

Action Research #1: designing & making our mas



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Goldfinch & Kingfisher heads - sculpting clay bases



Adding Paper Mache

We used banana paper
(free & sustainable)

Or use packaging paper,
paper bags, newspaper

Glue: wallpaper paste

Add several layers - dry
well between layers





Remove Paper Mache from clay

Recycle clay for next time

Repair central cut

Reinforce Edges & any bald bits!

Rest!!!

Construct housing for puppet's pole



Scrimming & painting the head



Embedding Access into Practice

Most of our group love making Mas, but making largescale work is quite challenging, even for those of us who have been making Parade Art for many years.

We make adjustments to support people to do their best work. EG: Allow extra time, sessions shouldn't start too early, or go on too late, include breaks, provide snacks

Allow people to make mistakes - we learn by doing, so we need a culture in which mistakes are 'learning opportunities'

Break down big complex tasks into manageable chunks

Music helps sometimes, quiet is preferred at other times

Offer opportunities to work seated & to take regular breaks



Give us wings & we'll fly!

Make lists & use highlighters

Be patient & supportive

Turn up on time & finish on time

Communicate plans clearly

Give constructive feedback

Use gentle humour & music

Make spaces safe for all of us

Facilitate home-working



Goldfinch Puppet's first flight!

We tested Goldfinch, Teasel & Daisy Meadow at our PopUp Carnival at a local Care Home

Goldfinch felt a bit too heavy, so we are making adjustments, to make it more accessible for us to operate, before our Tour later this year.



Conclusions - 5 'A's for better outcomes for disabled folks

Awareness - of your responsibilities as Artist/Producer

Ask Us - find out what Adjustments we need (pay us!)

Acceptance - What/who is 'The Problem'? (hint: it isn't us!!!)

Action - don't wait until you have the ££/Time - Take action now!

Accountability - we are ALL responsible for making our activities, our events and our organisations accessible - what are YOU doing?



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Thank You!