A whimsical illustration of a young fairy with brown hair in a high ponytail, wearing a green headband with red flowers. She has large, light green wings with a scalloped edge and is dressed in a white dress with colorful polka dots and green leggings. She is surrounded by large, vibrant yellow autumn leaves. Three small butterflies (white, blue, and red) are flying around her. She is holding a small branch with a yellow flower, and a trail of yellow petals is falling from it. The background is a soft, light blue sky.

Rosa M. Curto / Aleix Cabrera

The
fairies
tell us about...
Humility

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Fairies are so playful that they make a party out of everything, even misfortunes, like the day when lightening struck in the middle of summer and set fire to the mountaintop leaving it completely bare. Have you ever wondered how long it takes a forest to regenerate?



“We’ll have to wait for years to see such tall pine trees and strong holm oaks again!” concluded the fairy counsel.
“Not if we replant the hill with trees from other regions.”
“Let’s organize a competition! The fairy who plants the best tree will name the mound.”





Egolina's Peak...

Derna's Needle...



They all started to think about the prize. Who wouldn't like to name a place after them?

Mount Picarol...



Raclet's Crest...





The idea even encouraged fairies from other regions. They brought palm trees from the islands. They brought strange pumpkin colored shrubs from the desert. And they brought trees full of lianas from the jungle.

The competition awoke strong competitiveness among the fairies. Never before had they taken so much trouble over something or laughed at each other so much. The fairy who got the most laughs was surely Suzy the Fairy and her tree.



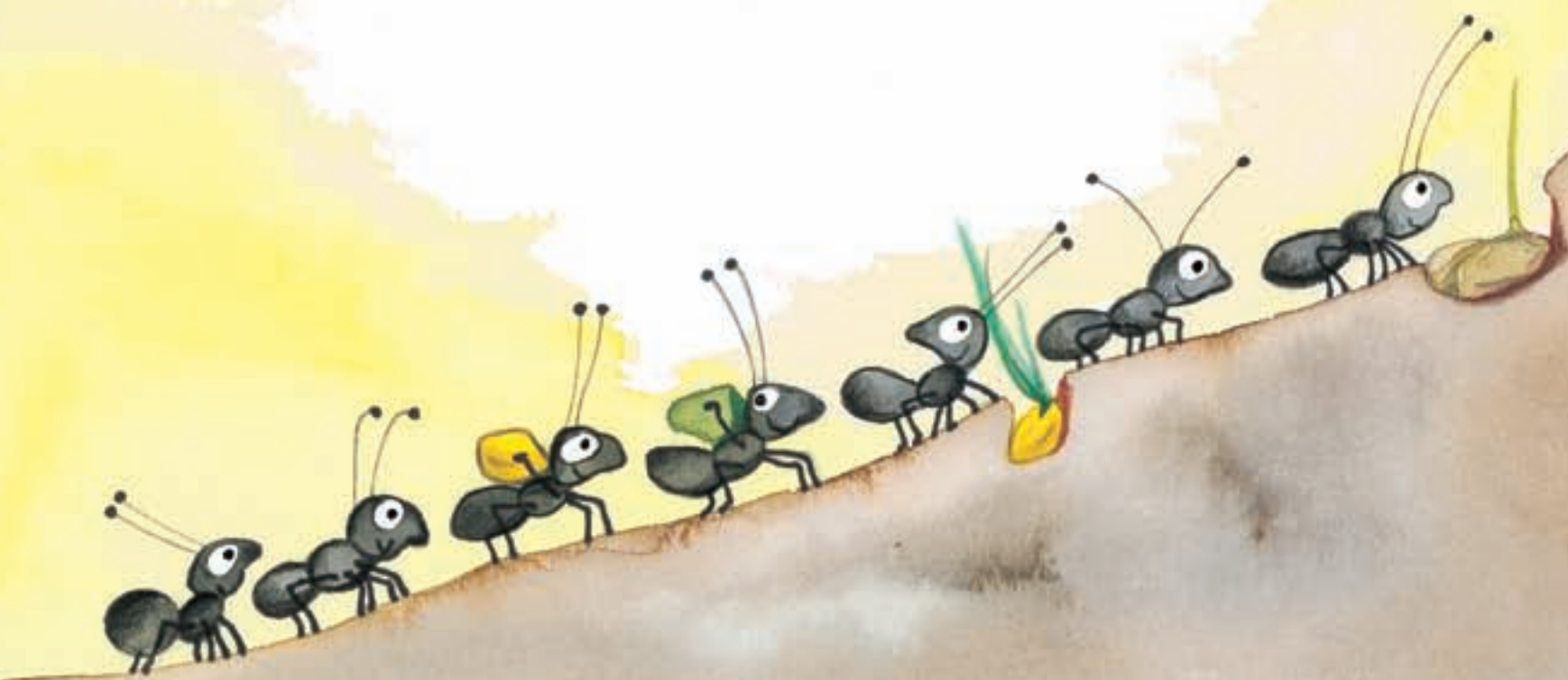


“Where are you going with that scrawny thing?” exclaimed Egolina.

“Are you sure it’s a tree?” said Ocladia, laughing.

“Wow, have you seen how pale green the leaves are?” observed Raclet.

Suzy didn't look very impressive. She was small and quite limited in terms of what she could drag and what she couldn't. She was perfectly aware of her limitations. That's why she didn't take any notice of the jokes and planted her small hawthorn on the bare peak.



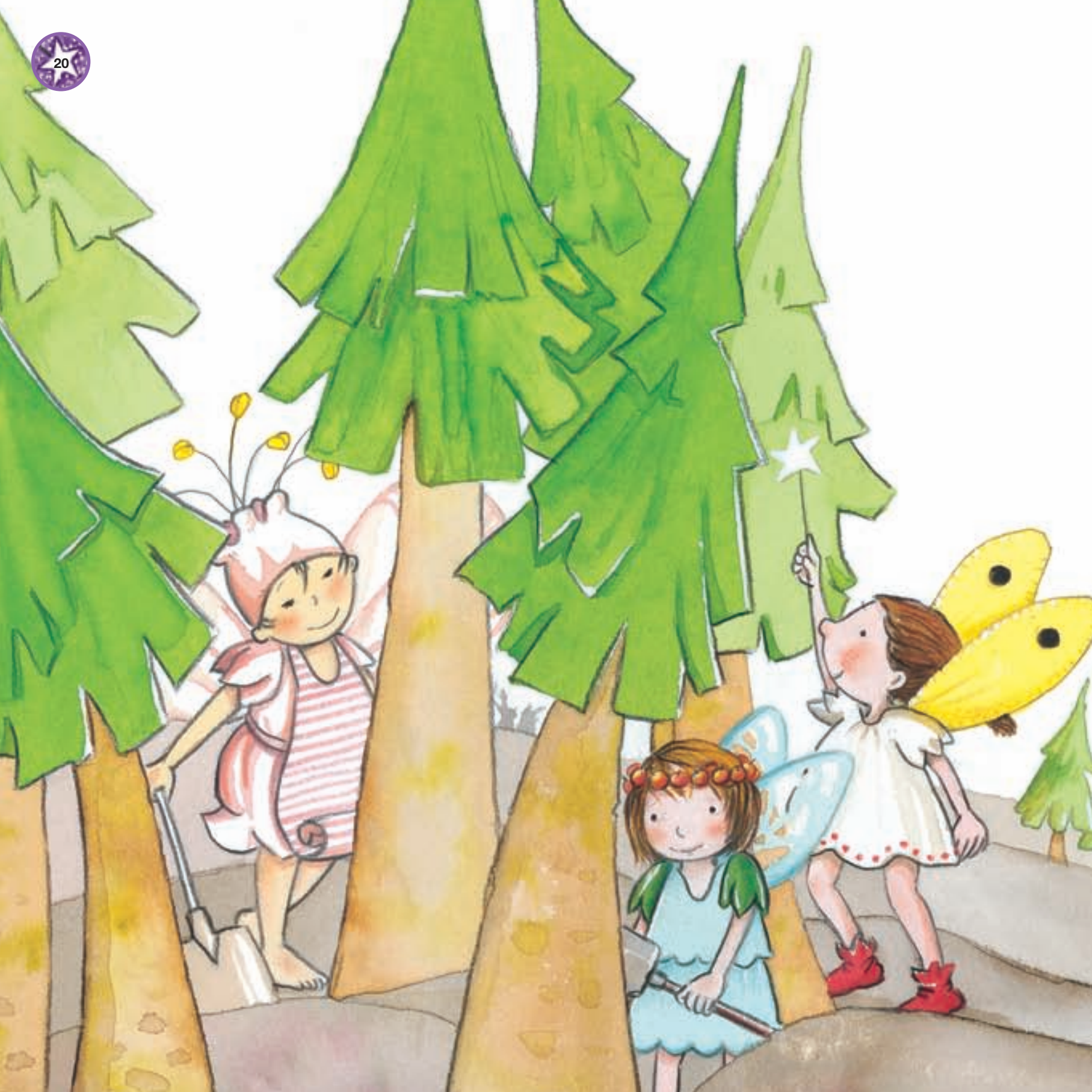


Egolina wanted to be the winner with her apple tree, but the tree took root in the soil too strongly and started to complain: “You won’t move me from here! I prefer a temperate climate and gentle winds, rather than the cold mountain.”



Ocladia opted for the largest oak tree of the region, but it was so large that she couldn't move it and ran out of strength half way. She had been too ambitious!





Without worrying about the size, Raclet preferred the leaves to be bright green and shiny. She chose a fir tree and planted it on the mountain... among many other firs, pines and holm oaks. How many fairies had thought of doing the same thing!



The little hawthorn tree soon became the laughing stock of all the fairies and the much taller and leafier trees... until the fall came. Then its leaves turned deep yellow like the sun and then bright red like fire, whereas the other trees stayed the same green color as ever.



Suzy was the fairy who most surprised the Fairy Counsel, because the palm trees and the desert shrubs couldn't tolerate the cold mountain and neither could the trees with lianas. So, the prize was for her. Do you want to know what name she gave to the bare peak?





“From this day onwards, we will call it The Hill of the Humble,” announced Suzy the Fairy. And the color of this tree will remind us every fall that beauty is also hidden in small things.

Fairies love playing all the time, even when they have to get dressed up. If you ever manage to see them, you will discover that there are no two alike and they rarely wear the same clothes.

Learning more

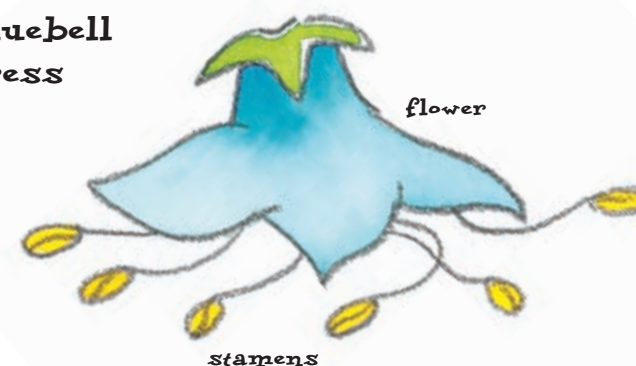
So many
fairies,
so many
clothes



Colors

Each fairy has their favorite color combination. Some choose the blue colors of the sky and water; others stick to earthy ochre, brown, yellow and orange tones. Some surround themselves with plant greens and tree branches and the most daring choose the brightest reds. They don't like grey or black tones: these colors are boring!

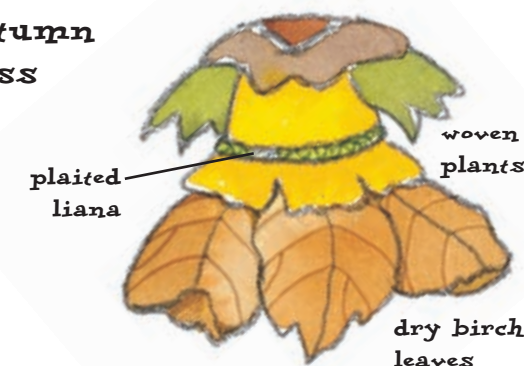
Bluebell dress



Shapes

There are no set rules about what shape the fairies dresses should be. Some seek simple lines in order to gain flexibility during flight. On the other hand, those who spend more time on the ground can wear voluminous dresses loaded with decorations.

Autumn dress



Fabrics

Fairies only wear natural fibers and elements. A skirt made from flower stamens can provide the coolest solution on a summer's day. On the other hand, a dress made from balls of cotton or wool is the warmest in winter. However, fine colorful silk fibers are the ones that most fairies like the best.

Hats and accessories

Nature offers many options, so fairies never get bored. Shells make elegant caps for when they need to fly very fast. Flowers offer them an endless range of colors for perfect combinations.

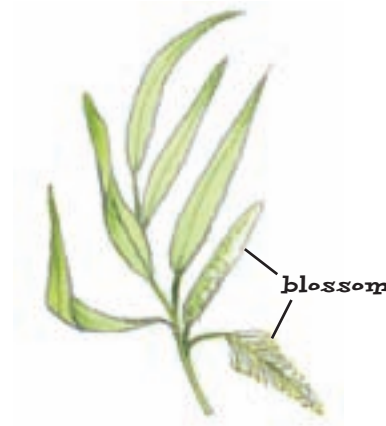




Maple



Chestnut



Willow



Elm



White mulberry tree

Deciduous trees



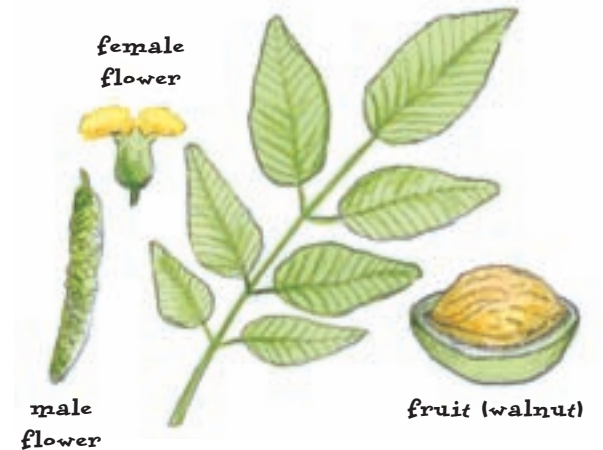
Beech

Deciduous trees are those that lose their leaves for a period of the year. This usually coincides with the arrival of the cold season (winter) in temperate regions and with the driest season in warm climate zones and on moors. Many deciduous trees flower after losing their leaves, because it favors pollination, thanks to the wind and

insects. Pollination is the process by which pollen is dispersed from the flower stamens and reaches the stigma (another part of the flower). Thus the flower is pollinated and will be able to become a fruit.

However, losing leaves is not always an advantage. It also represents a risk, because it leaves the flowers unprotected and susceptible to being damaged by a period of cold weather, wind or rain.

Deciduous trees include hawthorns, baobabs, chestnuts, birches, Judas trees, beeches, walnuts, black poplars, mulberry trees, willows, oaks and elms.



Walnut tree



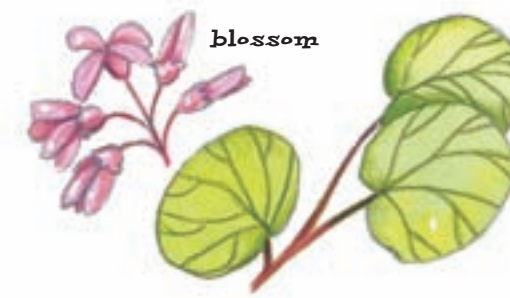
Oak



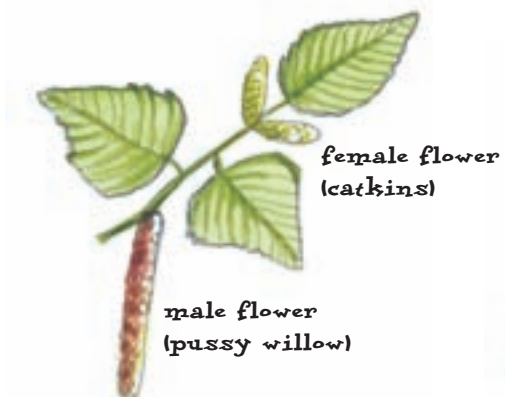
Lime tree



Plane tree



Judas tree



Birch



Black poplar

Mimosa
is a variety
of Acacia



Acacia (Mimosa)



Strawberry tree

Evergreen trees

Evergreen trees never completely lose their leaves, but the fact that they are “ever green” does not mean that they have the same leaves the whole year round and that they never fall off. The oldest leaves die and fall, while the youngest stay on the branches and new leaves appear each spring.



Fig



Holm oak



Carob tree



Cedar



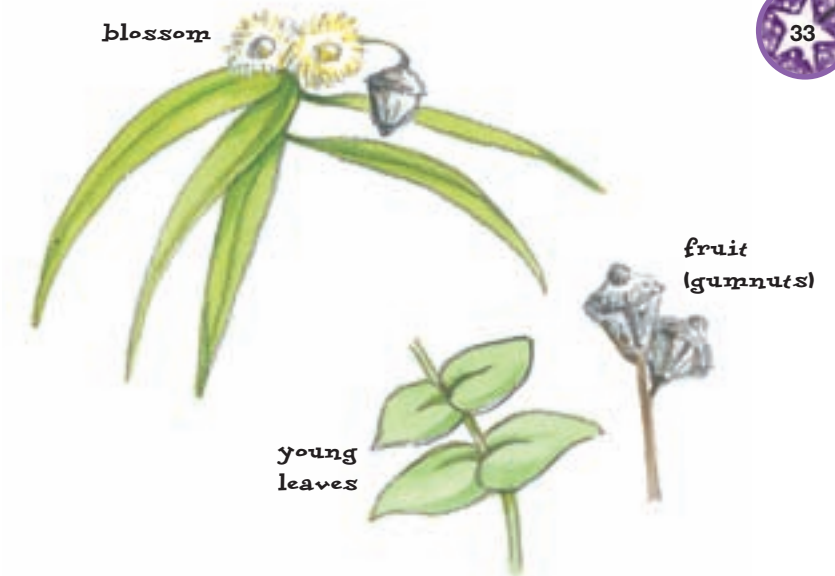
Fir tree



Pine tree



Magnolia



Eucalyptus



Olive tree

The life cycle of each leaf can last for several years and we say that a tree is evergreen or perennial when the life cycle is longer than two years. In this case, you will never see the treetop completely bare.

Evergreen trees include most acacias (such as mimosas), cedars, strawberry trees, carob trees, eucalyptus trees, magnolias, olive trees, holm oaks and conifers such as firs and pine trees.

Humility

Humility or modesty is the virtue of acknowledging your own limitations and weaknesses and acting accordingly. A humble person knows how far he can go and consequently does not expose himself to situations that exceed his endurance.

You are humble when...

- You apologize after making a mistake.
- You share a prize with all those who helped you to obtain it.
- You acknowledge that there are things you don't know how to do and ask somebody for help.

Being humble does not mean being a weak person who lets others walk over him, or tell him what to do. To the contrary, humility is the characteristic of a strong and intelligent personality.

Humble people are genuine, because they don't deceive themselves or others. They acknowledge their mistakes. Thus, they are able to correct themselves and improve. Humble people avoid taking leading roles; they avoid flattery, respect others and share their successes.

You lack humility when...

- You get angry every time somebody criticizes you.
- When working in a group, you do all the work because you don't trust the capabilities of the others.
- You love being surrounded by people who tell you how well you do everything.

The fairies tell us about...
Humility

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