IN BRIEF

The Queen's Gingerbread Men is a fantastic story that could well be true! Queen Elizabeth I of England *might* have invented gingerbread men for her courtiers, and the tale inspired this pack about the Elizabethan Age and festive treats!



1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS

- Learning new words builds your pupils' vocabularies, and reading stories is a fun way to introduce them to new terms. The **Storytime Glossary** was created to help this process! If a child comes across a word or phrase they don't recognise in a tale, encourage them to look it up for themselves in this section.

- Queen Elizabeth I served gingerbread men at a New Year's party, but what events do the children in your class celebrate, and how do they do it? The **Class Discussion Sheet** has questions that will encourage them to talk about their favourite holiday traditions.

- Can your pupils find an *onomatopoeia* in the extract on the **Reading Comprehension Sheet**? You could follow this activity by asking students to come up with other examples – how many more can they think of?

- Stories are made up of a series of events that unfold in a certain order – but the events on the **Story Sequencing Sheet** have been mixed up! Your students should number the eleven sections in the order in which they happened in the story. They can check the story as they do this task.

- Pupils can retell the tale of Queen Elizabeth and her biscuits on the **Storyboard** page. It features gorgeous art from the magazine, and there are spaces underneath each picture for the children to write their version of the story.

Continued on page 2...

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1. LITERACY LESSON IDEAS CONTINUED

- Discover how much pupils remember about this month's featured story by getting them to do the **Royal Comprehension Quiz!** It is made up of eight multiple-choice questions with two possible answers to each. This might sound simple, but some of the choices are deceptively tricky!

- In English, we can join two (or more!) words together to make a new one. That is the focus of the **Compound Words** activity. Can your students work out what word is represented by each of the illustrated 'equations' on this page? As a follow-up exercise, pupils could think of their own compound word, create an equation for it and ask their classmates to figure out what it is.

- You have probably discussed your favourite celebrations with your pupils using the questions on the **Class Discussion Sheet**. Now, the children can write about their favourite festive traditions on the **My Favourite Celebration** page. It includes prompts to help students put events in a sequence.

2. HISTORY LESSON IDEAS

- Queen Elizabeth I ruled over England from 1558-1603, and it was an era when many changes took place. The **Age of Discoveries!** page lists seven inventions or breakthroughs that occurred during Elizabeth's reign – perhaps your class could have a discussion about how these things still affect our lives today.

- This month's story is all about food, and that is why we created the **Top Tudor Treats** fact sheet. It lists some foods that were particularly popular in Elizabeth's time. During the Elizabethan era, the food you ate varied depending on how wealthy and important you were. Pupils should guess how fancy each dish was, giving it a ranking from one star (not fancy at all) to five stars (the poshest of the posh!). Which foods would your students like to try if they were given the chance?

Continued on page 3...

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3. MATHS LESSON IDEA

- Calculations can be used to make delicious things, and that is the theme of the **Cooking Maths!** sheet. Help Queen Elizabeth's baker work out how much he needs to make lots of tasty things! As a follow-up, you could show the class a recipe and ask them to double or triple all the quantities.

4. DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY LESSON IDEAS

- To go with the story of Queen Elizabeth's gingerbread, we have created a downloadable gingerbread man recipe for pupils to try! We recommend making a batch and then using the tips on the **Decorate Your Gingerbread** page to decorate them. This is a great creative exercise – and delicious, too!

- The **Festive Foods of the World!** page has facts about six special dishes from different countries that your pupils might want to try. Can they match each food with an illustration at the bottom of the page, based on its description?

5. ART LESSON IDEAS

- Drawing a picture of themselves can be a positive and enriching experience for children because it helps them to think about who they are, what's important to them, and how they would like to present themselves. The **Gingerbread Self-Portrait!** page has a blank gingerbread man that they can customise. This creative exercise could also inspire them when doing the **Decorate Your Gingerbread** activity.

- The **Two of a Kind!** sheet has pictures of lots of gingerbread treats on it. Can your pupils work out which pairs match, based on their theme and colours?

- Your Students can add a sweet touch to the presents they give their loved ones this year by printing and cutting out the **Gingerbread Gift Tags**. Which ones will they put on which present, and how could they customise them?

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STORYTIME GLOSSARY

If you don't recognise a word in the magazine, look it up here!

Shoes of the World (Page 6)

- **Spectacles:** glasses to help people see
- **Exclaimed:** said loudly
- **Tanned:** with darkened skin from being in the sun
- **Amazed:** feeling surprise and wonder
- **Workbench:** table that work is done on
- **Footwear:** things worn on feet
- **Saami:** reindeer-herding people from Finland
- **Reindeer:** kind of deer from Scandinavia
- **Piped up:** spoke up

The Hungry Inuit (Page 8)

- **Kayaks:** small, narrow boat rowed with double-ended paddles
- **Gobble:** eat quickly and greedily
- **Glutton:** person who eats too much
- **Headband:** band worn around the head
- **Stitching:** thread used to sew pieces of clothing together
- **Copper:** a kind of reddish-brown metal
- **Blubber:** thick fat found in bodies of seals and whales
- **Terrifying:** extremely scary
- **Morsel:** small piece of food
- **Frozen:** turned to ice by cold
- **Delicacy:** a rare and valuable treat
- **Waddled:** walked while moving from side to side like a duck

The Winter King's Daughter (Page 13)

- **Norse people:** people who lived in Scandinavia hundreds of years ago
- **Blizzards:** fierce snowstorms
- **Cloak:** long piece of cloth worn on back
- **Snowshoes:** large wooden frames worn on feet to help people walk on snow
- **Venture:** go on a risky journey
- **Glittered:** shone with small flashes of light
- **Enchanted by:** amazed and obsessed with
- **Smitten:** strongly attracted to
- **Get divorced:** have their marriage ended
- **Volcanoes:** mountains that erupt and spread ash or lava
- **Personalities:** unique ways of thinking, feeling and behaving

The Boy Who Read with his Fingers (Page 18)

- **Harnesses:** straps used to control animals
- **Leather:** material made from animal skins
- **Wax:** soft substance used to make candles
- **Blind:** unable to see
- **Memorised:** learned something so well that he could easily remember it
- **Recognised:** could identify
- **Curious:** eager to learn
- **Recommended:** suggested in a positive way
- **Unfamiliar:** not known by him
- **Methods:** ways of doing things
- **Rickety:** shaky and likely to collapse
- **Mental map:** map in his mind

Continued on page 2...

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STORYTIME GLOSSARY



Mrs Claus's Special Delivery (Page 24)

- **Chef's hats:** tall white hats worn by expert cooks in kitchens
- **Candy canes:** long minty sweets
- **Woollen:** made of wool
- **Cantered:** moved in a fast but easy way
- **Vanished:** disappeared suddenly
- **Clamber:** climb clumsily
- **Trotted:** went faster than a walk but slower than a run
- **Dazzled:** surprised and nearly blinded
- **Rightful:** correct and proper
- **Terraced house:** house joined to many others in a row
- **Mantelpiece:** shelf above fireplace
- **Air conditioning units:** devices used to control temperature in a building
- **Tinsel:** decoration made of thin metal foil
- **Decorations:** things used to make something look more shiny or impressive
- **Oats:** kind of grain often fed to animals

The Fairy Child (Page 31)

- **Kilt:** Scottish skirtlike piece of clothing
- **Herd:** group of animals
- **Rustling:** sound of things rubbing against each other
- **Heather:** kind of grasslike plant
- **Moorland:** high grassy wilderness area
- **Astounded:** amazed
- **Peculiar:** strange and spooky
- **Bagpipes:** kind of musical instrument
- **Wee:** Scottish term for 'little'
- **Blessed:** having good luck
- **Good deed:** act of kindness

Monster Castle (Page 34)

- **Destination:** place she is going to
- **Crooked:** bent or twisted
- **Turrets:** small towers on a castle
- **Creaking:** making a groaning noise
- **Moat:** water-filled ditch around a castle
- **Grimalkin:** mythical talking cat-creature
- **Will:** document saying who will get your things when you die
- **Scroll:** rolled-up piece of paper
- **Rusty:** covered with rust
- **Knobbly:** with lots of bumps on
- **Cavern:** large cave
- **Stalactites:** pointy rock formations hanging from cave ceilings
- **Blazing:** burning brightly
- **Fiddle:** stringed instrument like a violin

The Queen's Gingerbread Men (Page 40)

- **Palace:** impressive home for a ruler
- **Countless:** too many to be counted
- **Velvet:** kind of soft fabric
- **Gold-trimmed:** edged with gold
- **Advisor:** person who gives advice to a ruler
- **Glided:** moved smoothly
- **Wig:** covering for the head made out of real or artificial hair
- **Partridges:** small birds
- **Pastry:** dough made with water, flour and fat
- **Outdo:** do better than
- **Quince:** kind of plum-like fruit

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CLASS DISCUSSION SHEET

LET'S TALK ABOUT...

holiday traditions! Everyone has special things that they do to mark important events. Now it's time for you to tell the class about yours!

1. What is your favourite holiday tradition that your family celebrates?

2. What things does your family do to celebrate this event? What is your favourite part of it?

3. How does your family get ready for the holiday? Do you help with any of the preparations?

4. If you could create a new tradition for your family, what would it be?

MY FAVOURITE HOLIDAY TREAT

Let us know about your top festive food and why it is special to you!

What is it called?

Choose three words to describe how it tastes!

What are the ingredients?

What it looks like!

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READING COMPREHENSION SHEET

Find a *plural noun*, an *onomatopoeia* and three words for kinds of cloth!

"Hundreds of people crowded into the great hall, for Queen Elizabeth I's fabulous New Year's party was about to begin!

Lords and ladies in silk and velvet mixed with bishops in gold-trimmed robes and servants wearing simple wool. They carried gifts of all shapes and sizes, decorated with bows and bright wrapping paper. The buzz of conversation filled the air. Who would give the queen the best present and become her new favourite advisor?"

1. In the first sentence is a *plural noun* that is used to talk about a large number of things. What do you think it is?

2. In the second sentence, there are three words for different kinds of cloth. What are they?

3. An *onomatopoeia* is a word that sounds like the noise it is describing. Can you work out what the onomatopoeia is in the fourth sentence?

PLURAL POWER!

Here are six plural nouns *that are used to talk about a number of things. Can you sort them in size, from smallest to largest?*

Millions Tens
Hundreds Dozens
Thousands Scores

ANSWERS: 1. *Hundreds.* 2. *Silk*, velvet and wool. 3. *Buzz.*
Plural Power! *Tens, dozens, scores, hundreds, thousands, millions.*

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STORY SEQUENCING SHEET

These eleven events from this month's story have been jumbled up! Number them to show the order they *should* be read in...

The doors of the hall swung open and the queen glided in, wearing a white silk dress, a red wig and a crown. She sat down on her throne. ☐

Lord Cecil, her most important minister, gave her books. Sir Walter Raleigh the explorer gave her a gold statue from the New World. ☐

Then, it was time for dinner! Many meats were served, but Queen Elizabeth did not have any because she was waiting for dessert. ☐

Elizabeth liked all of these presents and announced that she was going to give her favourite advisors special gifts, too. ☐

The monarch clapped her hands. Fireworks went off, acrobats tumbled down the hall, and trumpeters and drummers played. ☐

Queen Elizabeth said she hoped her favourites liked their gifts and bit into a biscuit that looked like her. ☐

The lords, ladies, bishops, archbishops and servants then gave their gifts to the queen. All the presents were recorded on a scroll. ☐

The young Duke of Essex rolled his eyes and presented the queen with a box of sweets made from oranges, lemons and sugar. ☐

It was a rainy day at Hampton Court Palace. In the great hall, people were waiting for Queen Elizabeth I's New Year's party to start. ☐

Lord Cecil, Sir Walter Raleigh and the Duke of Essex were surprised when a lady-in-waiting offered them three gingerbread men. ☐

John Dudley gave the queen a quince pie and John Smythestone gave her marzipan, because they knew she liked sweets. ☐

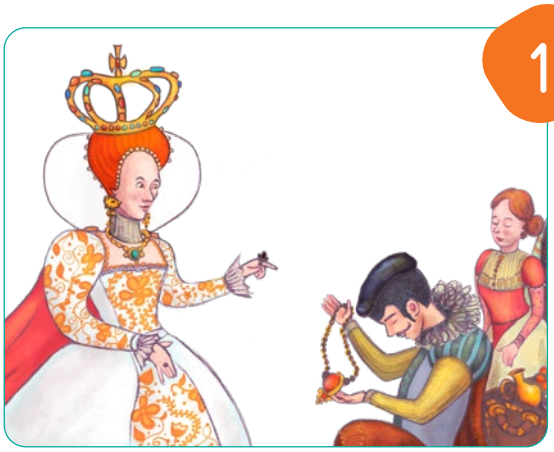
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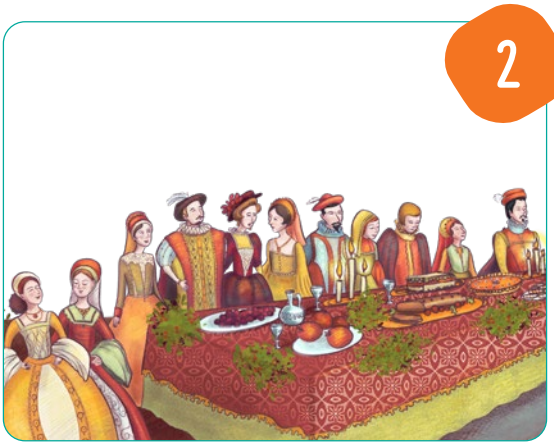
STORYBOARD

It's your turn to tell the story of Queen Elizabeth I and her gingerbread treats. Write about what happened under these pictures!

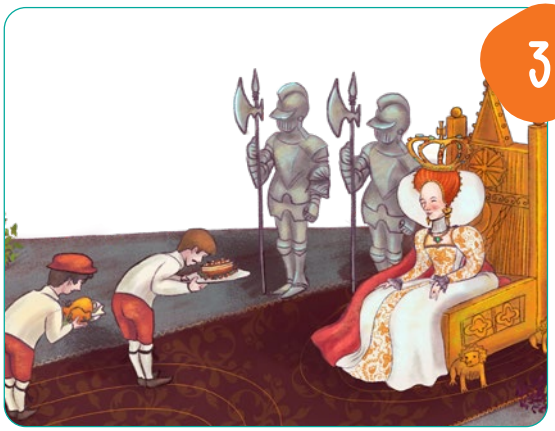
1



2



3



4



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ROYAL COMPREHENSION QUIZ!

What did you find out from reading the story of Queen Elizabeth's holiday treats? Test your knowledge by answering the multiple-choice questions below...

A. When does the story take place?

- ☐ New Year's Day
- ☐ Christmas Day

B. Where was the party held?

- ☐ Buckingham Palace
- ☐ Hampton Court Palace

C. Which entertainers WEREN'T there?

- ☐ Italian Acrobats
- ☐ French Jugglers

D. Which bird was on the menu?

- ☐ Pigeon
- ☐ Peacock

E. What was John Dudley sergeant of?

- ☐ The Pastry
- ☐ The Palace

F. What do you think marzipan is?

- ☐ A kind of meat
- ☐ A kind of sweet

G. What was the Duke of Essex's hair like?

- ☐ Long and blond
- ☐ Brown and curly

H. Which spice is used in gingerbread?

- ☐ Paprika
- ☐ Ginger

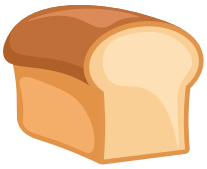
ANSWERS: A. New Year's Day, B. Hampton Court Palace, C. French jugglers, D. Peacock, E. The Pastry, F. A kind of sweet, G. Brown and curly, H. Ginger.

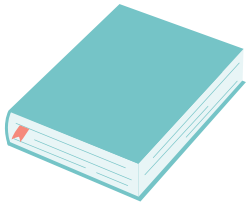
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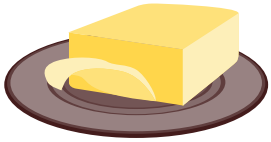
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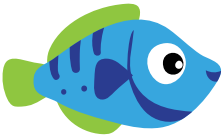
COMPOUND WORDS

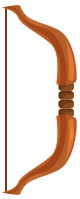
A *compound word* is a word made by joining two or more words together. 'Gingerbread' is one example, but can you work out what words can be made by joining the things below?

1.  +  = Gingerbread

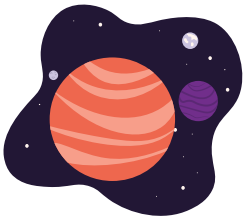
2.  +  = _____

3.  +  = _____

4.  +  = _____

5.  +  = _____

6.  +  = _____

7.  +  = _____

ANSWERS: 2. Bookworm, 3. Butterfly, 4. Jellyfish, 5. Rainbow, 6. Carpark, 7. Spaceship.

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MY FAVOURITE CELEBRATION IS: _____

_____

WE CELEBRATE IT ON: _____

HOW WE CELEBRATE IT!

FIRST, WE... _____

_____

_____

THEN... _____

_____

_____

NEXT... _____

_____

_____

FINALLY... _____

_____

_____

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AGE OF DISCOVERIES!

When Elizabeth I ruled England, many amazing things were created or discovered! Here are a few that still influence our lives today...

THE NEW WORLD!

About 60 years before Elizabeth took the throne, Christopher Columbus discovered the Americas, which was called the 'New World' by Europeans. When Elizabeth was on the throne, explorers went there to find new lands and treasures.

PLAYS AND POEMS

During the Elizabethan Age, many great works were created by English writers. Among them was William Shakespeare, who is considered the greatest writer in the English language. Queen Elizabeth I was a fan of his plays, and he wrote 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' for her.

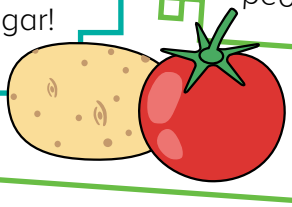


THE PENCIL

The first pencil was invented in Italy in around 1560CE by Simonio and Lyndiana Bernacotti. However, it needed a material called 'graphite' for the lead, and the only source of pure graphite was in Borrowdale, England. England became the centre of pencil-making for more than a hundred years!

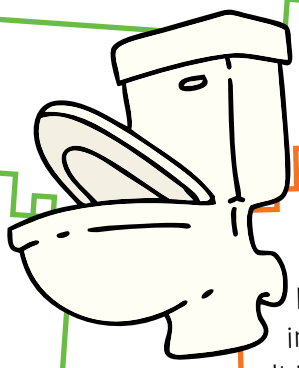
NEW FOODS!

Explorers brought back tasty treats from the New World, including corn, potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, avocados and chocolate, as well as spices and sugar!



THE FLUSHING TOILET

Sir John Harington, Elizabeth I's godson, invented the first flushable toilet in 1596. He installed one in his house so that she could use it when she visited. It took a long time for this invention to catch on with other people as it was expensive!

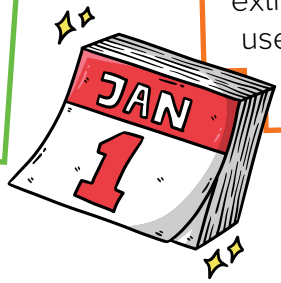


THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD

In the Middle Ages, scientists accepted the ideas of Greek and Roman writers and philosophers as being true without questioning them. But in Elizabeth's lifetime, scientists began testing ideas by doing experiments and carefully observing the world around them instead. One of them was Sir Francis Bacon, an advisor to Queen Elizabeth I. These ideas helped to develop modern science.

THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII introduced a new calendar. It includes a 'leap year' every fourth year, when there is an extra day in February. We still use this calendar today, and it works very well!



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TOP TUDOR TREATS

People in Elizabeth I's time liked their food – but the meals eaten by rich people and poor people were very different! Rate each of these foods from one to five stars, based on how fancy you think it is.

1

COCKENTRICE

This fabulous dish was made by stitching the front part of a chicken to the back half of a piglet. Cooks covered it in gold foil or dyed it yellow with saffron and roasted it.

FANCY FACTOR:

2

POTTAGE

Common folk put grains, peas and other vegetables in a pot and boiled them up to make this simple soup. They could even add bacon if they had it! It wasn't fancy, but it WAS healthy.

FANCY FACTOR:

3

MANCHET BREAD

White bread made from fine wheat flour was a luxury and reserved for important people. The queen's ladies-in-waiting were allowed to eat it!

FANCY FACTOR:

4

RYE OR BARLEY BREAD

These dark, rough and chewy breads were eaten by ordinary people. They were very nutritious!

FANCY FACTOR:

5

ROAST MEATS

The richer you were, the more meat you ate! Kitchens in big houses even had special dogs who ran in wheels to turn the spits that roasted meat over a fire.

FANCY FACTOR:

6

GAME

'Game' is meat that is got by hunting, which was a popular hobby for nobles. Commoners weren't allowed to hunt, so meats like venison, duck, pheasant or rabbit were only served to rich people.

FANCY FACTOR:

7

SPICES AND SAUCES

Spices like pepper, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and ginger were very expensive because they were brought from far-off Asia. Serving spicy sauces with your meals was a way to show off!

FANCY FACTOR:

8

PIES

Elizabethan pies could contain meat, fruit or a mix of the two. For royal feasts, huge pie crusts were made that contained live birds, animals or entertainers!

FANCY FACTOR:

9

SWEETS

Sugar was rare and valuable and sweets like gingerbread and marzipan were special treats, even for wealthy people. Queen Elizabeth I loved them!

FANCY FACTOR:

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NAME _____ CLASS _____

COOKING MATHS!

Maths can be very handy in the kitchen! Can you help Elizabeth's chef work out these food sums for his recipes?

A. My recipe says I need **two eggs to make six pies**... so how many eggs will I need to make **nine** pies?

_____

B. If **two quails** is enough for **one diner**, how many quails will I need for four diners?

_____

C. I need **500g of flour** to make **one** large cake. How much flour do I need for **two** cakes?

_____



D. I use **three almonds** to decorate a gingerbread man. If I'm making **five gingerbread men**, how many almonds will I need?

_____

E. When making bread, I use **one cup of water for every 500g of flour**. If I'm making a loaf with **2kg** of flour, how many cups of water should I add to it?

_____

F. Each guest can eat 250g of roast chicken. How many guests can I feed with a 750g chicken?

_____

ANSWERS: A. Three eggs. B. Eight quails. C. 1000g or 1kg. D. Fifteen almonds. E. Four cups. F. Three guests.

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FESTIVE FOODS OF THE WORLD!

Discover six tasty treats that people in different countries eat to celebrate Christmas. Can you match each one with the right picture at the bottom?

1. PANETTONE

FROM: Italy

THE STORY: Once upon a time, a noble named Ughetto fell in love with a baker's daughter. To win her father's approval, Ughetto disguised himself as a baker and created a rich, sweet bread filled with dried fruit and candied peel. The bread is now a Christmas favourite in Italy!

2. BIBINGKA

FROM: The Philippines

THE STORY: Bibingka is a rice cake eaten during the Christmas season, particularly after the *Simbang Gabi* church services. The cakes were made in the Philippines before Christianity was introduced in 1521CE, but they are now associated with Christmas celebrations.

3. BÛCHE DE NOËL

FROM: France

THE STORY: Before Christmas trees became popular, families burned a log in the hearth on Christmas Eve to celebrate the sun's return after the winter solstice. By the 19th century, many homes didn't have big hearths, so the tradition changed to making these log-shaped cakes.

4. TAMALES

FROM: Mexico

THE STORY: The Aztecs and Mayans made stuffed corn dough treats wrapped in banana leaves as portable food for warriors, hunters and travellers. The Christian celebration of Christmas merged with local traditions, and tamales became a popular festive food.

5. JULBORD

FROM: Sweden

THE STORY: The Julbord (Christmas table) is a serving of many dishes that dates back to Viking times, when people held a midwinter feast to honour the return of the sun after the shortest day of the year. It is made using ingredients available during Sweden's harsh winters.

6. CHRISTMAS PUDDING

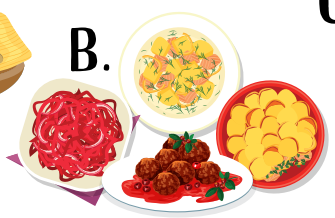
FROM: The United Kingdom

THE STORY: This dish originated in medieval England, but it became an iconic Christmas dessert in the Victorian era. It was originally a kind of boiled dish containing meat and spices, but over time the recipe changed until it became a rich, sweet steamed dessert.

A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.



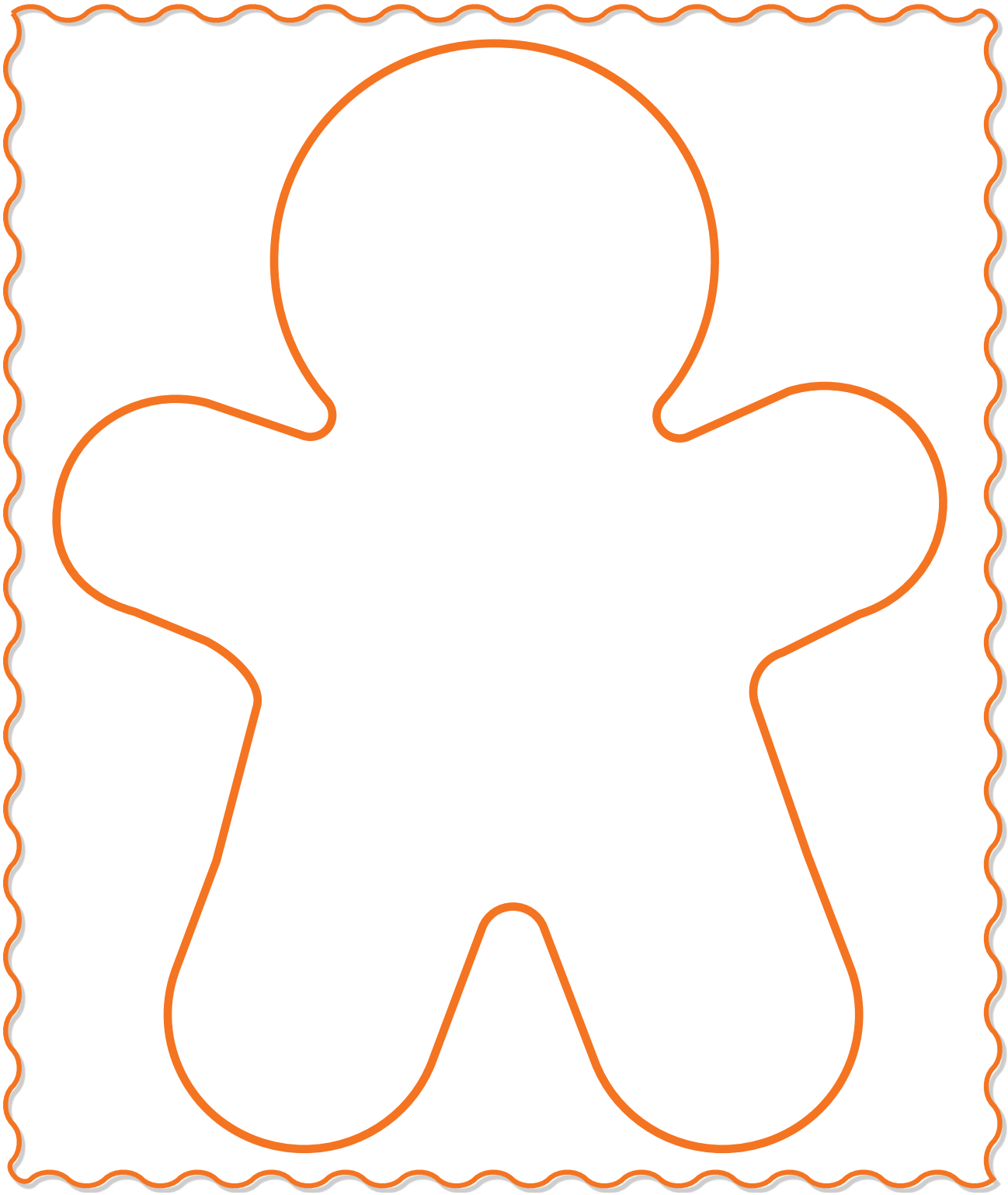
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ANSWERS: 1. E, 2. C, 3. F, 4. A, 5. B, 6. D.

GINGERBREAD SELF-PORTRAIT

Make a special picture of yourself on the 'gingerbread cookie' outline below – just like Queen Elizabeth did with her guests! How would *you* look in icing?

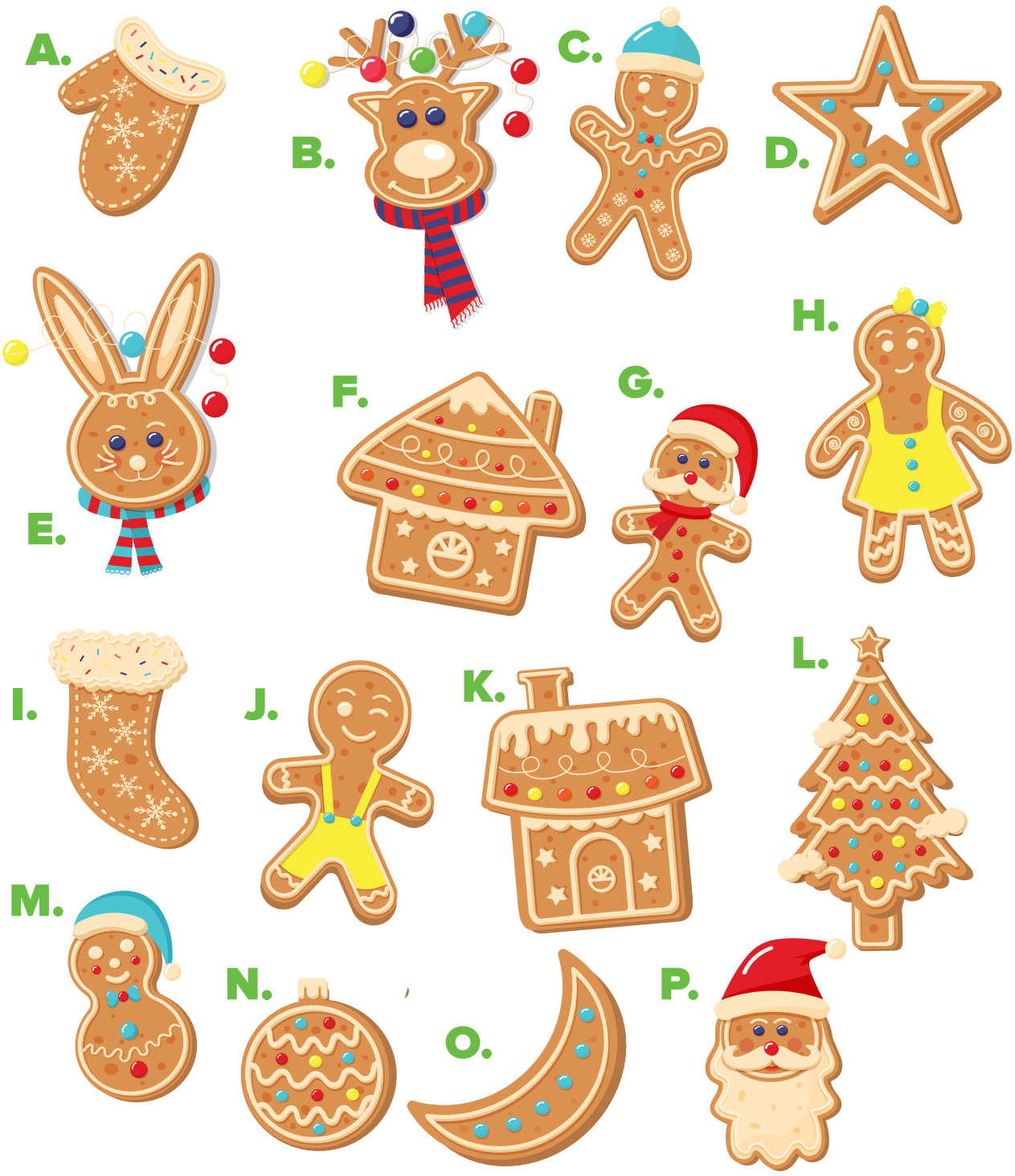


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NAME _____ CLASS _____

TWO OF A KIND!

Queen Elizabeth's baker made pairs of gingerbread biscuits – but he has mixed them up! Can you work out which ones belong together, based on their themes, colours and designs?



ANSWERS: A and I, B and E, C and M, D and O, F and K, G and P, H and J, L and N.

NAME _____ CLASS _____

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DECORATE YOUR GINGERBREAD!

Once you've made gingerbread dough, you can cut it into many shapes and create cool decorations by following the instructions below.

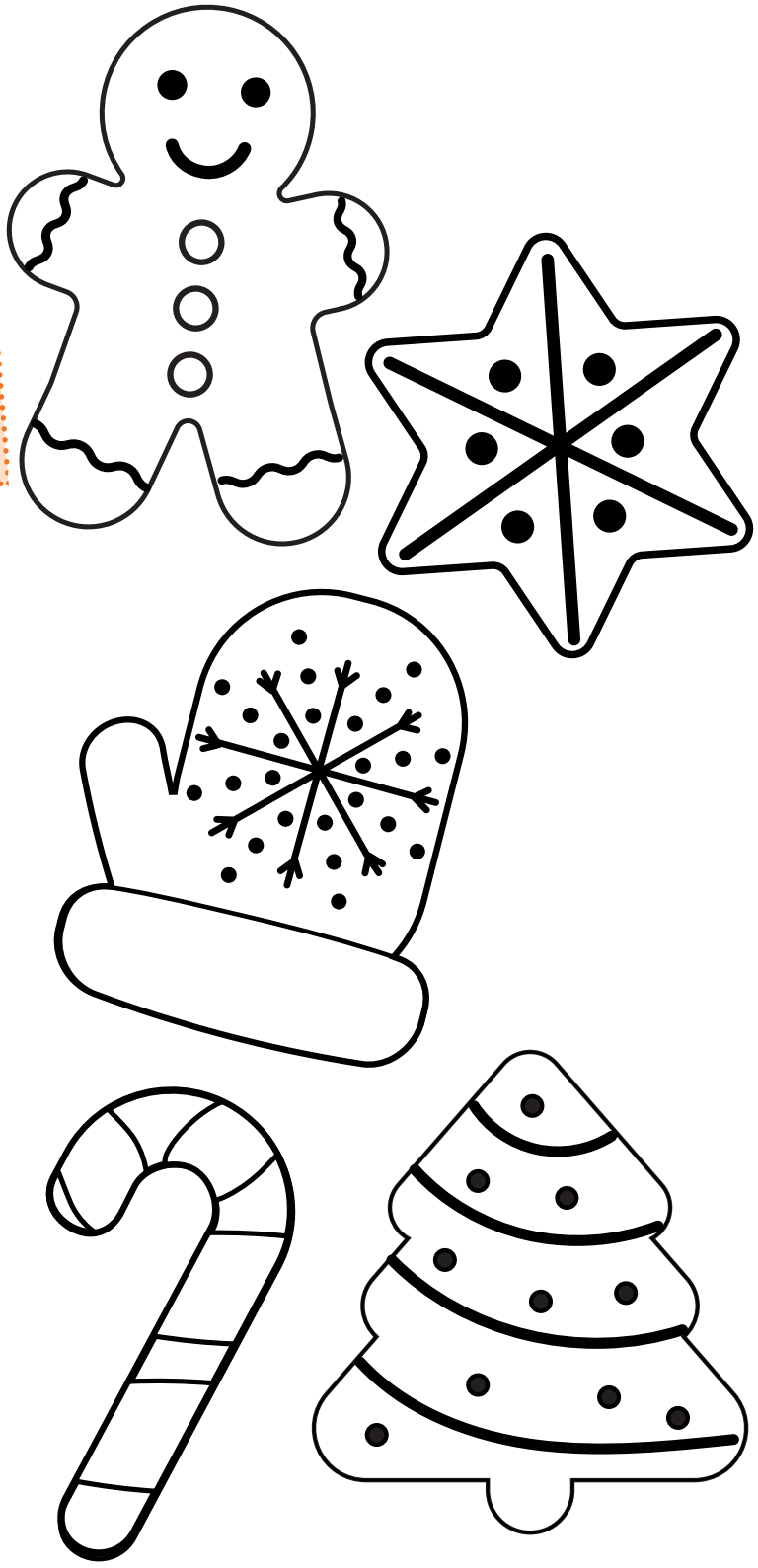
To create delicious gingerbread cookies, use the recipe in issue 123, page 47 or use your own favourite version. Once your dough is ready, get your cutters out or use these templates!

YOU WILL NEED:

- **gingerbread dough**
- **icing pens or tubes**
- **round sweets or buttons**
- **sprinkles**

HOW TO MAKE THEM:

1. Stretch the dough! Roll it out until it is about 4mm thick. You can cut it into shapes with cookie cutters or use the designs on this page as templates and cut them out with a butter knife.
2. Bake them! Let them cool and firm up before decorating. Do not decorate while they are warm or the icing will melt!
3. Plan your design! Using an icing pen, mark out the design on the cookie.
4. Fill it in! Now it's time to use icing to fill in areas of colour on your gingerbread cookie. Work slowly and carefully!
5. Add buttons! Sweets are great for buttons or other details. Put a little blob of icing where you want to stick them and then place the sweet onto it.
6. Use the same trick with sprinkles! Put them on a thin layer of icing.
7. Tidy up and finish any details! Use a butter knife to scrape away extra icing.



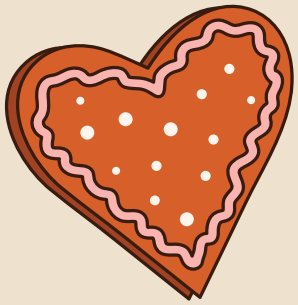
TOP TIP: Gingerbread cookies make a sweet hand-made Christmas gift for friends and family. You can use tins or paper boxes to wrap them in, and don't forget to add the gift tags on the next page!

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GINGERBREAD GIFT TAGS

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To _____

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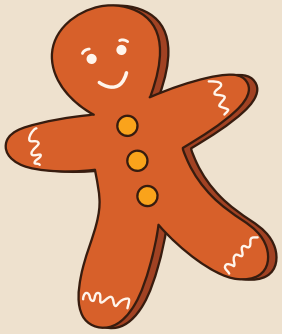
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