

Telling the Bees

Ideas and Themes from Workshop 2 – 12th August 2015

Beekeeper wearing suit

- bees wear protective clothing - platform shoes, goggles, etc.
- different types of bees wear different outfits to denote gender, species etc.

Virtual reality glasses /crystal ball

Creative Bees

- Bees creating street art – bee beard, random poo patterning on white sheets - Jackson Pollock
- Bees produce 'hexagonal' art - make a building out of beeswax/Japanese sleeping pod hotel rooms/witches waxen figures to stab a curse.
- Make wax starter strips in hive in human templates to make bee words - bee typeface from results.
- Bees doing the writing: tradition, disease, human impact, environment, relationship, bees book.
- what if bees could tell the story of being in space. what if going into space was added to telling bee stories. website or television channel, bee computer games. Bee Bee See.

Understanding bees

- bees sting tops of your head/hair - so draw them away - traffic cone headdresses
- bees see blue, purple, green, red - 2 pieces of art, with different colour spectrum
- bees orientated to own coloured hives - can read numbers, or use large coloured numerals.
- bees don't see red, so why not use red suits as 'cloaks of invisibility'.
- visual sign system for humans (triangle, square, circle etc.), bees can see subtle shape change - could use as a code.
- bees react to weather or threats by a change in 'humming' - influence behaviour by playing bees a digital recording - audible art trail.
- map of dance steps on the floor so can do a waggle dance. showing bee vibrations to feel differences.
- time lapse video - video hive - 3 mins = 3 weeks, 3 mins = 1 year, 3 mins = 4 years (combs get darker)
- 'job' progression of a bee - transmitting information, tactile, pheromones, olfactory. different bee species - world wide honeybee species, bumbles and others, seasonal differences - honeybee casts, adaptation to climate/management, other animals interested in bees - threats/predators + pictures and sensory stuff.

Communicating with Bees

- bees waggle dance = distance + location uses UV spectrum of light as compass. Human dance - blindfold or silent disco.
- Bees tell their own stories - use sound waves to help bees tell stories
- every bee has a different story as does every beekeeper

The Ultimate Bee Experience

- bee building: honeycomb or skep shape (or use a bee shape) offering access to bee sounds, smells.

Bee Games

- interactive game - minecraft like - choose your own path, online book, board game. problem answer using frames in hive.
- will you rear good bees? game of bluff
- know your forage game
- interactive game - moving the bees
- video triggers - lollipop sticks - as game.
- books - online and people add into them. bee maps/walks, maths - questions/patterns/spirographs, sensory books. games - interactive story and decision making.
- the story of bees planning to save the planet by removing the humans and their selectional breeding/evolution.

Sensory Bees

- vibration of bees
- viscosity - dripping tubes and different viscosities and colours represent nectar - wax melting. [lava lamps?!]
- mead/ hallucinogenic honey
- colour coding - different types of pollen.
- 4D - smell added to stories.
- rainbow comb store

Bee sounds

- scale bee sounds up or down depending on audience - one bee or hive of bees
- queen piping
- understanding bee emotions
- digital remastering of bee sounds - 'game' where can produce music with bee noises. thunder, tanging, smoker, quacking queen, woodpeckers, beekeeper.
- interactive sound space - bee sounds, human sounds (flight of the bumblebee), touchpad interaction.
- books - sound book, health, poems/stories, plants/garden. Signage, for walking, bee trails, hanging skeps - info/delivery system, music - barber shop quartet, orchestra.