

GROUP SEMAR AND DEWALA

GUIDELINES FOR GROUP SESSIONS

INTRODUCTION

We start the group session by reminding the children of the roles they will later play in the trial:

1. First, the children will become the **PROSECUTORS** and their jobs are:
 - They will accuse Semar or Dewala of committing a crime (doing something wrong).
 - They will ask Semar or Dewala to explain their action (hear their defence).
 - And if need be, the children will then argue their case with them.

Note:

- This process of prosecuting the defendant, will all be done one child at a time, using a microphone, in front of the courtroom.
2. Then, along with the other children from the other groups, the children will become the **JURY**, deciding whether Semar and Dewala are guilty or not.
 3. After that, along with the other children from the other groups, they will decide what punishment Semar and Dewala will receive (if found guilty).

But before the children can go to the courtroom, they will first need to prepare their case. The following steps should prepare them for that.

SPOTTING THE CRIME

- 1) Starting from now, the children have officially become the prosecutor. Their first task is to investigate and identify what crime (if any) Semar and/or Dewala have committed. To do this, start by asking the children what bad things Semar and Dewala has done. Make a list of at least 6 accusations (3 for Semar and 3 for Dewala).

A Reminder of what Semar and Dewala did in *The Lost Forest Story* (ask the children whether any of the following events was a bad thing).

- **Semar had imprisoned Endorro.**

Did Semar have a good enough reason to imprison Endorro?
What if he didn't and because of that, Endorro wants his revenge, if so, Semar had done a bad thing?

- **Dewala was sleepy and felt too lazy to do anything or go anywhere.**
Does this laziness mean that Dewala is still immature?
- **Semar woke Dewala up and sent him off to start life on Earth.**
Was it right for Semar to ask Dewala to do this?
Was Dewala really ready to complete the rainforest task?
- Dewala flew down to earth and planted the special seed.
- **Dewala trusted Endorro (a stranger) to look after the rainforest.**
Was it right for Dewala to trust Endorro?
Should Dewala check whether Endorro is doing his job?
Meanwhile, where was semar at this moment? Should he be looking after Dewala? Is this negligence? Did Semar done a bad thing?
- **Dewala used violence against Endorro.**
Was this a bad thing to do?
What should he have done?
- Dewala called Semar for help.
- Semar asks Dewala how the rainforest was destroyed.
- Semar explains the importance of the rainforest.
- Dewala wanted to start all over again with a new seed, but he wasn't allowed, and he apologised to Semar.
- Semar planted back the rainforest.
- Semar trapped Endorro into becoming a spider.

After working through the above events (whether it was a crime or not), the children should come up with the following list:

Against Semar:

1. Semar, you imprisoned Endorro without any reason (at the beginning of the Lost Forest story).
2. Semar, you trusted Dewala to do the rainforest task when clearly, he is not yet ready/mature.
3. Semar, you neglected Dewala by not keeping a close eye on him and checking whether he was looking after the rainforest or not.

Against Dewala:

1. Dewala, you trusted Endorro (a stranger) to look after the rainforest.
2. Dewala, you did not keep a close eye on Endorro to see whether he was looking after the rainforest or not.
3. Dewala, you used violence against Endorro.

- 2) Now that all their crimes are listed, we then distribute them so that each child has a crime to work on. If we find that there are not enough crimes for all the children, then we pick the most important crime and assign it to more than 1 child.
- 3) Next is to make a sentence based on the above **accusation**. The sentence should consist of:

(Semar or Dewala), you are accused of (the crime). Because of this (the consequence of their crime).

After being given pen and paper, the children should come up with sentences:

- **Semar**, you are **accused** of imprisoning Endorro without any good reason at the beginning of the Lost Forest. Because of this, Endorro wants his revenge and the rainforest is destroyed.
- **Semar**, you are **accused** of entrusting Dewala to do the rainforest task when clearly, he is not trustworthy. Because of this the rainforest is destroyed.
- **Semar**, you are **accused** of neglecting Dewala by not keeping a close eye on him. Because of this the rainforest is destroyed.
- **Dewala**, you are **accused** of trusting Endorro (a stranger) to look after the rainforest. Because of this the rainforest is destroyed.
- **Dewala**, you are **accused** of not checking on Endorro after you trusted him with the rainforest. Because of this the rainforest is destroyed.
- **Dewala**, you are **accused** of using violence. Because of this you are hurt.

UNDERSTANDING THE CRIME

It is important that the children understand the importance of this prosecution process, as it is a way to see the circumstances and facts surrounding the crime, so that later, when deciding what verdict will be given to Semar and Dewala, the jury will have learned enough to decide the appropriate verdict.

For this purpose the prosecutors should make a list of questions.

- 4) Regarding their accusation, the children must then carefully examine it; they must doubt it; and they must question: is their accusation accurate? Is their accusation right? What if there are other scenarios behind the reason why the crime happened? What if-----?

To satisfy any doubt so that they do not mistakenly sentence Semar and Dewala, they will now need to ask Semar and Dewala for their explanation. Make a list of questions by using the following key words:

- **WHY** – To seek reason/motives for the crime

- **WHERE** – To find the Location
- **WHEN** – The time of the crime (and for how long)
- **HOW** – What methods used (could be used to help)
- **WHO** – To find out others responsible, or who could help

Case example, on their first accusation:

Semar, you are accused of imprisoning Endorro without any reason at the beginning of the Lost Forest. Because of this Endorro wants his revenge and the rainforest is destroyed.

The questions to Semar would be:

- Semar, why did you imprison Endorro (motive)?
- Semar, where did you imprison Endorro?
- Semar, how long were you planning to imprison Endorro?
- Etc.

- 5) After making a list of question, select one which is most relevant and important to the accusation. If there are children working on the same accusation that end up with similar question, decide which child has which question, so that **each child reads a DIFFERENT question** at the hearing.

GETTING READY TO PRESENT THE CASE IN THE COURT

Now that the children have finished making their case, let's get them ready for the trial:

- **PUT THE CHILDREN PRESENTING THEIR CASE IN THE ORDER OF THEIR IMPORTANCE. LESS IMPORTANT ACCUSATIONS GO FIRST, FOLLOWED BY MORE IMPORTANT ONES.**
- **GET READY AS PART OF THE COURTROOM AUDIENCE & WAIT FOR THE JUDGE TO CALL THEM TO APPROACH THE MICROPHONE.**