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Residents of a rural area, which is about to become a tourist destination

VILLAgers:

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Full Plan of environmental theatre

- **Title:** Residents of a rural area, which is about to become a tourist destination
- **Reference group:** City Council
- **Central Question:** Are you willing to sacrifice the environment you live in for the sake of profit?
- Common Role: Druids
- Roles of the Animator:
 - A) Asterios the resort workers (construction helmet and vest)B) Caesar (red cape)
- Where: Somewhere between two villages
- When: Long ago



Once upon a time, there was a clearing in the center of a forest. That clearing was the place where the local druids of the area met every day to discuss important matters about their communities.

That forest was between two villages: the villages of Here and There. The villagers of Here had a farming economy, while the villagers of There had built their own hotel unit, and their economy was based on tourism.

Building space activities

Activity 1

- The reference group builds a circle inside the clearing using only pine cones. This is the space where the druids discuss.
- Activity 2
- The animator provides the group with 4 colors (red, yellow, blue and green). The animator tells the reference group that each color symbolizes a different value for the druid community and asks the group to name each value. After that, the animator asks the group to draw the druids' flag on a long piece of paper using only those four colors. Once they finish drawing, the group places the flag inside the pine cone circle. When the flag is down, it symbolizes that the druids are open to accepting people. When it is up, it means the druids cannot be interrupted.

Building role activities

- Activity 1
- The animator asks the group to write, on a small piece of paper, one of the five reasons a candidate druid is selected to become a professional druid. After the papers are placed in a vase, five volunteers are requested to chose one and describe what their paper says using pantomime.

• Activity 2

The animator asks the group to divide into four teams. Once they do, each team has five minutes to prepare a frozen image representing the relationship the druids have with nature. The teams then present their frozen images, and the animator claps their hands to signal that each team will now be activated in a different way.

After the clap:

Ist Team is asked to show motion.

2nd Team is asked to express the inner thoughts of the druids out loud.

3rd Team is asked to show dialogue without motion. 4th Team is asked to show both dialogue and motion between the druids.



The role of the **Druids** is extremely important for the peaceful coexistence of the two villages. Whenever someone is faced with a serious issue, a question, or a dilemma, the druids are there to help. One resident of Here village, is facing a very significant dilemma, is about to visit them to seek their guidance. His role is not a simple one, as he is a worker involved in the construction of the resorts. The two villages coexist harmoniously despite the construction of the first resort, as the vacationers who visit the resort also pass through the nearby village and support the local market by purchasing goods from them. The residents of the nearby village obtain all their goods from the forest.

Action 1 point of view

A resident of Here village, Aasterios, who also is a resort worker, visits the druids with a great dilemma. He is unsure whether he should inform his fellow villagers about the other village's secret plans to exploit the forest that lies between the two settlements and build new hyperluxury resorts there. He fears this could upset their peaceful coexistence and provoke the people of his own village. He also worries he might lose his job. But if he doesn't inform them, his village might be in great danger. They might end up without any food at all, because the forest from which they used to get all their supplies is now going to be turned into a resort. The animals will leave, and the fruits and trees will be cut down.

Assimilation αctivity **A**

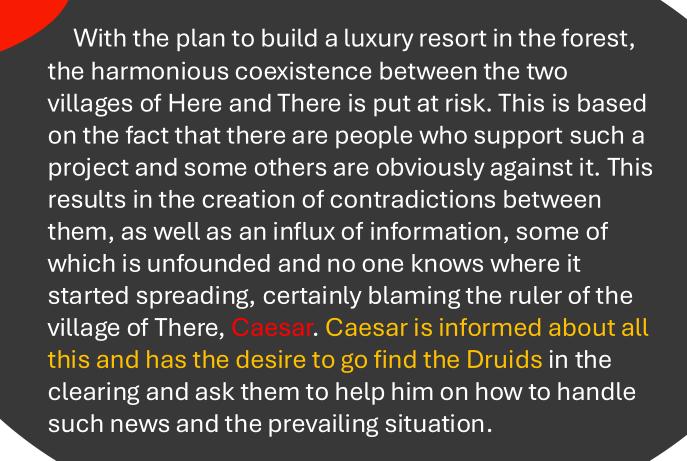
• Advertising spots.

The animator asks the group to split into four teams and create two promotional spots. Two of the teams are to produce an advertisement for the new hyperlux resorts, which are ready to welcome their vacationers. The other two teams are to create a spot representing a group opposed to this kind of environmental exploitation, similar to Greenpeace.

Assimilation activity **B**

Statement and opposition.

The animator divides the group into two teams, one in favor of the resort and the other against it. The residents of both Here village and There village have gathered in a general assembly in the forest to express their views and arguments and to counter those of the opposing side. In the center, there's a makeshift podium and each time, someone from the opposite team takes the floor in turn.



Action 2nd point of view

Caesar appears (with a red cape), who with a dynamic and arrogant style, he is determined and goes to meet the Druids in the clearing. He presents himself as a businessman whose plans are threatened due to a leak of information from one of his workers. He offers the Druids bribes, saying that he has the ability to provide them with shelter and food. However, it is enough for them to convince the villagers of Here to support him, because some of his workers have already begun to oppose his plans. After the Druids' questions, Caesar seems to soften and show his true self. In reality, he's not that tough, but the position he's in and that's the image that the world demands of him.

Assimilation activity **A**

Since Caesar's visit to the Druid glade has preceded, his Advisors have gathered to discuss, create and write the speech, which is to be delivered regarding his issue. Caesar's Advisors, discussed with the criterion that each one who will take the floor should start from the next letter of the alphabet that follows the one that the previous advisor began.

Assimilation activity **B**

- TV game: "Listen to what they said!"
- They are divided into two groups. Each group is asked a series of questions about the environmental issue presented in this design. Such questions could be: "Tell us a way in which someone can protect the environment." Possible answers to this question could be: recycling, using a bicycle, saving water, using less plastic or reusing it.

Caesar delivered his speech according to what both the Druids and his Advisors suggested, but the situation didn't get any better. The turmoil and the arguments kept going. Things had started to get out of control so the Druids had to make a decision to calm the villagers.

Action - announcement of decision

The Druids are gathered at the clearing once again to discuss the current situation. Due to the fact that the villagers cannot agree, the Druids are the ones to make the decision. Their decision must benefit both the villages based on what they have heard.

Reflection

After two years in a souvenir shop , a tourist guide was found with the title:

- "Top 5 Attractions you can find in Here and There."
- The Animator tells the group to write in a long piece of paper with the title "Top 5 Attractions you will find in the villages of Here and There" to complete the Article about the touristic attractions. They can also add drawings, illustrating each attraction.

Instructions

- During the building space activities, it is important to make clear where the entrance and the exit of the circle is
- The animator has to make clear to the reference group if he/she is in character using different props for each role
- The animator must keep track of time and make sure that the activities are not taking too long

Materials

- Pine cones
- 2 long pieces of paper
- 4 watercolours (red, blue, yellow and green)
- Small pieces of paper (the amount depends on the participants)
- Vase
- Pens and markers
- Red cape
- Construction helmet
- **Construction vest**

Οι VILLAgers σας ευχαριστούν!

