

## *Information from the Fairy Handbook*

### Gnomes

Gnomes are earth spirits who make flowers, plants, trees, crystals, and minerals grow. They add colors to nature and work with fairies to ensure the protection of the earth's treasures. Gnomes have the ability to disguise themselves so they can go about their business undetected. To regular humans, a gnome will look like an ordinary object such as a tree stump, a watering can, or an acorn squash.

### Magic Mushroom Spores

Some gnomes carry magic mushroom spores in their pockets when adding colors to nature. The spores help the gnome work faster and make the coloring more permanent. Magic mushroom spores are too tiny to be seen, even by fairy eyes.

### Gnome Convention

A gnome convention is a gathering of gnomes that usually occurs once a year. There are four separate gnome conventions, one for each of the gnome divisions: garden, wood, mountain, and desert. The gnomes visit with each other, and exchange ideas on growing techniques and new ways of adding color. In addition, they attend workshops led by gnome inventors with

specific areas of expertise, who have developed new and improved tools and methods to carry out gnome job functions. The classes are often highly anticipated and include subjects such as fertilizer developments, advanced gardening technology, and concentrated gnome magic. Sometimes the gnome convention includes a special seed, root, nut, and bulb trading session.

### Gnome Divisions

There are four gnome divisions: garden, wood, mountain, and desert. Occasionally, representatives from each of the divisions meet together to share magical developments. Gnomes are some of the most progressive of all magical spirits as far as technological advances in their techniques to carry out job functions. The four gnome divisions get along very well; however, they meet with each other very infrequently because most gnomes are workaholics and cannot stand to take time away from their work. They usually only meet together out of necessity: to catch up on new inventions and developments in helping plants grow and adding colors to nature.

### Differences Between Types of Gnomes

All gnomes are about ten inches high, and have the job of helping plants grow and adding colors to nature.

Garden gnomes are a dusty brown color all over including their hair and clothes. They wear overalls with fifteen pockets to hold all of their gardening necessities like seeds, tools, bulbs, gloves, etc. They also roll up their pant cuffs to hold some of these items. Some of them wear hats and bandanas. Garden gnomes have bushy moustaches, but no beards. They live in dugout style houses.

Wood gnomes have beards, but no moustaches. They usually dress in greens and browns including trousers, shirts, and soft hats or caps. They live in tree houses.

Desert gnomes have no beards or moustaches and are completely bald. They dress in loose fitting clothing (usually white, tan, or gray) and wear scarves on their heads fashioned like Arab style headdresses. Desert gnomes live in either mud huts or regular people's houses. Sometimes desert gnomes ride on animals to travel.

Mountain gnomes have both beards and moustaches and wear miner-like clothing in colors of gray, black, and white. They live in caves and dens in the mountains.