

Stork

Environment Low End - Stork's nest on chimney with giant egg and stork costume. Baskets of babies. Windows separate the spaces. High End - bedroom with bed, shelves, settees, dog puppet, baskets of baby toys, clothes, bottles, muslins, cotton wool balls, feather dusters. Projection of baby growing up. Chimes. Jelly babies



Bedroom Mum to be is sleeping on bed, above is projected dream (Duet) of baby growing up. She wakes and asks for help getting ready for baby. Meet her dog (puppet) and explore textures, colours, sounds of baby toys/soft toys. Find coloured muslins and cotton wool balls, play together. Clean the room with feather dusters - fun, upbeat section.



Stork arrives with baby for mum, greet and say hello, he goes then returns with more babies! Help look after all the babies - one each, holding, rocking, feeding, stroking, singing lullabies, rocking to sleep. Safely put babies to bed, cover them up and watch over them.



Chill Looking after babies is hard work! Time to pamper yourselves - using baby talc and lotion, massage hands, feet, faces, each other/facilitators. Enjoy the soothing sensations and different baby scents. Play gentle music on chimes. Relax and rest. Jelly baby treats to finish.



Observations This was a love it/hate it workshop. Clients generally seemed to enjoy the relaxed, 'normal', cosy setting of a 'bedroom'. Settled quickly and even those who usually isolate themselves remained in the bedroom setting quite happily throughout. Baby toys not as engaging as hoped. Props like gravel/beans have been more successful. Stork added comical element to workshop which was greatly enjoyed - great costume and endearing character. Baby dolls on the whole extremely successful, though there were a few participants who just weren't interested. Brought out caring traits in most people - some surprising, maybe not often given opportunities for themselves to be carers?

