Do you have any extra "real" gophers that are dead (taxidermied) so we could take one home to look at and we wouldn't have to feed it?

No we do not.

Our taxidermied specimens come from a variety of sources. In general we only get a specimen when we have lost one or there is a specific need for a new one.

Space is also an issue for us; for every extra specimen that we have, we need to find a safe storage spot for it. Admittedly a gopher is not large; but if we store a gopher, we might also get a skunk, or a coyote, or a mountain lion, or, who knows, maybe even an elephant.

If you are interested in gophers and want to study them in depth, I would suggest using the internet. Try these links on for size:

http://www.answers.com/topic/pocket-gopher?cat=technology

http://fwp.mt.gov/fieldguide/detail_AMAFC01040.aspx

http://www.desertusa.com/mag01/jun/papr/gopher.html

There are, of course, many thousands of gopher pictures on the internet also.