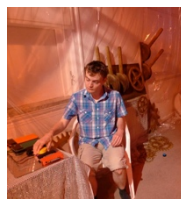
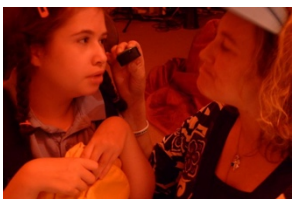


## Mars

**Environment** Space station made from white plastic piping and polythene sheets. Soundbeam soundpads, mini-pad recording devices, drum machine, levers and switches. Robbie the Robot character. Display boxes containing insect samples and rocks. Table and resonance board. Hexbugs in tin. Mars planet surface - gravel and rock and sand areas containing variety of bugs and insects. Barrow with buckets, rakes, spades, magnifying glasses, nets, specimen tins. Timpani covered in red voiles as craters and mountains. Jelly bean food



**Space station** Astronauts enter space pod and meet and greet Robbie the Robot. Opportunities for individual interactions and robotic dancing and sounds. Explore electronics, make sounds with pads, record voices, manipulate switches, levers and cogs and play with rhythms on drum machine.



**Planet surface** Enter Professor - show insect pictures and encourage exploration of planet. Take barrow of buckets etc and explore the textures - gravel, sand, rocks - having different sound/feel qualities. Collect specimens in your containers to take back to pod.

**Earthquake** Rumbles on planet surface can be heard - volcanoes erupting? meteor storm? Quake? Build sounds on timpani - soft/loud, slow/fast, different rhythms. Return to pod



**Hexbugs** Examine collected specimens then introduce hexbugs that scoot around resonance board. Feel the vibrations on your hands, arms, feet, hear them as they scuttle about. Catch them, put them in tins/lids - diff sounds.

**Refreshments.** Each client has a plate and chooses favourite dinner - then gets jelly bean space food!

**Observations** Mixed reactions to Robot - some engaged, others barely noticed, one scared, one group were inspired to create amazing robot dance. Again, mixed reactions to technology - some loved (one composed with soundpad sounds), others not interested. Voice pads generally had good responses. Sand/gravel - good textural areas with much exploration. Most also liked the 'gathering' aspect of the task. Timpani were really enjoyed, particularly by PMLD groups! Hexbugs great - sound and feel qualities. Jelly beans understood by some, confused others

