

LOVE

A Sensory Drama by Gill Brigg

Adapted from a sensory story devised by Helene Åstrom

Pupils and adult supporters work in pairs.

There is a wheeled chair for the teacher.

The room is made dark slowly.

Screens are turned off and a note is placed on the door: 'Please Do Not Disturb'.

Teacher says: ***We will all be working in a story together.***

The pupils sit in two lines facing each other with an 'acting' space between the lines.

Teacher begins:

Two people love each other.

The birds sing about love.

*Birdsong is heard. After a while, it slowly fades.

The teacher plus another adult stand together at one end of the acting space.

They hold hands. One person has a bell in their hand.

Their hands move apart and when they re-join, the bell rings.

This action is repeated slowly many times.

It is a windy day.

A number of cardboard fans are handed out to the pupils and adults. A wind is created around the pupils with increasing strength and then the wind is directed towards the two people who love each other. They pretend to be blown slightly apart, using anticipatory sounds to heighten tension. This is repeated with increasing peril until, at last, the two people who love each other spin apart.

One of the friends is blown away by the wind.

The adult working with the teacher stands away from the action with their back to the class.

Where have they gone?

The pupils are encouraged to help the teacher find her friend. They gently touch their lost friend and there is a happy reunion.*

The sequence from * to * is repeated several times with increasing intensity. The teacher becomes more distraught, and the reunion becomes more joyful.

As the pupils become familiar with the sequence, they are invited to take on the roles of the two people who love each other.

When the time feels right:

At last, the wind stopped blowing and the two people who love each other danced in the street.

Everyone is invited to dance to upbeat music.

The session ends with lots of praise.

The room is calmly returned to its usual state.

You will need:

'Please Do Not Disturb' sign

Wheeled chair

Recorded bird song.

Upbeat music

Bell

Cardboard fans