Caterpillar/Dragonfly

Environment Low End - stretch wrap floor as pond, grasses round edge, bean-bag toadstools, caterpillar character, hookah pipe and bubbles, shredded holographic threads, water snakes, lycra dance sacks. High end - giant leaves and umbrella flowers, resonance board with mbiras, giant dragonfly mobile above, dragonflies on sticks, Queen dragonfly, sultana 'flies to eat.



Caterpillar Find it sitting on a toadstool, hear the sounds of the pipe bubbling, see floating bubbles, catch and pop them, interact with character. Pull out shredded threads which sparkle and change colour in the lights, cover selves like a silk cocoon. Find babies (water snakes), feel them, squishy, bendy, slippery, keep them safe. Climb into lycra sacks and wriggle, roll and shuffle away to find food











Giant leaves and flowers Crawl to the garden, dance with leaves and spinning coloured flowers, hide underneath, eat your fill....then play mbiras, (on resonance board) feel the vibrations, hear the music...metamorphosis is happening...











Dragonfly Giant dragonflies appear, flying overhead (mobile) and down to greet you. Small dragonflies on sticks dance up and down and move around the space, landing on leaves and flowers, on your laps heads and hands - beautiful colours flashing though the air. Queen dragonfly appears with shimmering wings to dance and say hello, then offers sultana 'flies' to eat, before disappearing again.











Observations Caterpillar was a great success even with new children's' group. Its vulnerability, gentleness and fact that it remained fairly static enabled even the most anxious clients to engage with confidence. Bubbles added playfulness and light movement qualities which contrasted with other floor based work. Shredded threads amazing in the light. Lycra sacks provided a new resource which can be reused in different contexts. Mbiras on resonance board and bodies worked beautifully and changed dynamic. Dragonfly wings visually arresting and encouraged interaction and focus.

