

PERICLES LOSES EVERYTHING

A Sensory Drama by Gill Brigg

Adapted from the play by William Shakespeare

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 teacher begins:

This is a story of a man called Pericles. He is a king, and this is his chair.

A chair is transformed with fabric into a throne.

The teacher becomes Pericles. Pericles sits and looks sad.

My wife has gone. These are her things.

Pericles threads four precious objects onto a strip of fabric or ribbon.

Pericles shows the children four objects.

The objects might include a bottle of perfume, an item of jewellery, a scarf, a hair brush.

The pupils explore these objects.

After some silence:

My child has gone. These are her things.

Pericles threads four precious objects onto a strip of fabric or ribbon.

The objects might include a soft toy, a child's percussion instrument, a rattle, a small shoe.

The pupils explore these objects.

I will put these around my neck and think about my wife and child.

The objects are placed around Pericles' neck and tied to make a giant necklace.

****These are the only memories I have of my wife and my daughter. These are my treasures.***

Pericles thinks silently.

After some time, he takes the necklaces off, placing them on a table.

Teacher comes out of role as Pericles saying:

Should we play a game?

The pupils, teachers and adults are asked to hide the individual objects around the room. The teacher becomes Pericles again and leaves the room whilst the objects are being hidden.

The pupils fetch Pericles when all of the objects have been hidden.

Pericles enters the room and sees the empty table. He is distraught and begs the pupils to help find the objects.

As each one is brought to him, he transforms from despair to elation.

The objects are now all back on the fabric/ribbon.*

After a silence, there is repetition from * to *.

Pupils are then invited to take the role of Pericles.

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

Chair

Fabric to create a throne

2 lengths of fabric or thick ribbon

Four objects (wife)

Four objects (child)