

Poky Pies - Trial!

Court- a place where law trials are held

Law - all the rules that tell people what they must or must not do, made by our government

Crime- the doing of something that is against the law

Trial - the act of hearing a case in a law court to decide whether a claim or charge is true.

Judge - a public official with power to hear cases in a law court

Jury - a group of people chosen to listen to the evidence in a law trial, and then to reach a decision, or verdict

Jurors - members of the jury

Lawyer - a person whose job is to give advice on law, or act for others in lawsuits

Witness - a person who gives evidence in a law court

Oath - a serious promise that one will speak the truth

Evidence - something that shows, proves, or gives reason for believing

Testimony - a statement made by one who testifies, tells, or gives proof

Verdict - the decision reached by a jury in a law case

Guilty- judged in court to have committed a crime

Roles for entire class:

Judge

Prosecutor

Defense Attorney

Court Officer

Defendant -Wolf

12 jurors

4-6 witnesses: wolf's granny

3rd pig brother

grocer

neighbor(s)

police officer

Court Officer: Please rise. Court is in session. The trial of Alexander T. Wolf is about to begin. Judge_____ is presiding.

Judge: You may be seated. Jury, Alexander T. Wolf is accused of the crime of deliberately causing his neighbors' deaths just so he could eat them for dinner, which is against the law. It is your job, as the jury, to listen to the testimony of each witness and weigh all the evidence. Then you must decide on a verdict. You will decide if Mr. Wolf is guilty or not guilty of this crime. Do you understand?

Jury: Yes, sir.

Judge: Let's begin with the lawyers opening remarks.

Prosecutor: (Stands and addresses jury) I will prove to you that this defendant, Alexander T. Wolf, is absolutely guilty of this crime. He probably wasn't even making a birthday cake. He just wanted a free pig dinner, and one wasn't enough! He had to have two. This wolf knew exactly what he was doing. He was breaking the law. You must find him guilty. **(Goes back to seat.)**

Defense: (Stands and addresses jury) My, my, my! Don't be so convinced. There is no proof at all that my client intended to hurt anyone! He had plenty of food at his house. He didn't need to go blowing down pigs' homes for a little taste of pork. Would you go through all that trouble for a meal? My client is innocent. I will prove to you that my client is not guilty. **(Goes back to seat.)**

Prosecutor: I'd like to call the first witness, the Third Pig, to the stand. **(Pig approaches)**

Court Officer: Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Pig: I do. (Pig sits in witness chair.)

Prosecutor: Please tell the court about your dear brothers.

Pig: My brothers may not have been as smart as I am, but they were wonderful brothers. They were great neighbors and they always helped people.

I feel in my heart that if that awful wolf had given my brothers the chance, they both would have gladly given him a cup of sugar.

Prosecutor: So you don't believe the sugar story?

Pig: No, I don't. And I don't see how a sneeze can blow two houses down either. (Cry)

Prosecutor: What happened when the wolf came to your house?

Pig: Well, he looked so mean and sneaky. You know how those wolves are. You remember Little Red Riding Hood and the Gingerbread Man, don't you? I called the police as soon as I saw him. I knew he was up to no good.

Prosecutor: No further questions, Your Honor.

Judge: (Address defense) Your witness.

Defense: Did you see Mr. Wolf blow down your brothers' homes?

Pig: Well, no, but...

Defense: Had Mr. Wolf wronged you in any way before you called the police?

Pig: Well, no but he probably would have.

Defense: That's all, Your Honor. **(Pig steps down.)**

Judge: Next witness.

Prosecutor: We call Officer Brickly to the stand. **(Officer approaches)**

Court Officer: Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Officer: I do. **(Officer takes the stand)**

Prosecutor: What did you find when you got to the third pig's house on that eventful day?

Officer: I found the third pig shaking in his house. The wolf was just running around the house screaming, "Granny, Granny", or something like that. He was acting so crazy. I arrested him and later found the other two pigs were missing. Their homes were demolished. So sad.

Prosecutor: Did Mr. Wolf cooperate when he was arrested?

Officer: He screamed all the way to the station.

Prosecutor: That's all, Your Honor.

Judge: Your witness.

Defense: Did you ask Mr. Wolf why he was running around the house?

Officer: I didn't have a chance. He wouldn't stop yelling.

Defense: Did you search Mr. Wolf's house after he was arrested?

Officer: Yes, I did.

Defense: What did you find there?

Officer: I found all the ingredients to bake a cake.

Defense: All the ingredients?

Officer: All except the sugar. There was no sugar in the house.

Defense: No further questions. **(Officer takes seat)**

Judge: Next witness.

Prosecutor: We call the grocer to the stand. **(Grocer approaches stand.)**

Court Officer: Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Grocer: I do. **(Grocer sits.)**

Prosecutor: Does Mr. Wolf usually shop in your store?

Grocer: Yes, he comes in every week.

Prosecutor: If he comes in every week, how could he run out of sugar?

Grocer: I don't know. Maybe he bakes a lot.

Prosecutor: No further questions for this witness, Your Honor.

Judge: Your witness.

Defense: Did Mr. Wolf come into your store during the morning in question?

Grocer: Yes, he did.

Defense: What did want?

Grocer: He was looking for sugar, but we ran out of sugar the night before.

Defense: No further questions.

Judge: You may step down. Next witness. **(Grocer steps down)**

Defense: I call Mr. Wolf's granny to the stand. **(Granny approaches)**

Court Officer: Raise your right hand. Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Granny: I do. **(Granny sits)**

Defense: Please tell the court about your grandson.

Granny: My grandson is the best grandson in the world. Even with those terrible colds he gets, he has still managed to bake me a birthday cake every year for the past twenty years.

Defense: So it is your testimony that you believe Mr. Wolf was planning to bake a cake that day?

Granny: Of course! It was my 65th birthday! He'd never forget that!

Defense: I have no more questions for this witness.

Prosecutor: I have no questions, Your Honor.

Judge: The witness may step down. **(Granny steps down)** Any other witnesses?

Defense: I call Mr(s). Goat, neighbor of the pigs. **(Goat approaches)**

Court Officer: Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Mr(s). Goat: I do. **(Goat sits)**

Defense: Did you see Mr. Wolf on the day in question?

Mr(s). Goat: Yes, I did. He came to my house.

Defense: What did Mr. Wolf want?

Mr(s). Goat: He wanted to borrow a cup of sugar.

Defense: Did you notice Mr. Wolf's health that day?

Mr(s). Goat: Yes, I noticed he had a bad cold. He sneezed a lot.

Defense: No further questions.

Judge: Your witness.

Prosecutor: Are you a doctor, Mr. Goat?

Mr(s). Goat: No, I'm a farmer.

Prosecutor: So you really don't know if Mr. Wolf actually had a cold. He could have been faking.

Mr(s). Goat: Well, I guess that's possible.

Prosecutor: I have no further questions for this witness.

Judge: You may step down. **(Mr(s). Goat steps down)** Are there any other witnesses?

Defense: The defense calls Mr. Alexander T. Wolf to the stand. **(Mr. Wolf approaches.)**

Court Officer: Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Mr. Wolf: I do. (**Wolf sits.**)

Defense: Can you tell us what happened on that terrible day?

Mr. Wolf: It was my dear old granny's 65th birthday. I wasn't feeling very well that day. I had a terrible cold. But I had to bake my dear old granny a birthday cake, like I always do. I started making the cake, when I realized I had run out of sugar.

Defense: Go on.

Mr. Wolf: I went right to the store, but the grocer told me he had no sugar. I went to a few neighbors' houses, but they didn't have any either. Then I stopped at the first little pig's house. The house was made of straw, so when one of my big sneezes came on, it just blew the place down! It all happened so fast. I felt terrible. When I saw that the pig was dead, I couldn't waste a good pork dinner.

Defense: What happened next?

Mr. Wolf: I still needed the sugar, so I went to the second pig's house made out of sticks. I really tried to hold back the sneeze this time! Really I did!

But the same thing happened. And I admit, I ate him too. Think of it as a cheeseburger, just lying there. I know it doesn't look good, but you have to believe me. I couldn't waste the food! But I really didn't plan on hurting or eating anyone! It was an accident! I finally went on to my last stop, the third little pigs' house. He wouldn't even give me a chance! He started insulting my granny, and nobody talks about my granny like that! I did start yelling and carrying on, but I didn't sneeze that time!!

Defense: Thank you, Mr. Wolf. No further questions.

Judge: Your witness.

Prosecutor: Isn't it true that you planned to go to the pigs' homes just to have some fresh pork dinners all along?

Mr. Wolf: No! No! That's not true!

Prosecutor: Didn't you huff and puff and blow their houses down?

Mr. Wolf: No, I had a bad cold. I sneezed! I couldn't help it!

Prosecutor: No further questions, Your Honor.

Judge: Are there any other witnesses?

Defense: No, the defense rests.

Prosecutor: No, the prosecution rests.

Judge: Jury, we will now hear the lawyers' closing arguments.

Prosecution: You must find Mr. Wolf guilty as charged. He deliberately planned the whole scheme. He is trying to trick you too. He just wanted a free pig dinner, and one wasn't enough! He knew exactly what he was doing. I hope you decide on the verdict of guilty. Thank you.

Defense: Ladies and gentlemen. Mr. Wolf is a victim of unfortunate circumstances. He never intended to break the law that day. He never intended to hurt anyone. You heard the testimony of the witnesses. He is a wonderful grandson and a good neighbor. He did try to get sugar many times before he even went to the pigs' homes. Mr. Wolf is sorry for what happened, but he did not break the law. It was all an accident. He is innocent. The right thing to do is to find him not guilty.

Judge: Now it is all up to you, the jury. You will deliberate, which means talk to each other about this case. You must decide, as a group, whether Mr. Wolf is guilty or not guilty.

Choose a foreperson.

Have jury leave the area and deliberate. The rest of the class can discuss their views but they should know that only the jury's verdict counts.

Court Officer: The jury has reached a verdict. (**Jury comes in.**)

Judge: Has the jury reached a verdict?

Jury Foreperson: Yes, Your Honor.

Judge: What is your verdict, guilty or not guilty?

Foreperson: _____

Judge: This court is adjourned.

Discuss the sequence and events of the trial. Go over vocabulary.
Administer assessment.