



FRONTLINE
dance 
The Explorers!
...in Training

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about

The Explorers in Training! is a multi-sensory, wondrous adventure, where the audience get to help bring to life two stories, with dance, colour, sound and teamwork. The show is a fully inclusive interactive performance and is relaxed, engaging, accessible and fun.

Audience:

The show was initially co-created with disabled children and hospice/hospital patients and their families, so it's fully accessible for all to enjoy and suitable for children aged 3+

Venues:

It is especially well suited to pre-school settings, SEN schools & settings, mainstream primary schools (up to year 2), libraries, galleries, museums, outdoor spaces, hospitals, hospices and most community settings. We adapt and change! With adequate notice, the performance can also be adapted to compliment a theme, festival, book suggestions of your choice, and we can make it more age appropriate for an older group for example.

As it's an interactive show there is a maximum of 30 active young/specific needs audience members plus their parents and carers.

Duration: 40 mins



synopsis

The Explorers go on a wondrous adventure and the audience is asked to come along too. They find two books which they read and explore - using sensory props, imagination, and dance which help bring the stories to life!

Within an inclusive and open space, this interactive show encourages the audience to move and explore in the performance space, use their imagination, interact with the performers, work as a team and be creative!

Part One



Two Explorers are lost, and Ben the Explorer is looking for them. The dancers love music and dancing, and when they are reunited dance together. This sections themes are friendship and playfulness.

Part Two



The Explorers introduce themselves to the audience and ask them to join them on an adventure. They help the audience warm up their bodies ready to move and guide them around the space to see what we can discover.

Part Three



This section of the show is about exploring a book. The Explorers read a story, exploring with the audience how they can bring to life the painting and music in the book by using real paintbrushes and shakers.

Part Four



The Explorers then find a book that explores feelings and colours, discovering how this makes us move and dance. We use a giant piece of lycra and scented coloured scarves to do this, encouraging the audience to explore their senses further with the scarves and work together as a team with the stretchy lycra.

Part Five



It's time to say goodbye. The Explorers dance together for one last time, and then disappear off on another adventure!

 [watch the trailer](#)

 [see the easy read document](#)

cast



Performers:

The disabled and neurodivergent cast is made up of a professional dancer and two trainee dancers - one of which is a wheelchair user.

Access performers and creative enablers support the audience to ensure everyone can join in with ease and have a fantastic time with us!

Advance Training Programme (ATP):

The two trainee performers currently attend our bespoke Advance Training Programme (ATP) which supports the development of local and national d/DEAF, disabled and neurodivergent dancers.

Please let us know if you would like any further information on this programme, including how to join, and how local children through to older adults can join our projects in the community and in health.

FRONTLINE dance

PERFORMANCE. HEALTH. COMMUNITY.

FRONTLINEdance is an artist-led company based in Stoke-on-Trent, placing disabled people and those with long-term health conditions at the core of our organisation as leaders, dancers, artists, and audiences. We do this with heart, skill, and inclusive practice, producing participatory and performance programmes in the community and in healthcare settings.

As makers we explore how we can create exciting, relevant, and thought-provoking contemporary dance with d/DEAF, visually impaired, disabled, neurodivergent audiences and hospital patients. We co-create across ages, backgrounds, and experiences, naturally integrating people together, reducing isolation, and improving physical, mental, and social health and well-being.

We are a not-for-profit organisation, established since 2001 and an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation 2023 - 2027, with funding thanks to taxpayers plays a huge part in supporting our work.



marketing



Promotional Copy:

Join the FRONTLINEdance Explorers Team on their multi-sensory, wondrous adventure where you get to help bring to life two stories with dance, colour, sound and teamwork! This fully inclusive contemporary dance performance and participatory show is relaxed, accessible and fun!

Audience Feedback:

We thought it was really good! Loved everything, and my son really enjoyed being an Explorer.

Everything was fantastic. Well Done Explorers! Please do more events like this.

Josh has ADHD & nothing keeps his attention for so long so thank you for being so awesome.

A beautiful sensitive experience. Wonderfully in tune with all the children!

It was spot on!

All our shows need to be accessible for everyone, and we embed specific access needs into the show. This means the fee will include and we will provide:

- A BSL Interpreter
- Makaton interpretation
- An Audio Description script and headsets
- A relaxed performance
- A touch tour and meet the performers in advance (for those who need to)
- An Easy Read visual story

All performances are relaxed events: chillout spaces will be required, for those who need to come and go to regulate.

Additionally, the space needs to be wheelchair accessible.

This all needs to be made very clear when publicising the show and please use access icons and visual descriptions and alt text for the visually impaired on social media. FRONTINEdance can help you with this.

The Explorers Access Icons:

Please use these icons during show promotion:



We will provide access to a range of marketing resources to those who book the work.

Please tag @frontlinedance1 and @acegrams with logos (see below) on all marketing as well as the recommended hashtags listed below. Please also acknowledge any other funders and venues partners.



Supported using public funding by
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Funded by
UK Government

Recommended hashtags:

#letscreate #npo #artscouncil #nationallotteryplayers
#DiversityIncludesDisability #inclusivedance #inclusion
#inclusionmatters #disabilitydance #sotculture #sot
#contemporarydance #danceforhealth
#disabilityadvocacy #accessibility #accessmatters
#disabled #disableddance

tech information

Duration:
40 minutes

Get in/Get out:

Minimum 2 hours get in—for warm up, set up, run through / familiarising of work in the space. Get out 30 mins.

Time between shows:

2 shows per day, 2 hours minimum between shows, please. Ideal 11am and 1:30pm

Performance Space:

Ideally 6 x 6 / open space with flexible seating arrangement: ideally in a semi circle so that the audience can come into the performance space. Please provide range of seating options so that audience can sit down or lie down, with wheelchair spaces and reserved seating for visually impaired people.

Set & Props:

There is no fixed set. We have soft jigsaw puzzle mats which can be used as a seating area. The show has props such as paint brushes, shakers, scented scarves and lycra which are used to interact with the audience. These resources are handed back to the performers with the exception of the paintbrushes which they keep.

Warming Up Space:

The venue should provide a space for the dancers to warm up, and time in the space prior to the show.

Lighting / Sound:

No lighting is required. If in a theatre venue, a prior discussion is required. FRONTLINEdance mainly tours with its own portable speaker operated by the FRONTLINEdance Team. For shows where this is provided, we have a cue sheet.

Touring Party:

3 Explorers, 2-3 access and movement facilitators.

Dressing Rooms:

1 lockable space to get changed in and to store personal items during the show.

Transport:

Car parking spaces for 2 cars (one blue badge space)



A photograph showing a woman with short brown hair, wearing a grey patterned sweater, painting the nose of a young man with glasses and a maroon hoodie. The woman is holding a blue paintbrush with yellow paint. The background is blurred, showing other people in a room.

access

Access for FRONTLINEdance:

The performers are disabled & neurodivergent artists

- 1 performer is a wheelchair user
- 1 performer is Autistic
- 1 performer is Learning disabled
- A support worker will be present

Access for audiences:

All our shows need to be accessible for everyone, and we embed specific access needs into the show. This means the fee will include and we will provide:

- BSL Interpreter
- Makaton interpretation
- Audio Description
- Relaxed Performance
- A Touch Tour and Meet the Performer's in advance (for those who need to)
- Easy Read Visual Story

contact

For further information and for bookings, please contact:

touring@frontlinedance.co.uk

or call 07484 874335



@frontlinedance1

credits

Concept, Direction and audience access:
Rachael Lines

Performers:
Beth Hope, Ben Wilson & Amy Harrison

Performer and Access Support:
Shannon Whetnall

Music:
Greg Hall, Dean Smith & Helena Raby

Trailers:
Junction 15 Productions

Photographs:
Sarah Peart

Funders/Partners:
Staffordshire Libraries (initial work)
Arts Council England

