

Parachutes

Many places have coloured parachutes, however white parachutes are more versatile as they can be used in a multitude of different ways; to create environments of different shapes, sizes and colours (using lighting), and to inspire a vast number of varied activities.

Their lightness and size make them accessible to all and they can unify a whole group or be enjoyed individually, depending how they are used. Above all else, a parachute can be great fun.

Ways to use parachutes:

- Create a themed 'space' by arranging them over different structures, for example a fishing hole in the ice.
- Drape over the prow of a ship (made from white plastic pipes), with electric fans blowing underneath, to create an undulating seascape.
- Invert and hang above a 'floating' table top to create a hot air balloon.
- Secure the middle from above with the sides falling around to create the inside of a tepee or a pyramid.
- Attach to a circle of pipes to create the roof of an igloo.
- As a dramatic landscape to climb over when inflated with fans.
- Spread on the floor to outline an area where all participants can gather.
- Roll on them, wrap them around, hide under them – they can cover an entire group.
- As a safe place to rest
- To generate movement – run underneath, over or around (or be wheeled).
- With movement and sound effects, they can create a raging storm or a calm gentle sea.
- Used with lights/torches/projections they can become the actual medium to explore, a screen for images or shadows.
- Throw balloons or balls into them to add another dimension – flying or rolling objects to catch and send to others.

Links

Travelling (Activity)

Workshops - All at Sea, Oz 1, Round Table. Head in the clouds

Videos

Catch a colour

Under the parachute

Clouds and parachute