

Harvesters

Environment: Flowered arch entry. Free, open space depicting the 'outside', dawn, sun rising, dawn chorus - hedgerows, filled with wild flowers, jasmine, honeysuckle, birds, feathers, butterflies and dragonflies hidden all around. Ocarinas and kazoos. Wheat sheaves in corner with small scarecrows, scarecrow character. Fresh lavender, pestle and mortar, lavender oils for massage. 'Tree' with maypole ribbons, ribbon sticks, bells, tambourines and tambours, accordion. Picnic basket - crusty bread, cheese and apple juice.



Hedgerows Explore whole space - smell the different flowers, discover birds, feel the soft feathers, play ocarinas and whistles, making birdsong. Find butterflies, dragonflies, see them flutter by, land on hats, hands, feet, play kazoos - conversations with insects, playful and funny



Lavender Find baskets of lavender, touch and smell the flowers, grind lavender in mortar. Bring out oils and enjoy smell, massage each other's hands/feet, close contact and gentle 1-1 work.

Scarecrow Corn sheaves rustle, someone is coming. The scarecrow peeps/falls out and plays with each individual, dancing, swapping hats, tickling hands/feet with hair. Comical interactions.



May Tree Introduce dancing rhythms, add sticks, bells and tambourines. Find the ribbons and dance together round the tree, twirling, turning, in and out and round and round



Picnic The scarecrow gives the picnic basket and you all sit together and share food and chat

Observations: Open free space worked well though NB: informing carers of a change in the use of space would be beneficial as some had built expectations of starting at the Low End! Clients loved the new butterfly props and this prompted some lovely vocal interactions, especially when the kazoo sounds were added. Lavender section brought everyone together in a calm, settling manner and prepared for the entrance of the scarecrow whose comical antics were enjoyed by all. Maypole tree was only used with some groups, where the dynamic of the session seemed appropriate. Picnic drew all together in a happy final together moment.

