Storyland Classics

FREE STORY GUIDE

A folktale, as told by Joseph Jacobs (1890)



- ✦ Meet the Author
- ✦ The Big Idea & Try It
- ✦ Yes or No & ABC Order
- ✦ Read It With Voices
- ✦ Standards
- ✦ Story Map
- ✦ Word Match & Sort
- ✦ Put It in Order
- ✦ Handwriting
- ✦ Let's Talk
- ✦ Word Search
- ✦ Who Said It? & Feelings
- ✦ Answer Key

Ages 4–8 ✦ Pre-K to Grade 2 ✦ Aligned to Common Core

This cover is for your screen. Print from page 2 to save ink.

FOR GROWN-UPS

How to Use This Guide

This free guide goes with the Storyland Classics read-aloud of "Johnny-Cake." Every page is ready to print, and no sign-up is needed. Pick the pages that suit your child or class.

ABOUT THE STORY

An old woman bakes a Johnny-cake, and while the little boy isn't watching, it jumps out of the oven and rolls away. Johnny-cake outruns the old man, the old woman, the little boy, two well-diggers, two ditch-diggers, a bear and a wolf, boasting more each time. Then he meets a sly fox who pretends he can't hear, and Johnny-cake comes closer and closer, until snap! The tale is a cousin of The Gingerbread Man.

SKILL FOCUS

Cumulative stories: a list that grows by one each time something new happens

WATCH AND READ ALONG

Scan the code to watch the read-aloud and read the full story, or visit storylandclassics.com/johnny-cake-guide. Joseph Jacobs, *English Fairy Tales* (1890). Public domain.

A simple routine

1. **Day 1.** Watch the read-aloud together, then fill in the Story Map.
2. **Day 2.** Meet the author, then use Let's Talk and The Big Idea.
3. **Day 3.** Learn the words with the word match, word sort and word search.
4. **Day 4.** Put the story in order, then perform it with voices.

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Standards

Every activity is aligned to the Common Core State Standards for kindergarten to grade 2. Codes appear at the bottom of each page, and the full table is on the last page.

Younger children

Children who aren't writing yet can answer out loud or tell a grown-up what to write.

Name _____ Date _____

MEET THE AUTHOR

Joseph Jacobs

1854–1916 ✦ "The English Grimm"

Joseph Jacobs was born in Sydney, Australia, in 1854, and sailed to England to study at Cambridge. Like the Brothers Grimm in Germany, he wanted to save the old stories people told. In 1890 he published *English Fairy Tales*, which gave many favorite stories the form we know today, including *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *The Three Little Pigs* and *Johnny-Cake*. He wanted his tales told the way a grandparent would tell them. He later moved to New York, where he died in 1916.

Questions About the Author

1. In what country was Joseph Jacobs born?

2. Why do people call him "the English Grimm"?

3. Jacobs wanted stories told like a grandparent tells them. How would you tell this story?

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Name _____ Date _____

STORY MAP

Johnny-Cake



Look at the picture from the read-aloud. Who do you see? Then fill in the story map.

Characters

Who is in the story?

Setting

Where and when does it happen?

Problem

What goes wrong?

Solution

How is it fixed? How does it end?

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Name _____ Date _____

LET'S TALK

Johnny-Cake

Young children can answer out loud. Older children can write their answers.

REMEMBER

1. Who was supposed to watch the Johnny-cake?

2. Name three people or animals Johnny-cake outran.

3. How did the fox trick Johnny-cake?

THINK

4. Why did Johnny-cake's boast get longer and longer?

5. Why did Johnny-cake stop running for the fox when he never stopped before?

CONNECT

6. The Gingerbread Man is a lot like this story. How are they the same?

NARRATION

Close the book and tell the story back in your own words. Can you say the whole list of everyone Johnny-cake outran?

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Name _____ Date _____

THE BIG IDEA

What Does the Story Teach?

THE LESSON

Boasting can get you into trouble, and someone who flatters you, like the fox, is not always a friend.

What does this mean to you? Tell or write about a time it was true in your life.

Try It

SKILL FOCUS

Cumulative stories: a list that grows by one each time something new happens

Make a list, in order, of everyone Johnny-cake outran. Then add one new runner of your own to the story.

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Name _____ Date _____

WORDS TO KNOW

Word Match

Draw a line from each word to what it means.

johnny-cake	a loud noise and fuss
oven	to run faster than someone
hoe	a flat bread made of cornmeal
uproar	a long, narrow hole in the ground
well-digger	a garden tool for digging
ditch	weak and small
outrun	a hot box for baking food
feeble	a person who digs a hole for water

Word Sort: People or Animals?

Write each word in the right box.

old man · bear · little boy · wolf · old woman · fox · well-diggers · ditch-diggers

People

Animals

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Name _____ Date _____

WORD SEARCH

Johnny-Cake

Find the words from the story. Words go across (left to right) and down (top to bottom). Circle each word, then check it off.

D	G	O	R	C	U	G	B	R	I
R	B	V	O	N	F	B	H	C	A
U	P	E	A	E	L	E	C	T	S
N	D	N	D	L	T	A	A	J	D
I	B	O	T	S	O	R	K	E	N
B	O	Y	B	W	G	G	E	Y	U
Y	A	J	W	O	H	L	E	C	A
P	G	H	V	L	F	G	K	A	L
S	F	N	O	F	O	G	U	J	G
U	N	E	C	E	X	U	V	D	B

WORD BANK

- ☐ CAKE
- ☐ OVEN
- ☐ BOY
- ☐ BEAR
- ☐ WOLF
- ☐ FOX
- ☐ ROAD
- ☐ RUN

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Name _____ Date _____

CHECK YOUR READING

Yes or No?

Read each sentence about the story. Circle **Yes** if it is true. Circle **No** if it is not.

1. The little boy watched the oven the whole time. Yes No
2. Johnny-cake rolled out the door and down the road. Yes No
3. The well-diggers caught Johnny-cake. Yes No
4. Johnny-cake outran a bear and a wolf. Yes No
5. The fox said he could not hear Johnny-cake. Yes No
6. Johnny-cake got away from the fox. Yes No

ABC Order

Write these words from the story in ABC order.

oven · bear · fox · wolf · road

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

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Name _____ Date _____

PUT IT IN ORDER

What Happens First?

Read each sentence. Write 1 in the circle next to what happens first, 2 next to what happens next, and so on up to 6.

- ◯ Johnny-cake outruns the bear.
- ◯ Johnny-cake jumps out of the oven.
- ◯ The fox snaps up Johnny-cake.
- ◯ Johnny-cake outruns the well-diggers.
- ◯ Johnny-cake outruns the wolf.
- ◯ The fox asks him to come a little closer.

Retell the Story

Use the order words to tell the story in your own words. Say it out loud, or write it.

First, _____

Next, _____

Then, _____

Last, _____

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Name _____ Date _____

CHARACTERS

Who Said It?

Read each line from the story. Write who said it. Use the name bank to help.

Johnny-cake | the bear | the fox | the old woman | the well-diggers

"You watch the Johnny-cake while your father and I go out to work." _____

"Where are you going, Johnny-cake?" _____

"I can outrun you, too!" _____

"Ye can, can ye?" _____

"I can't quite hear you; won't you come a little closer?" _____

How Did Johnny-cake Feel?

Write a feeling word for each part of the story. Use the word bank, or choose your own.

free | proud | excited | brave | silly | surprised | fast

When…	Johnny-cake felt…
he jumped out of the oven	
he outran the old man, old woman and boy	
he outran the bear	
he outran the wolf	
the fox said he couldn't hear	
the fox snapped him up	

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Name _____ Date _____

PERFORM IT

Read It With Voices

One reader is Johnny-cake. Others are the bear, the wolf and the fox. Everyone can say Johnny-cake's list together. It gets longer every time!

BEAR	"Where are you going, Johnny-cake?"
JOHNNY-CAKE	"I've outrun an old man, and an old woman, and a little boy, and two well-diggers, and two ditch-diggers, and I can outrun you, too!"
WOLF	"Where you going, Johnny-cake?"
JOHNNY-CAKE	"I've outrun … a bear, and I can outrun you, too!"
FOX	"I can't quite hear you, Johnny-cake; won't you come a little closer?"
JOHNNY-CAKE	"I've outrun … a bear, and a wolf, and I can outrun you, too!"
FOX	"You can, can you?" (Snap!)

My Favorite Part

My favorite part is _____

_____

because _____

_____

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Name _____ Date _____

HANDWRITING PRACTICE

Johnny-Cake

Trace the gray words, then write them on your own on the empty lines. Tall letters touch the top line; small letters reach the dotted line.

Where are you going, Johnny-cake?

Where are you going, Johnny-ca

Where are you going, Johnny-ca

I can outrun you, too!

I can outrun you, too!

I can outrun you, too!

☐ I started with a capital letter. ☐ I left spaces between words. ☐ I copied the end mark.

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FOR GROWN-UPS

Answer Key & Ideas

Story Map

Characters: Johnny-cake, the old man, the old woman, the little boy, two well-diggers, two ditch-diggers, a bear, a wolf, a fox. Setting: a farmhouse and a long country road. Problem: Johnny-cake runs away and boasts to everyone he meets. Solution: the sly fox tricks him into coming close and snaps him up.

Let's Talk

1. The little boy. 2. The old man, old woman, little boy, two well-diggers, two ditch-diggers, a bear and a wolf. 3. He pretended he couldn't hear, so Johnny-cake came closer and closer. 4–6. Answers will vary (each new runner was added to the list; Johnny-cake wanted the fox to hear his boast).

Word Search

D	G	O	R	C	U	G	B	R	I
R	B	V	O	N	F	B	H	C	A
U	P	E	A	E	L	E	C	T	S
N	D	N	D	L	T	A	A	J	D
I	B	O	T	S	O	R	K	E	N
B	O	Y	B	W	G	G	E	Y	U
Y	A	J	W	O	H	L	E	C	A
P	G	H	V	L	F	G	K	A	L
S	F	N	O	F	O	G	U	J	G
U	N	E	C	E	X	U	V	D	B

Word Match & Sort

johnny-cake: a flat bread made of cornmeal · oven: a hot box for baking food · hoe: a garden tool for digging · uproar: a loud noise and fuss · well-digger: a person who digs a hole for water · ditch: a long, narrow hole in the ground · outrun: to run faster than someone · feeble: weak and small. Sort: People: old man, little boy, old woman, well-diggers, ditch-diggers. Animals: bear, wolf, fox.

Yes or No? & ABC Order

1. No · 2. Yes · 3. No · 4. Yes · 5. Yes · 6. No. ABC order: bear, fox, oven, road, wolf.

Put It in Order

jumps out of the oven → outruns the well-diggers → outruns the bear → outruns the wolf → the fox asks him to come closer → the fox snaps him up.

Who Said It?

1. the old woman · 2. the well-diggers · 3. Johnny-cake · 4. the bear · 5. the fox

Ideas to extend the lesson

- Bake simple cornmeal johnny-cakes together.
- Act out the chase, adding one runner at a time.
- Read it with The Gingerbread Man and make a same-and-different chart.

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FOR TEACHERS

Standards Alignment

Johnny-Cake ✦ Common Core State Standards, kindergarten to grade 2

STANDARDS	WHAT CHILDREN PRACTICE	WHERE IN THIS GUIDE
RL.K.1 RL.1.1 RL.2.1	Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	Let's Talk and Yes or No?; Let's Talk
RL.K.2 RL.1.2 RL.2.2	Retell stories and poems, including key details, and show understanding of their message.	Put It in Order and Retell; Put It in Order and Retell; The Big Idea; The Big Idea
RL.K.3 RL.1.3 RL.2.3	Identify and describe characters, settings and major events.	Story Map and Character Feelings; Character Feelings
RL.K.4	Understand words and phrases, including rhyme, rhythm and words that appeal to the senses.	Word Match
RL.K.6 RL.1.6 RL.2.6	Identify who is speaking and use a different voice for each character when reading aloud.	Meet the Author; Who Said It?; Read It With Voices
RL.K.7 RL.1.7	Use illustrations and words together to describe characters, setting and events.	Story Map picture
RL.K.10 RL.1.10	Engage in group reading of poems and stories with purpose and understanding.	Reading the story together
RF.K.1b RF.K.1d	Understand the organization of print (left to right, top to bottom).	Word Search; ABC Order
RF.K.3c RF.1.3	Read common high-frequency words by sight.	Word Search
RF.1.4b RF.2.4b	Read aloud with accuracy, appropriate rate and expression.	Read It With Voices
SL.K.1 SL.1.1	Take part in conversations about the text with classmates and adults.	Let's Talk (discussion)
SL.K.2	Ask and answer questions about a text read aloud or presented through media.	Read-aloud video (QR code)
SL.K.6	Speak audibly and express ideas clearly.	Read It With Voices
L.K.1a L.1.1 L.1.1a	Print upper- and lowercase letters and use common position words.	Handwriting Practice; ABC Order
L.K.2a	Use capital letters and end punctuation.	Handwriting checklist
L.K.4 L.1.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown words and phrases.	Word Match
L.K.5a	Sort words into categories, connect words to real life and act out shades of meaning.	Word Sort
W.K.1 W.1.1	Use drawing and writing to share an opinion and give a reason.	My Favorite Part
W.K.2	Use a combination of drawing, dictating and writing to compose informative texts.	Try It
W.1.8	With guidance and support, recall information from experiences or gather information to answer a question.	Try It

Codes are Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. Find free read-alouds and guides at storylandclassics.com.

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