Youth Court Roleplaying

Respondent’s scenario:

You are Bea Goode, a fourteen year old girl who has been referred to Youth Court for throwing a book at your social studies teacher. The teacher asked you for your homework several times, but you hadn’t done it. Your parents are getting divorced and you have always been a good student in the past, but your parents are yelling at each other every night and you can’t concentrate.

You are scared about what is happening at home and feel like you have no one to turn to.

**Bailiff**

**Your job is to escort the student respondent and Youth Advocate in and out of the courtroom and help the judge with maintaining order if need be. You also read the Teacher’s statement at the direction of the Judge.**

**Teacher’s Statement (read by the Bailiff)**

I asked Bea for her social studies homework and she did not respond. I asked again and she put her head on her desk and turned her head away from me. When I asked a third time, Bea took her social studies book and threw it my direction, disrupting the entire class.

**Youth Advocate’s statement:**  
Bea admits throwing the book at her teacher. She has always been a good student and done well, but she was very frustrated when the teacher kept asking her questions. I ask that that the Youth Court come up with a disposition that restores Bea and helps her.

**Jurors:**

**Your job consists of the following:**

1. **Find out what really happened by asking FACT questions.**
2. **Find out who was harmed and help the responded understand all of the people that were harmed by asking HARM questions.**
3. **Figure out what can make this better and restore the respondent by asking FIX IT questions.**

**Once all the questions have been asked then the jurors decide what the respondent should have to do using RESTORATIVE, not punitive principles.**