



EXPLORE GNOMELAND

Head to the Carriage House Breezeway in the Children's Garden to meet the gnomes and other critters who are living there. While you visit, you might also enjoy doing a puzzle, reading a book, or discovering some natural materials in the tiny treasures library.

AUTUMN QUEST



WHAT GARDEN CRITTERS LIVE HERE?

In autumn critters in the Garden are busy getting ready for winter. Bees and butterflies are gathering the last of the pollen from late-season flowers. Squirrels are foraging for nuts to store away. Other animals are collecting grasses and pine needles to insulate their homes from winter winds. Some say that gnomes and fairies are also preparing for winter. If you look very carefully, you might just spot them.

AUTUMN QUEST



BUTTERFLIES

Head to the Children's Garden where you will see a profusion of late-season flowers. Many types of butterflies sip nectar from the blossoms here. The colors and scents attract them. Carefully peek under and around the leaves. You just might spot a caterpillar getting ready to transform.



BEES

Meander across the walkway to the Garden Keepers Cottage. Beside it, you will see a large loofah vine full of flowers and fruit growing on a tall trellis. Bees love collecting the pollen and nectar from these cheerful yellow flowers. How many bees can you count?

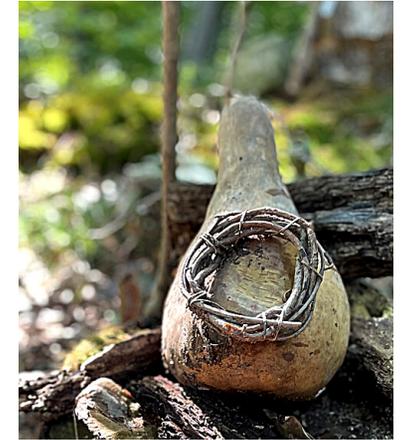
SQUIRRELS

Stroll along Sydnor Lake past the Tree House. Stop when you come to a tall tree with large wind chimes hanging from it. Squirrels like to eat the seeds from the cones of this loblolly pine. Listen to the sound the wind makes as it blows over the lake and through the branches.



FAIRIES

Continue on this walkway until you reach the Tree Trail entrance. Hike down this short forested path. If you look closely, you might discover some fairy homes there. Perhaps you will feel inspired to create a fairy house with natural materials, you find on the forest floor.



GNOMES

Continue along the walkway to Gnome Depot. Using natural materials, construct and decorate a house that gnomes might like. Use plenty of tree debris such as pinecones, twigs, and fallen leaves to decorate and make them feel right at home.



BIRDS

While you are on the Tree Trail, look and listen for birds. You might catch a glimpse of a red cardinal, a blue jay, or a camouflaged sparrow foraging for food. Look to the creek at the bottom of the hill. It is even possible to spot water birds such as geese or herons.