## Ants

**Environment** Hard hats with antennae, foreman character. Termite mound made from willow withies, metronome and wood blocks/instruments. White box giant 'sugar lumps' around space. Giant leaves. Flask of tea and sugar lumps.



**Clocking On** Foreman greets you as you arrive, directs you to put on hardhat antennae before entering anthill. Settle down for orders. Metronome starts a steady tick-tock rhythm which ants pick up with clicks, taps and claps, uniting group in one rhythm. Gradually add lighter wood instruments following metronome, then picking up each other's rhythms, build with tongue drums and gatos.



**Sugar lumps** Foreman ant shows a picture of sugar lumps and sends you off on your first job. March in a line with a steady rhythm off round the space. Find the boxes and play; tapping, scratching, passing to each other, building in piles, pushing/rolling along the floor. Stack them in the back of the anthill, helping each other as you go.

Leaves Foreman shows leaf picture and off the ants march again. Find leaves - change in dynamic, dancing with giant leaves, seeing colours change in the lights, hiding behind/under, making a breeze as they move through the air. Tap on leaves to make light rain sounds and hurry back to anthill where you add leaves to cover the holes.



**Tea Break** All ants gather together inside and enjoy a nice cup of tea with sugar lumps before marching off home.

**Observations** Termite hill made a lovely safe space for the group to gather together. Metronome was brilliant for focusing group and encouraging good listening - movement and sound together. Led to some excellent rhythm sections. Boxes were fun and many clients rose to the challenge of 'having a job to do', particularly the boys! The leaf section gave a welcome change in dynamic and a chance to cool down. Tea and sugar lumps enjoyed by all.

