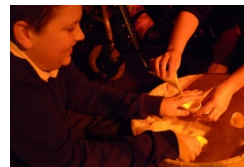# Bamboo

Artefact: Bamboo Lantern   **Costume** Coolie hats

Environment Bamboo round space. Rice in coloured pools of light, bamboo containers, tubes, cones, bowls and tambours, boomwhackers, balingbings. High end: Bamboo shelter, bamboo chair, bamboo instruments, Mr Bamboo character, rice krispies in bamboo cones.

Rice and bamboo See rice in different colours, feel it flowing through fingers, bury feet and hands, watch it pouring from tubes, hear the sound as it falls into different containers, make patterns with it, smooth it out, build mountains of rice, play in shakers, see it jump and dance as it falls, roll it around in tambours and bowls.

Bamboo sounds. Turn the bamboo tubes on end and drop them on the floor to hear the different notes they play. Build rhythms and sounds to make a bamboo song. Add balingbings - hear the 'boing' as you tap them on palms, tubes and floor.

Mr Bamboo Light the lanterns and find Mr Bamboo in his bamboo shelter. Meet and greet the character, who introduces you to more bamboo instruments - anklung, bamboo wind chimes, bamboo xylophones and tongue drums. Listen and play together, try different instruments to hear their sounds. Dance and play with Mr Bamboo. Then rest and watch the bamboo projection as it grows before your eyes and taste rice krispies/rice cakes from bamboo cones, before waving goodbye.

Observation Rice is a great multisensory medium. People who will not normally touch things, rolled their hands round in the rice, feeling the texture and listening to the sounds. It produced sustained focus, many clients just repeatedly running it through their fingers, or pouring from one container to another, watching the flow, for long periods of time. (One teacher was off to buy a large bag of rice for her students asap!) The new bamboo instruments produced interesting and tuneful sounds, but were quite difficult for clients to play themselves, having no sustain. Mr Bamboo was totally engaging to most clients, though a couple were nervous at first and wheelchair user group not that interested - maybe features of mask not clear enough?