



LITTLE GNOME AND THE MAGIC WINDOW

Written by Catherine Pilko and inspired by Susan Perrow's Story, "The Little Gnome who Had to Stay at Home". The story was introduced as part of a Zoom meeting with the children in Little Kindergarten who had not seen each other for many weeks.

One night the Little Gnome who liked to roam and had had to spend far too much time at home went to bed in his little moss bed under the roots of Mother Tree.

While he slept he dreamed of all the little friends with whom he used to play in the forest. When he woke up the next morning he almost forgot that he was not going to gnome school to play with all his friends. He almost forgot that he was staying home again. But then he remembered all the things he needed to do at home and busied himself with his morning chores. Being busy always made him happy. The first thing Little Gnome had to do was to make a little fire on which to cook his breakfast.

Snappity Crack, snappity crack twigs for the fire I'll make it burn higher

Warm my fingers, warm my toes, warm my ears and warm my nose.

Little gnome then cooked a delicious bowl of warm porridge and sat down at his little tree stump table and ate it all up. When he had finished he washed the dishes and began to sweep and clean and polish his little house just like he did every day. As he was dusting however he was drawn to a little corner in the furthest reaches of his house. And there he saw something very strange. He saw a little window that he was quite sure he had never seen before. As went to investigate he saw that all around the window little sun fairies were dancing and singing.

A magic window full of light

A magic window shining bright

Look in the window here today

And meet with your friends to sing and play

Little Gnome couldn't believe his ears. Could that really be so? Could he really look into this little magic window that had suddenly appeared in his house and see his friends?? He looked all around the window to see how it might work and then on the window ledge he saw a little message

Come to the window half before noon

Your friends will meet you very soon.

Little gnome put the bark message back on the windowsill and set about finishing his morning chores. The last thing he did was to chop some vegetables to put in the soup pot which he placed on his fire. He also kneaded and baked a little loaf of bread to eat with his soup for lunch.

And then at last Little Gnome went and sat by the little shining window that had strangely appeared that morning. He sat very still and he watched and waited, waited and watched. And, sure enough at half before noon the little sun fairies returned singing their little tinkling song.

A magic window full of light

A magic window shining bright

Look in the window here today

And meet with your friends to sing and play

Suddenly a little window lit up and shined even brighter. A golden curtain opened and Little Gnome couldn't believe his eyes. There inside were some of his little friends from gnome school. He was so happy. He smiled and waved and together they shared some songs, and played some games. Little Gnome even showed his friends the beautiful little loaf of bread he had made.

By noon the little sun fairies began to close the curtain again on the window and Little Gnome happily waved goodbye to all his friends. It wasn't quite like playing with his friends in the forest but Little Gnome was very happy and his heart was filled with warmth as he thought about all his little friends from Gnome School. He whistled a happy tune and sat down at his little stump table to eat his delicious soup and freshly baked bread.

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