

Wee Folk in Literature

Grades 3-5

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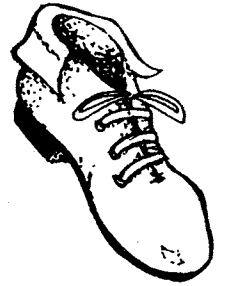
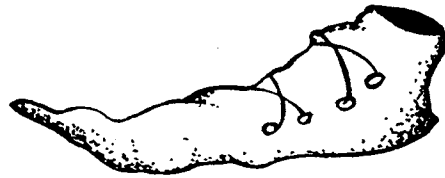
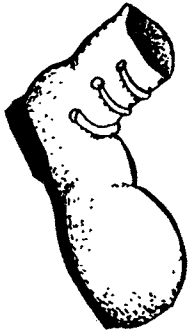
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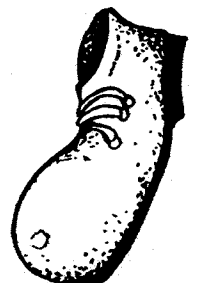
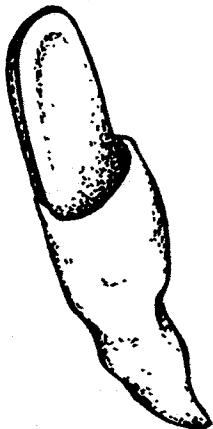
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Wee Folk Trivia



Did you know that:



- elves come from northern Europe?
- elves usually do good deeds but sometimes stole human children and left a changeling?
- elves or sprites can cause diseases and nightmares?
- elves include dwarfs and pixies?



- elves like to dance at night and leave bright rings on the grass?
- an imp is a small devil who plots mischief on human beings?
- Rumpelstiltskin was a famous dwarf?



- goblins like to twist the hair of sleeping girls or turn themselves into horses and give people long rides?
- brownies are good-natured people who live in Scotland and help farmers do their chores?



- trolls come in all shapes and sizes and live in caves in Norway and Sweden?
- leprechauns are clever and usually have a pot of gold in Ireland



- water sprites are small creatures at home on the water? Some have the bodies of fishes from the waist down.
- gremlins are modern little people? They like to cause trouble in motors or airplanes?



- gnomes are small creatures who live inside the earth?
- the adult gnome weighs 300 grams (10 ounces) and is never seen without his red cap? He is seven times as strong as a man and lives 400 years.



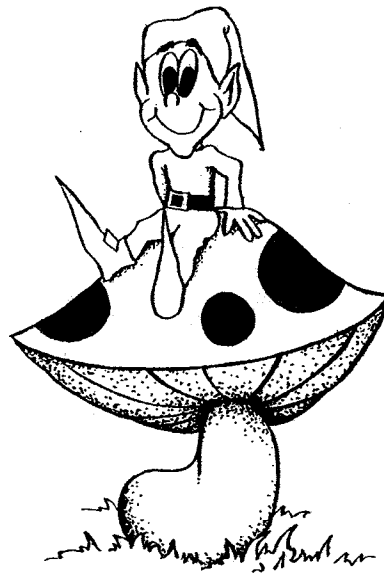
- there are woodland gnomes, dune gnomes, garden gnomes and Siberian gnomes?
- a gnome keeps track of his age by watching the oak tree that is planted on the day of his birth?



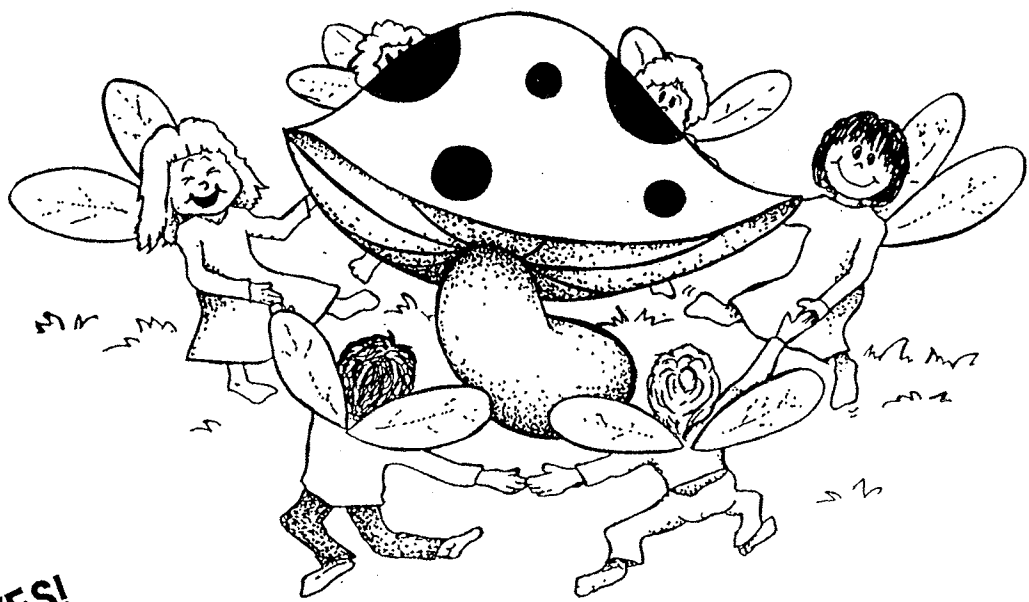
- gnomes like to eat ant eggs, butter, jam, mushrooms and rose-hip tea?
- gnome children use winged seeds to play at being dragonflies?



- gnomes make blowpipes out of hollow stems of weeds?
- gnomes play bowling with rabbit droppings and soccer with a snowberry?
- gnomes like to play games such as Red River, jumping rope, blindman's bluff, checkers and burr throwings?



WEE FOLK DICTIONARY



ELVES!

GNOMES!

FAIRIES!

BROWNIES!

DWARFS!

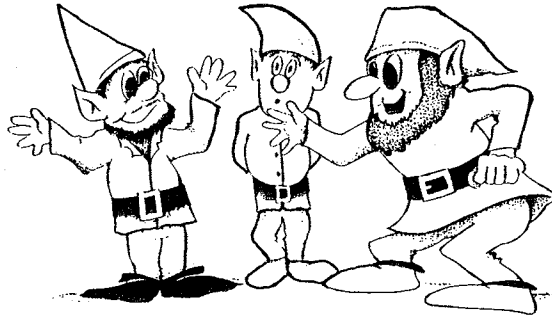
PIXIES!

TROLLS!

GOBLINS!

LEPRECHAUNS!

Wee Folk Dictionary



Boggart:

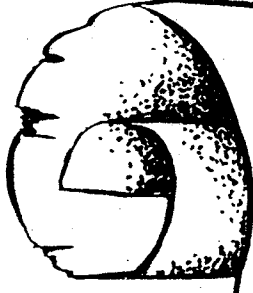
The boggart is the tiniest of the fairies. He is only half the size of a thumb. The boggarts were found in great Britain. They live in knotholes and no one ever sees them. The boggart loves to tease children and annoy adults. During the night he enjoys moving furniture about so that people trip when they get out of bed in the dark.

Brownie:

The brownie was found in Great Britain. A housewife who has a brownie in her cellar is very fortunate. The brownie will help do the housework and only wants a bowl of fresh milk left behind the door at bedtime. Brownies are little old men with short curly hair and wrinkled faces. They are dressed in brown suits. Brownies are mischievous and often play tricks on lazy or unkind people. People in Scotland who waste things are punished by the brownies.

Changeling:

Changelings are found throughout most of Europe. Fairies will exchange one of their own babies for a human baby. This fairy child is called a changeling. A human mother can usually tell if it is not her baby due to its odd behavior. If the human mother does something silly like trying to boil water in



eggshells, the changeling will laugh and begin to talk. The human mother knows he is too old to be a baby and she may go to put him in the oven or throw him in the fire. When this happens an old fairy woman will suddenly appear and exchange the real baby for the changeling.

Chin-Chin Kobakama:

In Japan a tiny fairy called Chin-Chin Kobakama looks after the beautiful thick mats which cover the floors of a Japanese house. If the children are careless the fairy will tease them to remind them about being careful. The name Chin-Chin Kobakama means "lovely little spirit wearing a skirt."

Cluricaun:

In Ireland is found the cluricaun. He looks like his Irish brother, the leprechaun. The cluricaun is a little old man dressed in old fashioned clothes. He is known for his hot fiery temper and mischievous tricks. Often he will attach himself to one family.

Drac:

Dracs are found in France. They are elfin folk that live in caverns underneath the rivers. Dracs will float on the surface of the water in the shape of a golden cup or a ring. If you touch one with your hand, it will stick fast and you will be dragged down to their kingdom and be held prisoner for seven years.

