



RAINFOREST MONSTER

Lemur's rights

Experience I

Overview	Children imagine and share their opinions about the care a Lemur needs. The exercise extends the reflection to the needs of children and their rights.
Group size	20
Learning objectives	To exemplify and raise awareness of one's own rights and to connect children's needs with children's rights.
Preparation, Materials	Prepare a chart to write and visualise the results of the group; Chart paper and markers

Guidelines for educators

1. This activity it is planned to be implemented in a second session (another day) after the reading of the Storybook "The Rainforest Monster".
2. After reminding the children about the story of the lemurs, the educator asks them to create a circle with the whole group around and to imagine that they have a lemur to care for.
3. Children may like to give a name to this Lemur. They need to think about all the things that the lemur needs to be happy, safe and healthy. The educator may ask "What are all the things the lemur will need?" They may suggest things such as a hide, food, water, exercise, attention, love or perhaps other lemurs for company.
4. On the chart write 'LEMUR' (or the given name) at the top of the left-hand column on a chart such as the one below, and record the children's responses.

'LEMUR' (or the given name)	
List of needs for the Lemur to be happy	

5. Confirm the things the lemur needs to survive and develop, such as food, water, company... Then ask questions such as these:

- If the lemur really needs these things to survive, then should the lemur have a right to them?
- Who is responsible for ensuring that the lemur's rights to these things are met?

6. Once the list of needs and rights is discussed with the children, the educator writes 'CHILDREN' at the top of the right-hand column and asks the group to brainstorm: "What are the things that children need to develop and have for a happy, safe and healthy life?" List the children's responses, helping to elicit such things as home, food, water, family, friends, toys, education, love and attention.

'LEMUR' (or the given name)	CHILDREN
List of needs for the Lemur to be happy	List of needs for the Children to be happy

7. Ask questions such as these to expand the focus of children's rights, adding additional needs to the chart:

- What do children need to be protected, to survive, to develop and to participate?
- If children need these things, then should children have a right to them?
- Who is responsible for ensuring that children have these rights?

Debriefing/Reflection

The educator should decide what is the focus of this activity. Following the reflection on the stereotypes and prejudices that lemurs expressed in the storybook the debriefing could include the transference to children's reality.

What are the diversity aspects that make people afraid of certain groups?

How would the children address similar situations as the lemur encountered in the "The rainforest monster" storybook?

Tips for the educator

As a follow-up of the exercise, the educator may expand to introduce the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Ask the group if they have ever heard of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Share and explain some of the child-friendly version articles of the CRC or use a poster version. Explain that this document proclaims the things to which every child in the world has a right.