

## Bastet (Egyptian Cat Goddess)

Belly dancing scarves and collar necklaces

**Environment** Egyptian temple made with carpet tubes and plinths. Bastet -manikin dressed in Egyptian robe, mask and headdress. Cat ear headbands and masks. Small mirrors, pink face-paint and black eye liner pencils. Large and small blackboards and chalks. Toy mice, lots of cats, both furry and statues. Ankle bells, handbells, tambourines, drum, chiffon cloths. Furry rugs, magic clay.



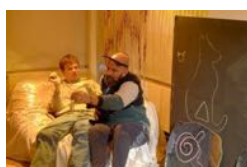
**Cat Goddess** Enter the temple and greet Bastet who gives each person cat ear headbands to wear. Make cat sounds, meowing and purring. Retire to annex and enjoy looking in mirrors as you facepaint pink noses and whiskers. Play with chalks on blackboards, making marks, sounds and/or draw cats. See the mice as they scurry across soundboards, catch them if you can!



**Egyptian dancing** Process and dance through the temple to an upbeat rhythm, shaking hips and bums to jingle scarves, playing bells and tambourines as you swirl and twirl across the floor. Add chiffon cloths to enhance the feel of movement around the space, over wheelchairusers, through columns etc.



**Cat sculptures** Settle on furry rugs and stroke the many cats in the temple, feeling their soft fur, vocalising, making friends. Use Magic Clay to create you own cats or simple feel the texture, rolling into balls and long tails. Explore patting, tapping and poking fingers in, squashing, stretching and twisting. Add googly eyes if appropriate, then enjoy cat treats curled up on soft furs before bidding farewell to Bastet.



**Observations** Cats are familiar to all clients, so provided good opportunities for vocalisation and a variety of visual art activities - face painting, drawing and clay, accessible to all abilities. The ritual temple scenes and dancing created contrasting dynamics within the workshop coming between the other visual art activities. A solid rhythm behind the bell-dancing section held it together and encouraged lots of movement and playing of tambourines and bells. Belly dancing scarves, with their rows of jangly coins added another aural element, both visually and sonically pleasing. Magic Clay, while quite expensive is worth the money for its textural quality and

