

## Tall Trees ('When great trees fall' - Maya Angelou)

"When great trees fall, rocks on distant hills shudder, lions hunker down in tall grasses, and even elephants lumber after safety. When great trees fall in forests, small things recoil into silence, their senses eroded beyond fear".



**Environment** Carpet tube trees are dotted around the space. Birdsong sound effect. Grasses and maize dress one corner, with baskets of brightly coloured bird feathers, small singing bird puppets, large 'toucan' puppets, ocarinas and bird whistles. Boomwhackers, smaller carpet tube lengths and flip-flops. Lion costume and mask. Lion roaring (on loop) Animal biscuit treats.

**Birds in the Forest** Enter and explore the space, in and out, between tree trunks, listening to birds calling. Find feathers and play together - throw in the air and watch them flutter down, catch them if you can, fan them around, feel their softness, enjoy the colours, tickle arms and feet, adorn hair. Meet the small birds, hear their different songs, feel their softness, look after them. Have fun with the cheeky toucans. Call each other with ocarinas and whistles.

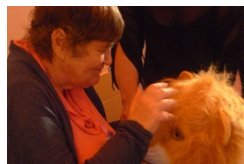


## Trees Falling

Using boomwhackers as tools, chop, tap and cut trees down - Timber! Play rhythmically and sing as you work away together. The birds fall silent and fly away. Bring out different lengths of 'trunks' to play with wheelchair users and sitters. Use them for calling and looking through, dropping on floor, rolling and patting with flip-flops for a new sound - feel the vibrations. Work together to carry them to the woodpile - the forest is bare....and all is silent, until....



**Lion** In the distance his roars echo through the bare forest. He appears from behind the tall grasses - frightened and alone. He comes to greet you, feel his soft fur, stroke him, look after him, play with him, he becomes your friend and leaves animal biscuit treats before disappearing into the long grass. Relax in the forest as the sun goes down and the birds return to sing their songs



**Observations** A very successful first workshop, which even new participants found easy to engage with. Bright open space was welcoming, and first activity (feathers) settled and united each group in a colourful corner of the room. Lots of fun things to do! Some preferred the gentleness of feathers, while others enjoyed the rhythmical task based actions of chopping and carrying logs. The lion character was unthreatening - lovely mask and soft onesie - lots of caring interactions.