

# Gingerbread Baby Lesson Plan | Scholastic.com

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Students love *Gingerbread Baby*, and have even more fun baking and eating him. Students love the fact that the Gingerbread Man does not get eaten in the story. Ironic since they love eating the cookies!

Students will "apply appropriate techniques, tools, and formulas to determine measurements." -  
*-Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Frameworks*

## Materials

- Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett
- 2/3 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground cloves
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- pinch salt
- 3/4 cup molasses
- 1 egg
- 3 cups flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- icing, raisins, nuts, and candies to decorate the cookies
- a couple of mixing bowls
- a spoon for stirring
- assorted measuring spoons and cups
- cookie sheets
- wire rack

## Set Up and Prepare

Because the dough has to chill for an hour before it can be rolled out, it is best to plan on having this activity running throughout your morning. Make arrangement with cooking staff to use their oven.

## Directions

Have students wash their hands.

Cream together the shortening, brown sugar, cinnamon, ground cloves, ginger, and salt. Add egg and mix. Add molasses and mix again. Mix together flour, baking powder and baking soda in a separate bowl. Sift. Add to the creamed mixture and stir until well blended. Chill 1 hour.

Preheat oven to 375 F. Roll out dough 1/4 at a time to 1" thickness or slightly thicker on a lightly floured board. Cut with a cookie cutter and transfer to a greased (or non stick) cookie sheet. Repeat with remaining dough. Before baking, decorate with raisins as you like.

Place in oven for 8 - 10 minutes. Cool on a wire rack. Decorate the cookies using icing, raisins, nuts, and candies.

### **Supporting All Learners**

For young students, tubes of colored icing work well for decorating the cookies.

### **Lesson Extensions**

Try making a cardboard Gingerbread Man and decorating him with craft materials.

- Subjects:  
Reading, Cooking, Arts and Crafts, Measurement
- Skills:  
Reading
- Duration:  
2 Hrs