# How to Tell Stories with **People With Disabilities**

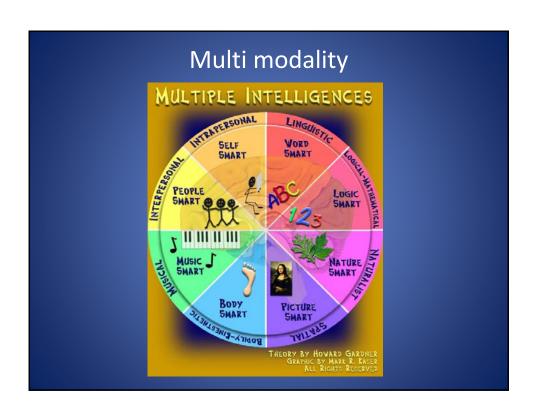
Jo Henwood

# Plan for the afternoon

What we already know
Stories in motion
Call and response
Conducted participation
5 Rs (rhythm, role, rhyme, repetition, ritual)
Episode games
Books of props
Telling our own stories
Where to from here?







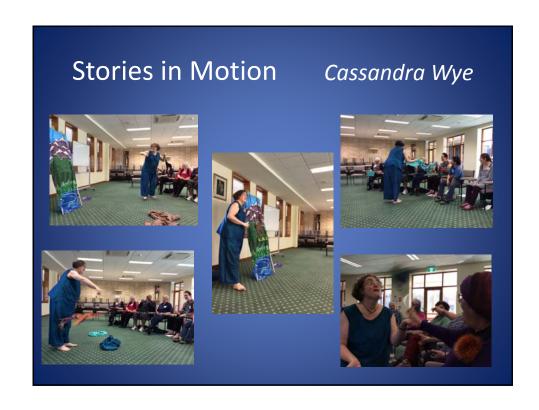
# Distractability

- Hands on
- Individually presented
- Respond to cues



# Stories in Motion Cassandra Wye

- Sensory rich props
- Simple stories with lots of repetition
- Individually presented
- Responding to non verbal communication
- Simple signing



## **Call and Response**

### Keith Park

- •rhythm, response, repetition .
- •Basic 4 beat builds momentum.
- •Poetry. Musicality. Atmosphere created through sound and vision.
- •Seated in a single line circle.
- •Social communication: turn taking, anticipation, gaze alternation, seeking physical proximity.
- 1. Name games: Drum beats for syllables
- 2. Story, repeated several times, accompanied only by drums
- 3. Goodbye



### Co-created

### Tuula Pulli

### Storyteller as conductor:

- audience with props
- costumes
- movements



### **ACTIVITY**

In pairs/small groups adapt a traditional story to be shared as a Call and Response story.

- 1)Write the story in 10-30 short sentences.
- 2) Make the sentences have the same four beats.
- 3) Try to have some rhymes.
- 4) Add actions to match the words.

10 minutes preparation

Perform. Use a drum beat or hand claps for rhythm.

10 minutes performance

# S Rs Lis N Tell: Louise Coigley LIS N Tell: Live Inclusive Storytelling Rhythm Repetition Ritual



### **ACTIVITY**

In pairs/small groups adapt a traditional story to be shared according to the 5 Rs.

- 1) A ritual to begin and end the session, related to the theme of the story
- 2) Roles for each participant
- Write out the story in short sentences that sound musical. Find a rhythm in the words. You can use an instrument or body percussion.
- 4) Find some rhyming words that will fit .
- Repeat some words or sentences within the story or repeat the whole story .

10 minutes preparation

Perform to one other pair or group.

10 minutes performance

### Episode games

Odyssey NOW

Park, Grove

- variations on everyday activities
- functional
- promote interactions
- simple
- Rules of drama games
- Use of quality images, music

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### **ACTIVITY**

In pairs/small groups adapt an epic story or work of literature into a series of games.

- 1) Break the epic down into the main episodes and choose one episode.
- 2) Identify the action in that episode and think of a game that has the same basic action
- 3) Adapt the game to tell the story of that episode
- 4) Add music or props or art work to support the story

10 minutes preparation

Find another small group or pair. Instruct them in how to play the game.

10 minutes performance





Constant repetition

Short sentences



Unchanging sequence of the objects and actions







### **ACTIVITY**

Individually or in pairs

- Create a 10-16 line story: traditional story, everyday event, or original story.
- Short sentences with an object and an action
- Rhymes
- Draft illustrations, props

10 minutes preparation

Share your stories with another individual or pair.

10 minutes performance



### Where to from here?

- Which strategies appeal the most?
- Why?
- What would you need in order to implement these techniques?
- Is there any way you can help each other achieve your goals?