Gingerbread Series

During November, the afternoon class started reading a series of books centered about the old Gingerbread Man folk stories. The books included; *The Gingerbread Man, The Gingerbread Baby, The Gingerbread Baby Friends, Gingerbread Girl,* and *The Gingerbread Girl Goes Animal Crackers.* This series of books took the class through to the end of the semester in December. Activities for this book series varied week to week in relation to which book was being read, but students did participate in several projects or activities that spanned several weeks., such as ; writing their own Gingerbread story and reading it for the class, retelling the story through yoga, and making Gingerbread baked goods. 11-14 - 12-14



Students did a mystery tasting of different ginger products; ginger snap cookies and candied ginger for baking. Students first tasted the items and then tried to guess what flavor it was.



Using pictures, students worked to create patterns. Each student made at least two different patterns.



Students created their own versions of the gingerbread folk tales; selecting characters, writing the book, and illustrating the story. Students were then given the opportunity to read their version of the story to classmates during circle time.



Gingerbread Continued



Students followed along with a retelling of the gingerbread story through yoga.



Students worked together to follow the recipe for gingerbread and gingerbread cookies. Special classroom guest Teri Melendez taught the children how to make gingerbread from scratch.



The cookies were decorated to look like the gingerbread people from the stories using candy and raisins.



Both the bread and cookies baked by children were used to host a tea party. Students drank gingerbread flavored teas as well as herbal teas made from ingredients grown in the preschool garden.