

The Person who Shouted

Themes: change, challenge, standing up, standing out, communication, perseverance, listening

Inspired by: a Rabbinical tale

Opening Words

Are you ready for a story?

From now on keep your eyes looking down.

Let's turn this upside down.

Now we have time to breathe.

In a circle of trust we listen and explore feelings.

There's space to wonder and play, in love.

Your story, my story, our story. Let's be curious about this story.



Words

Actions (storyteller's perspective)

Make an infinity shape out of discs with one in the middle and seven in each loop. Lay out three places using three blocks on their edges. Ensure the openings face different directions (see picture). Place two discs and two people in the left space, one disc and a person in the middle space and three discs and three people in the right space.

There was once a person who didn't like what was going on. They went around shouting, "Things must change!"

Place a person on the central disc. Use the figure who looks like they are running.

Move the person away from you to your left and have them go around the infinity path. At each set of people make them jump up and down tapping three times on the disc. Bring the person back to the centre.

People didn't listen and they continued to shout.

Move the person back round to the set of two people and tap on the disc three times.

and shout

Move the person to the person on their own and say 'shout' just before tapping three times.

and shout!

Move the person to the three people and say 'shout' just before tapping three times.

Move the person to the centre and then on another step as if about to go round the infinity loop again.

End here, or go on to say:

One day someone stopped the person and said "Why do you keep shouting? No-one is listening to you." "Yes, I know," said the person. "But if I shout then they won't change me."

Bring a person out from a space to meet the person who shouted.

Please see our training resources or come on an OutoftheBox course to develop in the art of holding a safe and brave space for contemplation, reflection and dialogue.

Wondering

You are now engaging with the group so look up, and say: Let's be curious about how we feel.

I wonder what part of this story you like?

I wonder what part you don't like?

I wonder what the story reminds you of?

Community Play .

Facilitate play with the materials to further explore feelings and to focus on an issue or idea, e.g.

How are you feeling? or What does your day look like? or What does your community look like?

What do you need to shout about?

Who do we need to listen to?

How can we best communicate?

You may invite people to place themselves in the picture using one of the wooden figures.

Closing Words

Before the story is put away, ask: Is there anything else that needs to be said or done?

Hold out your hands as you say: For all that's been said and for all that's not been said - thank you.

Invite participants to remove the objects they put down, then put the other objects away in reverse order.

Personal Response

Time to play and contemplate, e.g. in movement, art & craft, writing, playing with the story materials.

Celebration

Share food and drink to allow people to connect socially and prepare to leave the session.