

Little People - Big Ideas

Little people come in all shapes and sizes - fairies and elves, goblins and gnomes, dolls that come alive, and folk as small as your hand. Where do they live? Some make their homes behind the skirting boards, or in the branches of a tree at the bottom of the garden. Some are just like us, some have special powers and love to be helpful, and others are just downright nasty!

Lilac Peabody is as small and shimmery as a dragonfly and definitely one of the helpful kind. When Sam has no new friends in his new school to invite to his birthday party Lilac appears. **LILAC PEABODY AND SAM SPARKS 16584** (KS1 & KS2).

In the Enchanted Forest stands the enormous Magic Faraway Tree (KS1 & KS2). **Enid Blyton's** fairy folk who live in its branches are Angry Pixie, who hates nosey people peeking into his house, and Silky, the fairy with the shiny hair. Three children who live nearby have lots of adventures in the magic lands that appear at the top of the tree.

THE MAGIC FARAWAY TREE	16265
THE FOLK OF THE FARAWAY TREE	16264
THE FARAWAY TREE ADVENTURE	16320

When the three Grace children move to the rundown Spiderwick Estate they find a field guide to faeries. They soon begin to realise that the estate is infested with them - some good and some bad. Learn more about Brownies, Boggarts, Goblins, Hobgoblins, Sprites and Elves in *The Spiderwick Chronicles* (KS2) by **Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi**, but beware – some faeries would rather you didn't read the books and find out all about the Faery World.

THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES 1 & 2

16515

THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES 3 & 4

16516

There are more fearsome little people in **THE PRINCESS AND THE GOBLIN 15392** (KS1 & KS2), where evil goblins living in underground caverns plot to kidnap a princess. This story, originally published in 1872, supposedly influenced the young JRR Tolkien.

Another nasty piece of work is the Queen of the Fairies, who kidnaps Tiffany's little brother in Terry Pratchett's **THE WEE FREE MEN 16457** (KS2 & KS3). Along with the Nac Mac Feegle, an army of fighting, thieving, blue-skinned pictsies, Tiffany sets off to the rescue.

Criminal mastermind **Artemis Fowl** (KS2 & KS3) discovers the existence of fairies, and even manages to kidnap one, in the first book of the series by **Eoin Colfer**. But the fairies are not going to take it lying down: they launch an attack against the 'Mud Man' (their name for humans). Other fairy folk you can expect to meet in the series are Mulch Diggums the flatulent dwarf, and a host of goblins, trolls and demons.

ARTEMIS FOWL 16208
THE ARCTIC INCIDENT 16331
THE ETERNITY CODE 16395
THE OPAL DECEPTION 16534

There are trolls aplenty in **Katherine Langrish's** Troll Trilogy (KS2 & KS3) – set in Viking times. Peer's uncles are planning to give him to the trolls but not if his friends Hilde and Nis, the little house spirit, have anything to do with it!

TROLL FELL	16451
TROLL MILL	16506
TROLL BLOOD	
coming soon	

Some little people are humans in miniature, like the Borrowers, who inhabit the world of 'Human Beans'. For them being tiny is a serious business. In the first book of the series by **Mary Norton** (KS1 & KS2), Pod, Homily and their daughter Arietty live hidden beneath the kitchen floor, borrowing things from the humans, until one day Pod is seen while on a borrowing expedition. Their adventures continue with the family living in a lost boot; taking up residence in a floating teakettle when they are swept away in a flood; and escaping from an attic in which they have been imprisoned for a whole winter.

THE BORROWERS	15010
THE BORROWERS AFIELD	15011
THE BORROWERS AFLOAT	16140
THE BORROWERS AVENGED	15514

The tiny Minpins of the Forest of Sin live in fear too - not of the humans, but of the Red-Hot Smoke-Belching Gruncher – until Little Billy rids them of their tormentor in the last book that Roald Dahl wrote - **THE MINPINS 15690** (KS1).

Another miniature human is Mrs Pepperpot. She has lots of adventures when she finds herself shrunk to the size of a – well, a pepper pot, in **LITTLE OLD MRS PEPPERPOT 15032** (KS1). And sometimes being tiny is positively useful as Mrs Pepperpot discovers in **MRS PEPPERPOT TO THE RESCUE 15032**.

Dolls are little people too ... The two little Japanese dolls, **MISS HAPPINESS AND MISS FLOWER 15941** (KS1), help Nona get used to her new home in chilly England. As Nona makes them a perfect house with a tiny Japanese garden, to remind them of home, she herself begins to feel happier. The tiny doll in **THE LITTLE GIRL AND THE TINY DOLL 15428** (KS1) is unhappy too, she lives in a supermarket deep freeze and only has packets of frozen food for company – until the little girl comes along.

Two little rag dolls live with Miss Biscuit, a retired nanny, in the Ivy Cottage series by **E J Taylor** (KS1). In the first book Violet Pickles is not happy with the move to a new cottage in the country, so Miss Biscuit makes her a new companion – Ruby Buttons. But the dolls are not the best of friends in the second story when Ruby turns their bedroom into a home for sick animals. Things take a bad turn when Ruby and Violet are captured and taken to a strange underground world in the Thorn Witch. We have five Ivy Cottage books for you to enjoy:

IVY COTTAGE 16109

GOOSE EGGS 16110

RAG DOLL PRESS 16111

THE THORN WITCH 16112
CHRISTMAS AT IVY COTTAGE 16113

So, do **you** believe in fairies? *'If you believe, clap your hands; don't let Tink die.'* as Peter says in **Peter Pan & Wendy 16243** (KS2).

Denise James