



Leave the PowerPoint- Take the Cannoli!

Whether or not you're familiar with the Godfather movie and this (similar) famous line, I know you'll agree with me that given the choice, you would choose cannoli over PowerPoint.

Aside from the obvious decadent and delicious choice, there is another reason to choose the cannoli.

Cannoli can stand on its own. PowerPoint cannot.

Cannoli can be treated as a meal replacement. Believe me, I've done it!

But PowerPoint cannot serve as a training replacement.

PowerPoint provides visual support. That's it!

It's not a training program, it's not the workbook and it's certainly not a leader's guide.

PowerPoint has been mistaken for so much more than its best use: a visual aid.

In fact, some instructors rely solely on their slide deck to create the entire learning experience and wonder why there is no engagement from their participants or retention of information afterward.

It's now time to step away from the screen and engage your learners!

Here are some quick and easy-to-implement ways to help turn your lecture/PowerPoint-driven session into a more engaging one whether online or in the

classroom:

1. Quick puzzles or games

Select ones that are relevant to the point you are trying to make in your session such as being open-minded, conflict resolution, following procedures concisely, etc.

2. Polls

Prepare questions to help you reel in the learners by finding out more about them through a poll such as, “How many of you have been frustrated by this?” or “How many of you have encountered this obstacle?”

3. Small Groups – This *really* gets the energy up because learners get to engage with one another. To pump up the energy, keep the task simple and time the group to keep everyone moving and on track.

A very simple small group task could be:

Discuss three applications of what you have learned so far.

This can also be done online. If you don't have the ability for virtual breakout groups, put up multiple chat boxes and assign learners to a specific box based on the first letter of their last name, birth month, etc.

4. Draw a picture

You're not looking for budding artists here, just an opportunity to do something different than staring at a screen. Again, make it relevant, “Create a representation of your role as xxx...”

The point is to disengage from your slide deck and *plug into* your learners to get them to interact with your material!

For more information on how to increase participation and retention with your learners, here are some wonderful sessions we have crafted especially for you - click on the titles for more information and registration:

Step Away from the Powerpoint!
Quick Ways to Increase Participation & Retention
60 minute Training Essentials Virtual Mini
Live on September 19, 2018

Facilitate Training for Results!
One-day workshop in DC Metro and Southern CA areas

How to Craft Amazing Learning Activities & Materials
One-day workshop in DC Metro and Southern CA areas

Here's to Ditching the Deck!

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