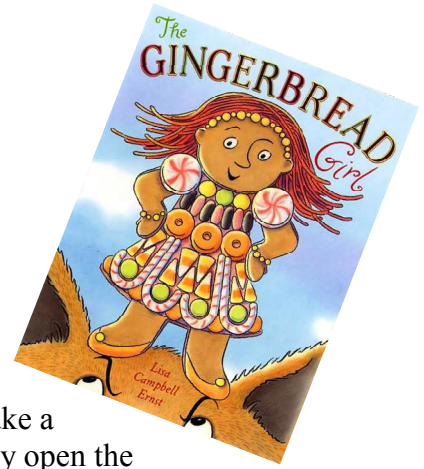


The Gingerbread Girl

Written and Illustrated by
Lisa Campbell Ernst



After their first gingerbread disaster, the lonely old woman and the lonely old man gather their courage to bake again. They decide to make a girl this time, figuring she will be too sweet to leave home. When they open the oven however, it's all too familiar: *"I'll run and I'll run, with a leap and a twirl. You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread GIRL!"* You see, this smart cookie overheard the old woman and the old man talking about that dastardly fox, and she has a plan. Will it work? Let's just say that the ending is sweet for everyone.

About the Author/Illustrator

Lisa Campbell Ernst lives in Kansas City, Missouri. She created the Gingerbread Girl in honor of younger siblings who dare to be different from their older brothers and sisters.

Accompanying Activities

1. English Language Arts: Shared Reading

Before reading the story, have students cut out and color a gingerbread person. You may want to ask the classroom teacher to complete this prior to coming to the library. (See Internet resource list for a link to a pattern.) Students will hold up their gingerbread person as they join in reading the refrain.

- **Listening/speaking/purposes** - The student listens attentively and engages actively in a variety of oral language experiences.

TEKS: *ELA 110.2 (b) 1 CEF; ELA 110.3 (b) 1 CEF; ELA 110.4 (b) 1 CEF*

2. English Language Arts: Compare / Contrast

Ask the classroom teacher to read a different gingerbread story, such as *The Gingerbread Boy* or *The Gingerbread Cowboy*, prior to visiting the library. After reading two of the books, have students help you complete a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting both stories. If you wish to incorporate technology, this activity may be completed using the SMART Board™. Students may also work with a partner on the computer using Kid Pix™.

- **Reading/text structures/literary concepts**. The student analyzes the characteristics of various types of texts.

TEKS: *ELA 110.3 (b) 12 G; ELA 110.4 (b) 11 G*

3. Mathematics: Graph

Display the cover of the book using a document camera or projecting the scanned image. Students will count the candy on Gingerbread Girl's dress and record the data on the graph included on page 10.

- **Probability and statistics** – The student constructs and uses graphs of real objects or pictures to answer questions.

TEKS: *MATH 111.12 (b) 12 A; MATH 111.13 (b) 9 AB; MATH 111.14 (b) 11 ABC*

Companion Books

Other Books by Lisa Campbell Ernst

Breakfast Time! Blue Apple Books, 2006. (Board book)

Come Here, Tiger. Harcourt Children's, 2003.

Goldilocks Returns. Simon & Schuster, 2003.

Good Morning Sun! Blue Apple Books, 2006. (Board book)

Little Red Riding Hood: A Newfangled Prairie Tale. Simon & Schuster, 1998.

The Turn-Around, Upside-Down Alphabet Book. Simon & Schuster, 2004.

Other Gingerbread Books

Berry, Holly. *Gingerbread Cowboy.* Harper Collins, 2006.

Brett, Jan. *Gingerbread Baby.* Putnam's, 1999.

Egielski, Richard. *Gingerbread Boy.* Harper Collins, 2000.

Galdone, Paul. *Gingerbread Boy.* Houghton Mifflin, 1983.

Holub, Joan. *Gingerbread Kid Goes to School.* The Penguin Group, 2002.

Internet Resources

Gingerbread man cut-out

<http://www.kidzone.ws/thematic/gingerbread/index.htm>

Build your own gingerbread man game

<http://www.starfall.com/n/holiday/gingerbread/load.htm?f&n=main>