



## Connecting Experience Fairy Tale Trial

AGE GROUP

11+

AMOUNT OF PEOPLE

10+

TIME

1 TO 2 MEETINGS

OBJECTIVE

To explore the justice system and how it works.

MATERIAL

n/a

16 PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



4

LOOK AROUND  
POINTS

10

### Instructions

Start by assigning each patrol a fairy tale trial, choosing stories your group are familiar with.

#### Examples:

- ▶ *The three pigs versus the wolf*, for destruction of property
- ▶ Goldilocks versus the three bears, for breaking and entering
- ▶ The Emperor versus the state, for public indecency

In each group they should choose who will take on the roles described below, the judge and jury will be made up of the members of the other patrols.

Prosecution barrister – needs to prove that the person is guilty

Defence barrister – needs to put doubt in the jury's mind about whether the person is guilty or not

Witness – the people who may have knowledge of the crime, they need to give evidence to the court

Defendant – the person who is on trial

Judge – manages the trial

Jury – decides the verdict based on the evidence they hear

During the first meeting, the prosecution and defence barristers should work with their witnesses to develop statements, and create their cases. Encourage them to read the story of their fairy tale to find evidence, and to think about who the character is, where they were when the crime happened, what they saw etc.

In the second meeting, host the trials, below is a rough outline of proceedings

1. Defendant is asked to state their name and charges, asked if they plead guilty or not guilty

2. Prosecution makes their opening statement
3. Prosecution takes their first witness to the stand and questions them. Questions should help their witness tell their story.
4. Defence Barrister cross examines prosecutions witness, they should ask questions that try to make holes in the witnesses story
5. Prosecution calls their second witness, repeats as above until all prosecution witnesses have spoken
6. Defence barrister makes their opening statement
7. Defence barrister calls the Defendant to the stand, questions them to help tell their side of the story
8. Prosecution cross examines
9. Defence calls any other witness they have, and step 7 and 8 are repeated
10. Prosecution make their closing speech
11. Defence makes their closing speech
12. Jury are given time to discuss what they've heard and reach a decision (guilty or not guilty)
13. Jury delivers their verdict
14. Judge gives a sentence if guilty, closes the case

#### Debrief:

- ▶ Do you think trials can be unfair? In what way?
- ▶ Do you think a trial like this is the fairest way of deciding if someone is guilty?
- ▶ What do you think can be done to ensure everyone is treated the same way in court?



CONNECTING EXPERIENCE PAGE  
<https://ej2020.org/connecting-experience/>

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