

## Plan for the seminar of “Diablo baby” by the artist Marianna Gartner

### Pre-seminar

The seminar rules are presented by the facilitator: Shared inquiry through thoughtful dialogue, listen, many possible answers, be prepared to reconsider and maybe change your opinion.

#### **Group goal:**

The group will together decide a goal for the group’s interaction: to talk to each other (instead of the facilitator), to challenge each other intellectually by finding contradictions or by questioning each other, etc.

#### **Personal goal:**

Every participant sets a personal goal for his/her behaviour during the seminar. If you, for example, normally are very quiet, you might set a goal to say 2-3 things by your own account during the seminar. If you, on the other hand, normally is talkative you might try to put 2-3 questions to another participant. If you tend to interrupt, you might want to try and listen until the talker has finished etc.

#### **Observers’ tasks:**

If there are many participants, the group might be divided in seminar participants and observers. These potential observers are given different tasks: observe how the participants manage to keep to the seminar rules and their set group goal, observe how the group manages to advance the intellectual process, observe how the facilitator works, etc. They will observe quietly during the seminar.

### Socratic seminar

#### **Opening question:**

You find this baby outside your house with a note on its chest saying “Take care of me”. How will you act?

#### **Textual analysis/core questions:**

What can we know about the baby from looking at the picture?

Are the horns growing on the baby’s head or are they faked?

Are the tattoos real or are they faked? What do the tattoos show?

Is it a boy or a girl?

How does the baby feel?

How has the baby been nurtured for and taken care of?

Where does it sit?

What is it looking at?

What can we tell about the baby’s parents from looking at the baby? If we look for the parents, who will we be looking for?

#### **Potential Socratic/evaluative questions:**

Are humans good or bad when they are born? Could there be evil children?

How different can we allow individuals to become? Is everything accepted?

What is different and what is normal?

Little “Diablo” is now older and will start tomorrow at your school as a student. How will you welcome him/her?

### Post-seminar

#### **Evaluation:**

The personal goals are evaluated by each individual (someone might share his/her evaluation). The group goal is evaluated by the group. Potential observers are given the opportunity to share their observations and reflections.

## Plan for the seminar of “Raptor Gallery of the Lindsay Museum” by the writer Lillian Vallee

### Pre-seminar

The seminar rules are presented by the facilitator: Shared inquiry through thoughtful dialogue, listen, many possible answers, be prepared to reconsider and maybe change your opinion.

#### **Group goal:**

The group will together decide a goal for the group’s interaction: to talk to each other (instead of the facilitator), to challenge each other intellectually by finding contradictions or by questioning each other, etc.

#### **Personal goal:**

Every participant sets a personal goal for his/her behaviour during the seminar. If you, for example, normally are very quiet, you might set a goal to say 2-3 things by your own account during the seminar. If you, on the other hand, normally is talkative you might try to put 2-3 questions to another participant. If you tend to interrupt, you might want to try and listen until the talker has finished etc.

#### **Observers’ tasks:**

If there are many participants, the group might be divided in seminar participants and observers. These potential observers are given different tasks: observe how the participants manage to keep to the seminar rules and their set group goal, observe how the group manages to advance the intellectual process, observe how the facilitator works, etc. They will observe quietly during the seminar.

### Socratic seminar

#### **Opening question:**

If you visited the Lindsay Museum, would you go into the Raptor Gallery? Motivate your answer.

#### **Textual analysis/core questions:**

Who are “they” in the text, do you think?

What has happened to them?

Are humans responsible for everything done to “they” in the poem?

At the end the text says: “They sit like a jury of your peers”. How should this be interpreted?

Who is giving the verdict?

Who is condemned to be guilty?

#### **Potential Socratic/evaluative questions:**

Could individuals be held responsible for environmental problems and in that case for what?

Should humans take responsibility for animals and their wellbeing? Why/why not?

### Post-seminar

#### **Evaluation:**

The personal goals are evaluated by each individual (someone might share his/her evaluation).

The group goal is evaluated by the group. Potential observers are given the opportunity to share their observations and reflections.