Information from the Fairy Handbook

Fairies
Most fairies are delightful magical spirits with likenesses and kinship to flowers, insects, and other small creatures. Fairies are problem solvers, helpers, fixers, and protectors of nature. They get along well with gnomes and most other living things. Fairy spirits are given to select girls at the moment of their birth. When they are old enough to handle the responsibility that comes with being a fairy, young girls are told about their fairy spirits, and are guided by fairy mentors (usually older fairies) to learn how to use their powers and gifts in accordance with their job as fairies.

Fairy Circle
A Fairy Circle is a gathering of fairies that can be for social reasons or to discuss problems and ways to fix them. To clear up any confusion, please note that Fairy Circles do not have to be circular. Fairies can meet together in any shape or formation including squares, triangles, straight lines, untidy clumps, scattered groups, piled pyramids, hovering clouds, etc. Some reasons that may necessitate a Fairy Circle include natural disasters, important news, major problems, or fairy celebrations.

Fairy Code of Conduct
The Fairy Code of Conduct pertains to the fact that fairies are never allowed to abuse fairy power or misuse fairy gifts, and they are not supposed to use magic for
trivial things or to solve everyday problems. Young fairies need permission from their mentors to perform magic at all. In keeping with the purpose or “job” of fairies, to protect nature and fix serious problems (primarily problems caused by other magical creatures), the fairies must take care not to overstep their bounds. They are not supposed to meddle or interfere with things that are not related to their job. Fairy problem solving and fixing needs to directly correspond with the reason that fairies exist. Mother Nature, the fairy guardian, holds her fairies strictly accountable for their actions regarding use of magic and fairy gifts. Since the fairy handbook ages with the fairies, it serves the purpose of helping to keep young fairies out of trouble by limiting the amount of information it gives them. The handbook often refers young fairies to their mentors for advice, guidance, and supervision.

Fairy Favorite Foods
The fairies’ favorite foods include lemon jellybeans, peanut butter and marshmallow crème sandwiches, raspberries, powdered sugar puff pastries, homemade fudge, golden raisins, cherry chip loaf, pizza, salad, and snowflake fairy divinity. Fairies also like to drink root beer, flower nectar, iced coffee, hot chocolate, pomegranate juice, and iced tea.

Fairy Gifts
Each fairy is blessed with a unique fairy gift (and sometimes more than one) that is like a strength or specialty. These individual fairy gifts are usually why
certain fairies are chosen to participate in particular fairy missions. The gifts are very diverse and can be anything from the ability to cause rain, extremely powerful eyesight, manipulation of electricity, amazing memory, the power to ward off unfriendly insects, extraordinary strength, the ability to become invisible, enhanced speed, resistance to cold, and the ability to breathe under water. Fairies are very much like little superheroes in this regard. Each fairy being different is what makes fairies an awesome force as a group. Their strengths combine to form an extremely powerful team.

Fairy Handbook
The fairy handbook is a source of information for fairies. It contains answers to fairy questions and advice to help fairies make good decisions. The handbook ages with the fairies and is also interactive, capable of carrying on a conversation with its fairy owner if needed. Most of the fairies of the Southwest region carry handbooks of a fawn tan color. But colors by differ by states and countries. The fairies who have moved from Kentucky carry green fairy handbooks, and the fairies from Montana have sky-blue handbooks. Regular people would not be able to read a fairy handbook if they found one because the pages would appear blank to a non-magical person and the book itself would only be about half-an-inch in size.

Fairy Light
Fairy light is a whisper of light for the eyes to hear. The tip of a fairy wand will glow. This is a useful tool for
fairies. To produce this light, a fairy must whisper the words, “Fairy light.”

Fairy Mentor
Each young fairy is assigned a fairy mentor to act as a supervisor and teacher. This is important because it is a tremendous responsibility to be a fairy. Fairies are not allowed to use fairy magic to solve everyday problems or to abuse others, and young fairies are not supposed to use magic at all without approval from their mentors. Fairy mentors are usually older fairies; however, Madam Robin is the exception to this. She is actually a wise old robin that has been bewitched to have long life and the gift of speech. Fairy mentors help arrange excuses like sleepovers and Girls Club activities so young fairies can participate in fairy activities.

Fairy Missions
Frequently, there are terrible problems to be solved in the fairy realm such as recovering the stolen Shell of Laughter, helping to break an evil curse, solving the mystery of the Magic Snowglobe, rescuing kidnapped bat fairies, trying to locate missing human shadows, and helping a dragon complete a dangerous quest. Most of the time, fairies are assigned to a particular fairy mission based on their unique fairy gifts and how these gifts will best apply to making the mission successful. Madam Toad, leader of fairies for the Southwest region, makes the decisions as to who will participate in each fairy adventure.
Fairy Spirits
Fairies derive their spirits from numerous sources. Some of the more common spirits come from flowers, berries, herbs, and tree blossoms. Fairy spirits can also come from insects like dragonflies, butterflies, moths, fireflies, and beetles. There are also fairies whose spirits come from small birds, animals, lizards, and sea creatures such as finches, robins, sparrows, moles, shrews, bats, sea horses, starfish, oysters, salamanders, and toads. However, only one snake fairy and one spider fairy are known to exist.

Fairy Spirit Stones
When fairies touch small stones, they leave an imprint. The stones are usually marked with faint impressions of flowers, butterflies, mushrooms, birds, small animals, snails, feathers, leaves, starbursts, berries, moons, bees, toads, beetles, and other such images. Some of the most rare Fairy Spirit Stones will have a number visible on them. These stones have been touched by sphiloxes – elf fairies of light. The numbers will range from 1 to 9 because sphiloxes are named for the order number of their births, and only nine of them currently exist. Take long walks to discover the hidden niches that are homes to Fairy Spirit Stones. When you find them, carry in your pocket or purse as a good luck charm, place in a potted plant to help it grow, or display in a teacup in your china cabinet. But be warned: Several mysterious disappearances of Fairy Spirit Stones have been reported. Many of the stones are so full of fairy spirit and magic
that they cannot be confined and must set out on their own adventures.

**Fairy Tablecloths**
This is a legend that exists to explain the dew laden funnel weaver spider webs visible on the ground, early mornings, during certain times of year when the temperature and humidity are just right to cause the moisture to settle on the strands of web. Parents sometimes tell their children that fairies have been having midnight tea parties, and have left behind their tablecloths. Many other stories about fairy parties and celebrations have grown out of this, as storytellers have sought to entertain children. Remarkably, none of the tales that contain a reference to fairy tablecloths mention fairy circles, which are what fairies call their celebrations and gatherings. However, if only two fairies are having a tea party, then it is correct *not* to call it a fairy circle, because a “gathering” really should contain more than two.

**Fairy Wands**
Fairy wands can be made from almost any item or object and are enchanted to help fairies perform magic. Elves, witches, and wizards are capable of performing the spells to bewitch fairy wands. There are a vast variety of fairy wands including many types of feathers such as pheasant, cardinal, raven, guinea, ostrich, crow, parakeet, mockingbird, eagle, bluebird, peacock, hummingbird, snow goose, and emu. There are also a lot of flower wands like clover blossoms, tulips, pansies, miniature
roses, and poppies. Some of the more unique wands include a porcupine quill, a thin crystal shard, an elephant’s eyelash, a tiger whisker, an everlasting icicle, a curlicue grapevine, a paper drinks umbrella, an otter whisker, a cinnamon stick, braided orangutan hairs, a royal carpet thread from a castle in Germany, a vanilla bean, a knitting needle, a peppermint stick, an ever-changing seasonal wisteria sprig, a matchstick, the minute hand from an antique carriage clock, a dandelion seed, a corkscrew-spiraled boar bristle, a bit of braided lion’s mane, an invisible twig, a skeleton key, and a pussy willow branch. There are also wands made from sprigs of mistletoe, gleaming pieces of golden straw, various twigs, pine needles, assorted cactus thorns; and polished wood splinters like mahogany, pecan, and sliver birch.