Nest

Environment Low End: Trees, bowl of feathers, feather boas, feather sticks, bird masks, birdsong sample playing. High End: giant nest, withy sticks, sticks and twigs, birds in trees, ocarinas, slide whistles, shakey eggs, raffia, bird puppets, sour worm sweets.



Birds Find the feathers and play - blowing/throwing in the air, tickling/stroking, dressing hair. Dress up in feather boas and masks, sing and dance like birds with feather stick wings.











Nest Fly to the treetop nest and finish building with sticks and twigs, make rhythms with sticks and 'feather' the nest. Add raffia, feel and smell it and make a soft space in the centre.









Birdsong Create bird sounds with vocals and mic, ocarinas and whistles, call and answer Eggs Discover shakey eggs and add gentle rhythms. Be gentle, feel the shape and texture, hear the sounds.

Puppets Bird puppet appears, making his own sound. Interact with each individual, feel his feathers, put things in his beak, sing together. Spare bird allows clients to have a turn at animating puppet and interacting with peers.









Worms Share worm sweets as you snuggle together in the nest as the sun goes down, listening to birdsong all around you.

Observations Good variety of options - allowing us to choose activities appropriate for each client group. Tactile contrasts - feathers/sticks and sound opportunities throughout workshop which is quite free and flexible. Dressing up and showing off in true male bird fashion was greatly enjoyed by more able clients, others enjoyed the sounds/textures of the treescape. Many clients opted to animate bird puppets themselves. This was a new development for many of them. 'Blowing' instruments were difficult for many clients who opted for vocalising with mic as an alternative. Slide whistles easier than ocarinas.

