

... This carnival was planned to take place on Thursday the 19th of September from 10am to 12pm. Our aim and purpose of planning such an event was to have fun and get outside and do some physical activity in different contexts. We organised this entertaining morning so that these students could feel an enormous sense of accomplishment and increased self-esteem, when taking part in the organised activities situated at thirteen different stations, located throughout FD school. We tried as much as possible, when organising, to expose these students to activities that would make them happy, laugh and smile. Because all the students from these schools have different ability levels it was hard to choose activities that everyone could easily take part in. To help us understand the different abilities of these students and see the school, we took a trip down to FD. This was a very different experience and wasn't quite what some of us expected.....

The thirteen stations that were set up included: the chill out zone, sausage sizzle, football, bouncy castle, trampoline with balls, wheelchair/scooter obstacle course, drinks station, swing in gym, pin the tail on the donkey, parachute, dance mat, sensory activities and canvas paint with wheelchair wheels scooter wheels and handprints. We chose these stations from talking to the students at the centre and from because these events were outside and were fun for the students to do. Also, they had done some of these events before and told us that they really enjoyed them..... Everybody's actions contributed to the day's success as everybody took on their responsibilities and had as much fun with the students as possible. I followed through on all my responsibilities, which were to get the required equipment and set up the sensory activities station and parachute station. For the sensory activities station, as shown in the planning notes, I filled up three different sized containers with rice, popcorn kernel's and stones. I made scented lemon play dough, which the students were able to make shapes out of with the plastic cut outs. I also brought along a small, red furry rug. As humans, we have five senses through which we experience and explore our world. They are hearing, smell, touch, sight and taste. Through sensory play these students were able to experience stimulation of all their senses, as I provided items that would help do this. For the parachute station, as shown in the planning notes, I borrowed a parachute, and five squishy, different sized balls from the p.e equipment room. The basic concept of parachute play is that it involves a large group of people in an activity, which is non-competitive, where everyone works towards a common goal and has fun. ...I found that the parachute activity was too advanced for the student's level of ability. My actions in using different sized balls in this activity, turned out to be unsuccessful as the balls were too heavy for the students to lift into the air. Also, the students had trouble with the timing of lifting the parachute, which I hadn't anticipated they just seemed to be out of rhythm with everyone else and didn't really seem to get it. This involved with the timing of the parachute meant that they couldn't even get the ball off the parachute

The day of the carnival turned out to be a great morning in which everybody enjoyed, including students, aids and us RR girls. Everybody turned up and had a great time outside and participated in all the activities available. I really enjoyed working with these students not only did I have a lot of fun, but so did they. They really enjoyed all the activities that we put together for them and I loved seeing how happy they became over the course of the carnival event, and I didn't find it too difficult interacting with them and helping them.....