

Useful Small Resources

Natural resources, such as bamboo, pampas, tree branches quickly and easily transform a space

Mobile mirrors – can be safely and easily made from ‘flexiglas’

Electric fans are good for providing ‘breeze/wind’ – another sensory stimulus.

Camera flash can be used for effects i.e. lightning

Coloured lighting can be easily achieved either by placing gels over angle-poise spotlights or inserting coloured bulbs.

A projector light can be used as a spotlight if unavailable

Fairy lights add a magical quality to the lighting kit and can be used inside props (i.e. plastic bottles) or to decorate a specific area, space or puppet.

Puppet characters are easily made with mask and trailing piece of cloth to dress arm

Large garden parasol is a useful accessory (recommend neutral colour – cream) for creating a space/ambience and attaching lights/instruments/ cloths to.

Collecting sets of natural resources recommended – stones, pine-cones, shells, conkers, feathers, sticks etc. Can be used for tactile stimulus or when combined with or used as instruments add sound qualities to the work, as well as being visually engaging.

Withys provide an excellent natural building material – both for structures and smaller props

Space blankets are a brilliant resource and can be bought cheaply in bulk on the net. They can be used as building materials to create environments, as costumes, or as props with good tactile and sound qualities.

Hoops – can be used in a variety of ways – as building accessories, for making pathways or as props. They can quickly be transformed by adding other materials i.e. cloths, net, clingfilm, wrapping with raffia or ribbon or silver foil.

Polystyrene chips make excellent ‘snow’, but extra care must be taken to prevent swallowing of small pieces.

Fans - sets of different coloured windfans will be visually stimulating and create movement and the feeling of air moving around you.

Cheap curtain wire can be made into a variety of shapes, and used to hang things on, decorate a space or as a costume accessory – necklace, bracelet, crown etc. Use short pieces of thick wire (or matchstick) to join ends (invisible join). It also looks great in UV lighting

Sets of specific cultural resources can often be borrowed cheaply from organisations such as RISC in Reading

Rugs are a handy resource for delineating rest areas and making people comfortable

Bean bags and/or large cushions help to make a seating area welcoming and comfortable

Long lengths of translucent voile can be used for dressing an area or as props i.e. a river –rippled and wafted over people like water.

Beautiful lanterns can easily be made with cane and layers of white tissue and PVA Small triangle screens can also be made in this way, substituting sticks for cane.

Streamers (available on gymnastics/dance website) or simply made with wood/bamboo batons and ribbons encourage and enhance movement are visually stunning. Suggest set of reds/yellow (for fire) and blue/greens (for water) to start with, if resources are limited.

Giant leaves – made with flexible fibreglass rod and coloured tissue layered with PVA make an excellent resource for a variety of workshops.

Bird puppets encourage and enhance movement and use of space and can serve to raise focus of participants and catch their attention. They are simply made, like kites, with ripstock and thin ply strung onto bamboo rods. Hand print feathers help to give ownership to makers.

Cheap mattress covers are stretchy and can be used in a variety of ways – costume, prop making, long tubes etc.

Large water bottles (from drinking machines), saved or begged from company, make brilliant, cheap instruments, especially if they have handles. Playing sides/bottom

with beater gives different tones. Or try putting a little water, or some beans/seeds inside.

Moon hoops – useful resource made from hoops covered with stretchy white cloth – catch projections and shadows really well.

Inflatable chairs available from most cheap shops – come in variety of colours, make instant extra seating and can fold up small for storage.

Large quantities of shiny tinsel – can sometimes be resourced at local scrap stores and add visual, textural and sound qualities to work.

Long lengths of coloured chiffon and organza – for dressing space or as costume accessories; belts, scarves. Can also now be found in bright UV colours

Bamboo fencing, blinds or bead curtains can be used to delineate a space while giving a tactile quality to the area. Rush mats provide alternative flooring.