

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Gingerbread Man's Lament

by Ruth Donnelly

Dear Santa,

I write my Christmas letter  
By the oven's fiery glow.  
'Cause I've got dreams and wishes,  
Though I'm only made of dough.

I wish I had some cowboy boots,  
A pair of shiny, polished shoes.



**~ PREVIEW ~**

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These candy canes aren't so cool  
A zipper suits me better.

I'd really love some Ray-Ban shades  
To hide my raisin eyes.  
And a purple wool fedora,  
If they make them in my size.

So, thanks for listening, Santa.  
I thought it worth a try.  
But you'd really better hurry--  
They're finished with their pie!



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1. The title of this poem is "Gingerbread Man's Lament."  
What does the word lament mean? (Use a dictionary if you're not sure.)
  - a. to express sadness or sorrow
  - b. to beg or plead for something
  - c. to express joy and happiness
  - d. to list things you want to have
2. List the six items the Gingerbread man asks Santa for.



3. At the end of the poem, the Gingerbread man says,  
But you'd really better hurry--  
They're finished with their pie.  
Why does he say this?

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4. Where is the Gingerbread Man when he writes this poem?

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## ANSWER KEY

# The Gingerbread Man's Lament

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1. The title of this poem is "Gingerbread Man's Lament." **a**  
What does the word lament mean? (Use a dictionary if you're not sure.)
- a. **to express sadness or sorrow**                      b. to beg or plead for something  
c. to express joy and happiness                      d. to list things you want to have
2. List the six items the Gingerbread man asks Santa for.

**cowboy boots**

**stonewashed jeans**



3. At the  
But you'd really better hurry--  
They're finished with their pie.

Why does he say this?

**Santa had better hurry because he might be eaten soon.**

4. Where is the Gingerbread Man when he writes this poem?

**He is in the oven, or near the oven. ("By the oven's fiery glow.")**