Sorting Office (grey aprons)

Environment Sorting office reception, postman, envelopes, postcards, stamps. Table set with giant and small postcards, coloured pens and stickers. Postbox with 'character' inside. Brown paper pathways leading to sorting office floor, brown paper, paper hats, masks, streamer sticks, 'curtains', brown boxes. Area of shredded paper (contained on white parachute). Tea break biscuits.



Send a letter Join the queue for the postmaster to stamp your envelopes, then create your own beautiful letters and postcards with coloured pens and stickers. The 'living postbox' dances around you, begging for your letters because he's very hungry. Play games with him and post your letters in the box. Mind he doesn't swallow you too! He's very greedy.











Sorting office Wheel and dance along brown paper pathways, hear the sound of crunching paper, rip small and large sheets, listen to the sounds - roll it, scrunch it, shake it around. Dress up in masks and hats and dance with the streamer sticks, playing rhythms on the boxes. Build the boxes into tall towers and see them fall, build walls and pathways, roll them, throw and catch them, spin them around.











Packaging Reveal the shredded paper, watch it falling, see it flutter down, bury feet and hands, fill bags and boxes and tip them out from height, catch it as it falls. Explore bubble wrap strips, popping the bubbles and squashing into boxes. Sing songs about the work you have done, then time for a tea break, settle down and enjoy a biscuit with your co-workers.











Observations First section quite difficult for some - a little fiddly and needed a lot of support, but the postbox character was a great hit, all clients amused and keen to pop their letters in the box. Splitting the 'sorting office' into clear sections worked well, starting with listening to the sounds of paper, underfoot and in hands, then developing into a rhythmic, dancey section with streamers and hats before moving on to box work. The shredded paper was a great hit, though now that sheets are cross-shredded, makes clearing up between sessions more difficult! Containing on a parachute helped. Box play - another task-based activity, enabled the involvement of all clients in different ways (see website photos)

