


SCARECROWS & GARDEN GNOMES



 Choose a selection of challenges to complete

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CHALLENGE OPTIONS

Scarecrows

- ☐ Make some bird biscuits suitable for your local birds
- ☐ Make up a story, play, poem or song about a scarecrow
- ☐ Build a bird's nest using natural materials, such as twigs, sticks, grass and straw
- ☐ Collaborate with your group to create a list of books and movies featuring a scarecrow character
- ☐ Discover the history of scarecrows and how they are used in different cultures around the world
- ☐ Find out about the harmful effects of insecticides on birds and animals
- ☐ Make a list of things you are scared of. Be brave and try to overcome one of those fears.
- ☐ Visit a farm, orchard or vineyard. Describe what you saw, heard, felt, smelled and/or tasted.
- ☐ Compare the use of traditional scarecrows to modern methods of protecting crops
- ☐ Make your own scarecrow for your garden
- ☐ Research the bird emblem of your state or country
- ☐ Create a garden item designed to keep birds away



Garden Gnomes

- ☐ Collaborate with your group to create a list of books and movies featuring a gnome character
- ☐ Organise a Gnome Hunt and explore your local community to see how many different garden gnomes you can find.
- ☐ Make a mushroom using any craft supplies like paper, clay, or recycled materials. Decorate it with patterns and colours to create your unique design.
- ☐ Go on a nature walk and look for different types of mushrooms, being careful not to disturb them.
- ☐ Research how mushrooms grow, their role in the ecosystem, and the types of mushrooms found in your area.
- ☐ Plant a sunflower seed and care for it as it grows. Track its progress by measuring its height each week.
- ☐ Use sunflower seeds in a recipe
- ☐ Research myths or folklore about mushrooms, such as fairy rings or toadstools
- ☐ Find and try some recipes featuring mushrooms for a meal or snack
- ☐ Make a mushroom house for a gnome using natural materials and imagination
- ☐ Make a suncatcher that casts rainbows when hung in sunlight
- ☐ Learn about the life cycle of a sunflower and how it contributes to the ecosystem
- ☐ Research how sunflowers are used in different countries for food, oil, or decoration.
- ☐ Gnome Tales - Write or tell a story about a day in the life of a garden gnome.
- ☐ Make a list of other words that start with the letters **gn**



ORDER DETAILS

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**Themed ready-made resources
available to download and print**

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Gardening

- ☐ Grow a plant from a bulb
- ☐ Grow herbs like basil, mint, or parsley in small pots or a garden bed. Learn how to use them in cooking.
- ☐ Take a cutting from a plant and try to grow a new one. Learn about propagation techniques.
- ☐ Choose your 5 favourite vegetables and find out which vitamins are in each
- ☐ Make a chart showing which fruit and vegetables are in season at each time of the year
- ☐ Collect and make art from leaves, bark or flowers. You may like to press some flowers and use them to make a bookmark, preserve some leaves to make bark rubbings, or make a collage of a tree from bark and leaves.
- ☐ Make a Hairy Harry and watch his hair grow. You may like to make this using eggshells, socks etc.
- ☐ Make a weather vane that works and record the wind direction daily
- ☐ Grow some bee-friendly flowers to attract bees and other pollinators to your garden
- ☐ Learn how to use 3 garden tools safely
- ☐ Participate in a tree planting activity
- ☐ Find out about some plants native to your area or country
- ☐ Plant seeds and watch them grow. Nurture these plants to maturity
- ☐ Transplant seedlings into a garden (for growing into larger plants)
- ☐ Design a small garden with a theme, such as a butterfly garden, a sensory garden, or a fairy garden.
- ☐ Learn about vermicomposting by setting up a small worm farm to recycle food scraps into nutrient-rich soil. Use the worm castings (worm poo) in your garden.
- ☐ Make your own windchime using natural or recycled materials. Hang it in a special place and observe how the sound changes with the wind.
- ☐ Grow a fruit, vegetable, or edible flower, and use it in a meal once it's ready to harvest
- ☐ Learn about companion planting (which plants grow well together) and plant a combination that benefits each other
- ☐ Eat a vegetable that you have not tried before
- ☐ Start a compost system for food scraps and garden waste. Learn how composting helps plants and reduces waste.
- ☐ Search for items in every colour of the rainbow around your home, garden, or park.
- ☐ Find out about 'Find a Rainbow Day' and enjoy a rainbow-themed activity
- ☐ Explore your garden or local area to find natural items that match the colours of the rainbow.
- ☐ Make natural dyes by extracting colours from plants like beetroot, turmeric, or spinach to use for painting or fabric dyeing
- ☐ Explore plants with unique features such as carnivorous plants, plants that move (like the sensitive plant), or other unusual species
- ☐ Do some research and find out about your birth flower (birth month)
- ☐ Find out how Christmas Trees are grown
- ☐ Paint or decorate a plant pot and use it to grow a plant of your choice
- ☐ Make a set of plant labels to help identify your plants

