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Weather Forecast

Environment: Low End - large cloud made of quilts and pillows - covered in white gauze, with white and silver balloons hanging from ceiling and all around. Long white/silver voiles. Metallophones. Electric fan. High end: Rain umbrellas, rainsticks, mbiras/resonance boards, rain ponchos. Sunny lighting on green grass, picnic blankets, sun cream, crisps and drinks.



Greeting Weather forecast on TV. sing about the weather, drum the rain/thunder

Clouds Roll on soft fluffy clouds, play with balloons, wrap up in white gauze, bring out voiles and dance underneath to the sound of metallophones and singing.



Rain Follow the sounds of rainsticks, feel the rain falling, put on ponchos and dance with, spin, hide under sparkling umbrellas. Add mbiras on resonance boards and feel the vibrations through your fingers and hands, feet and heads.



Sunshine Lighting changes, becomes warm and golden. Lay blankets out on the grass, massage each other with suncream, enjoy the touch, smell, caring for each other. Share crisps and drinks and sing in the sunshine.

Observations Lovely first workshop, light, open flexible. Lots of tactile and sound play. Safe for new clients who appeared relaxed and happy. The big metallophone is a great instrument for all levels of ability - lots of music-making and play in this workshop. Mbiras on resonance boards greatly enjoyed by PMLD clients, Umbrellas encouraged movement, dance and shared sheltering



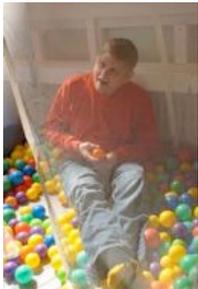
Olympiad

Environment Bunting and flags. Ballpool shelter, giant exercise balls, soft basketballs, variety small soft balls, beanbags, hoops, baskets, tubes, tennis/football nets. Rubber footprints and arrows on floor, polystyrene javelins. Blue voiles for swimming pool, 400m relay race projection, mat podium, flags, hand clappers, gold medals. Satsumas.



Greeting 100m semis and final on TV. PE kit of appropriate. Physical warm-up/exercise

Balls Freeplay with all the balls - safe in ballpool shelter, bounce/roll/pat rhythms on giant balls, throw balls into/over/under nets, kick/bounce/roll balls, play individually/in pairs/teams. Play tennis, footie, volleyball, basketball. Roll balls down tubes, throw through hoops/into baskets/to each other. Have fun!



Swimming Pull blue voiles out across studio. Swim along, under, through - backstroke, crawl and butterfly. Roll balls down the water. Splash and kick legs, wave arms as you pass each other.



The Race On your marks, get set, go! Run with the greats, making shadows across the projection as you race round the track as your peers cheer you on, waving flags and clappers.



Medals Every one's a winner. Enter the spotlight with pride to receive your medal, to the cheers of the crowd Then taste satsuma and process home.

Observations Surprisingly successful workshop! High energy, fun, enjoyed by all abilities/ages, each person finding their own preferred 'sport' and engaging in focused, enthusiastic ways. Swimming the voiles section brought a welcome change to the dynamic of the workshop before the excitement of 'The Race'. Clients fascinated by projection - watching, copying, doing slo-mo, winning with pride. All loved receiving medals for individual prowess, but also shared the celebrations with their peers.



Vision On

Environment Corrugated paper pathway, brown paper on walls/ceiling, sheets on floor, brown card masks, brown paper hats, hair, costumes, mop shakers, small sheets, hanging holey sheets, nets, leaves/pegs. Masked character and brown card puppet. Rice swinger tube, blacks on floor, drums, tambours, metallophones, gongs, cymbals



Greeting Vision On clips with music on TV

Brown Paper Follow the corrugated paper pathway, making sounds with feet, hands, wheels. Find large and small brown paper sheets. Explore sounds as you rip, crumple, tap, hide under, make costumes, dress up, dance with paper and shakers. Meet the masked paper man and his paper boy puppet. Peg leaves to netting.



Rice Find the swinger, gently push it to and fro, side to side and round and round, towards and away from each other, in and out. Release the rice and see the patterns appear on the black cloths below. Add instruments as it circles round and plays the sounds. When flow stops, have fun with the rice, dropping on instruments creating different sound qualities, see it jump as you play the drums, slide it across tambours and gongs, feel it trickle through your fingers, see it fall like rain in the lights.



Observations An easy workshop to enjoy, totally multisensory with 2 totally different dynamic sections and contrasting materials. First section playful and free, second more focused, requiring turn taking and listening skills which all clients seemed to understand and enjoy. Use of character and puppet encouraged variety of responses from role-play and dancing to simple textural exploration. Successful on variety of levels, enabling each client to engage in their own way. Rice swinger magical and mesmerising, encouraging calm focus and listening. Lots of fun playing with rice on instruments building music with sounds and rhythms. Visually satisfying too.



Autumn Watch

Environment Tree limbs and branches round studio. Area filled with autumn leaves. Woodland puppets - squirrel, hedgehog, rabbit, mouse, fox. Wooden bowls of chestnuts, hazelnuts, pinecones, conkers. Wood instruments, xylophones, balafones, tongues drums, beaters, nut shakers. Grey voiles to pull out as mist. Torches.



Leaves Walk through, flick, roll in leaves, throw in air and watch them flutter down, listen to the sounds of crunching as you move, bury each other and play.



Animals Squirrel appears, looking for food - individual interactions. Joined by hedgehog, rabbit etc. Opportunities for touching, stroking, clients can animate puppets too.



Nuts Find bowls of nuts, play with the sounds as they drop in bowls, roll round and round, shake them and feel them, smooth and shiny

Wood sounds Add instruments and listen as you roll the nuts over them, drop them, tap them - hear the different sounds Add beaters and play the wood sounds, listening to each other and building rhythms and tunes.

Gather the nuts and hide them away for winter, singing as you work together



Mist Bring out the voiles across the space as lighting fades. Play with torches, calling each other as you find your way home through the mist

Observations Totally multisensory. Took a while for people to understand that it was ok to get down among the leaves and have fun throwing them in the air and burying selves. Puppets were very successful, being small, soft and non-threatening - lots of positive interactions and children particularly liked animating puppets themselves - very imaginative! Particular sound qualities of nuts and woods was engaging and focusing. Lots of good listening and sensitive playing. Rarely reached the final section of the workshop! Save for another day.



Monkeyworld

Environment Woodwool, netting, monkey puppets. Hanging tyre/ropes, tyres, bouncy balls, gym cylinders, platforms, blankets. Basket of sticks, boomwhackers, congas, djembes and drums. Basket of fruit - apples, bananas, satsumas.



Nursery Smell, feel, roll and play in the woodwool. Find the monkey puppets and interact with them and each other, caring for, stroking, having fun.



Outdoor Tyres to roll, stack, jump on, spin, hanging tyre and rope for swinging, platforms for climbing on, gym balls and cylinders for rolling and bouncing. All about movement and motion, being brave, balancing, challenging selves, using strength, pushing, pulling, trust.



Monkey Music Use sticks and boomwhackers to create sounds and rhythms on tyres, balls, platforms. Develop with congas, djembes and drums and dance as you play.



Monkey Lunch Lay out blankets and enjoy sharing the fruit

Observations Woodwool was disappointing as a multisensory resource, quite rough and clumpy and stuck to clothing, carpet and everything. Some users loved it, others found it difficult and many didn't like the 'mess' - not least the Friday de-rig team! Some groups engaged with gross motor props more easily than others; wheelchair users responding to facilitators' antics with joy and fun, great eye-contact, looking and tracking, more able clients challenging themselves and trying things out. Sticks were supplemented with boomwhackers half-way through week - better sound quality, more fun, more variety of uses. Fruit enjoyed by all.



Dr Who

Environment: Tardis - Console of voile on hoop with lights inside + pulley. Fibre optic and other light sources, flashing lights, dream torches, flashing light balls, LED lights. Tubing and piping. Sound pad console Theramin, stylophone, K9. Projection of space and daleks. Low End - Dalek ship - silver space blankets and giant silver balls, remote-controlled dalek and inflatable big dalek. Sound effects - tardis, Dr Who theme, Daleks speaking.



Tardis Explore light sources, feel the fibre optics, touch the 'powerball' turn lights off and on, see cause/effect, Bounce and roll, pass round the flashing light balls, hide flashing lights in hands, under space blankets, inside tubing. Bring out tubing and reconstruct tardis.



Sounds Create vocal sounds through tubing/microphone, play theramin and stylophone, explore sound pads and create electronic soundscape. As sounds build hear sound of tardis taking off, fasten seatbelts and fly through space as projection appears onscreen and dreamtorches glimmer and dance through the dark skies.



Daleks Projection changes and daleks appear on screen - see them, hear them talking - they're boarding the ship! Lighting changes and remote controlled dalek appears - watching you, speaking to you. Interact with him in turn. Behind him appears the big dalek - you are brave and strong and make friends with him. He gives the giant silver powerballs and it's time for you to leave. Fly off through space as Dr Who theme plays...and return to Crowthorne 2012.



Observations Many clients familiar with theme, though narrative may have been beyond some. However, plentiful, beautiful multisensory props and resources enabled engagement by all clients, whether simply exploring lights, textures and sounds or helping to construct tardis with tubes and pipes. Plenty of scope for role-play - often more than one Dr Who!. Sound pads particularly good resource - many clients enjoyed exploring cause/effect and different sounds, returning to them frequently. Remote controlled dalek very engaging - animateur being one-step removed - all fascinated. Thanks to Kevin for loan of inflatable dalek - big hit!



CBeebies

Environment White screens + baby masks, cream throw on floor plus range of large 'toys' to introduce - ball, dog, building bricks, books, shape/sound toy etc. Large mirror. Low End: like comfy lounge with live feed from action on floor onto big TV, settee, rug, lamp, cushions etc.



Baby Facilitator, wearing baby mask, sits on throw and waits for interactions with clients, one at a time. Other artist facilitates rest of group, encouraging watching and turn-taking as each one becomes involved in little games and intensive interactions with 'baby'



Observations Gentle and fun workshop; engaging character work from everyone who tried on the mask and also from the baby facilitator -exciting to just watch babies; great music sections along with some movement dynamics; lots of playing; lots of gentle caring; soft and nice kiddie energy (Z).

The workshop was very demanding on the "principal character" (baby) but, with those who can suspend disbelief and engage in role play, some wonderful interactions occurred. All 3 w'shops "worked". The structure seemed to call for a lot of accompaniment-work, particularly on keyboard (silent movie style) in the first half. Also used (apart from the usual suspects) clarinet and Ukulele.

Surprising and interesting workshop



Steptoe & Son

Environment Horse (sounds) & Cart full of boxes. Steptoe's lounge, full of bits of junk, furniture and bric-a-brac, all multisensory; feather boas, fur stoles, dusters, clocks, phones, silver trays, with skeleton, instruments and sounds. Tea trolley, biscuits and cakes. TV showing term's workshops, client photos. Chest with props as clues for each workshop + soundtrack and musical clues i.e. tardis.



Horse 'n' cart Find and unload boxes, building structures, walls etc - playful, mischievous section - drop and rebuild, stack, pass to each other, drum on boxes and feel vibrations. Greet horse, hear him neigh, feed him and stroke him. Ride on the cart.



Lounge Explore all the objects in the lounge, dance with the skeleton, wind up clocks and hear them ring, make a phone call, feel the boas and stoles, look in cupboards and drawers.

Percussion Play the junk, silver trays, suitcases, whistles and harmonicas, ukulele, drum, washboard. Have fun and sing along!



Tea break Out with the flask and on with the TV. Enjoy tea and cakes while watching a slide presentation of the workshops this term. See yourself on TV, remember the props from each one: umbrella, hedgehog, monkey, tardis, while you listen to the sounds/music. Talk about which one you liked best and why, or just enjoy the memories and seeing other groups participating.

Observations A trip down TV's memory lane which some clients remembered, others not.

Box section v. participatory, lots of collaboration, clients showing mischievous side and sense of fun. All enjoyed exploring the large variety of objects within the set - each found their favourite item. Percussive section created a nice change in dynamic - up, playful, creating own rhythms and singing songs. Tea and cakes a nice reward after hard work and many focused on TV photos, recognising workshops and themselves on the screen. Physical props and musical cues greatly assisted understanding.

