

The Kraken (Pirate costumes)

Environment Ship's mast, steering wheel and sails, hardboard deck, fish, buckets, crates and ropes. Washboard and dusters. Electric fans, wind machine, ocean drums, timpani, storm at sea sound effects. The Kraken made from giant balloon with googly eyes and ventilator tubing tentacles. Cloud projection and seagull puppet. Golden nuggets.



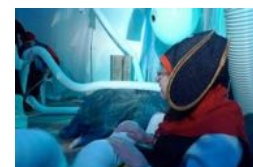
All aboard The crew board the ship and are set to clearing the decks; sweeping and dusting, coiling/pulling ropes and buckets, throwing fish in crates, scrubbing the washboards, singing sea shanties as they cheerfully go about their duties, enjoying activities that build trust and cooperation, as well as being fun.



Sail Away Weigh anchor and hoist the sails, feel the wind from the fans, see the sails billowing in the wind, hear the sounds of the sea, gently swaying with ocean drums, as the captain steers the ship and you rock from side to side. Storm-a-coming! the wind sounds increase and the sails get wilder. Lightning flashes and playing the timpani creates thunder, rising and falling in the distance. Hold her steady as she goes!



The Kraken The storm abates and calm returns, but climbing over the side of the ship is the Kraken! See his wobbly eyes and feel his long tentacles as they wriggle and flop around you. He is too friendly and wraps his arms around your friends, save them, feed him fish to keep him busy, hear the sound as you run fingers up and down the ridges of his arms. Time to go home - follow the seagull as she leads you through the clouds on your journey home.



Observations At times during this workshop we really felt like we were on board a pirate ship, sailing across the ocean. The sound effects, lighting, shanties, sails billowing all worked together to create an amazing sensory environment for all to enjoy. Task based, repetitive 'cleaning' activities could be accessed by all, even if just enjoying the feel of a broom's bristles! Ocean drums are a favourite with many clients - both aurally and visually engaging, as well as tactile. As always the timpani brought its surprises, with more nervous participants eagerly crossing the space to engage.

