

Carpenter

Environment: Low End - Forest and forest floor - Laurel branches, bracken, logs, hardboard centre, containers of pine cones, wood chip, wood shavings, shredded trees, sawdust. High End - Carpenter's Workshop - pole lathe + wood instruments, tongue drums, wood blocks, cahons, nut shakers, washboard etc. Shelves of finished, smooth wood objects; figures, animals, games, bricks, massagers, clogs, bowls. Wood puppet. Tea-break hamper - tea and biscuits.



Forest Smell the wood as you enter, explore all the textures and sounds as you play with cones, woodchip, sawdust - make collage forest floor, dance and make shadows with leafy bracken, tap rhythms with sticks.



Carpenter Hear the sound of the Carpenter's lathe as he works away. Join him and have a go, then, 'hammer and saw' with the instruments all around you until everyone is joined together playing one 'work' rhythm - sing and play, swap instruments, change sounds.



Puppet appears and interacts with each one - playing games, shaking hands, playing with wood objects he shows the group - to feel, smell, enjoy.



Tea break The hamper appears and after a hard day's work we share tea and biscuits, before waving goodbye to the wood-man.

Observations This workshop had a really easy flow from one section to another with simple transitions and changes in dynamic. The forest touched our senses as we smelled, touched - often tasted the wood in it's different forms. It was a welcome surprise to see the amount of interest and engagement in the pole lathe as clients took turns to work the machine. 'Working' with wood instruments was fun and highly motivating as many clients respond really positively to rhythm work. This section was often quite sustained with rhythms changing as different clients took the lead. Moving straight to the calm, quiet puppet section after this worked really well - some great responses to the little man. Obviously tea-break was loved by all!

