

SESSION TITLE: *Techniques for ACE*

SESSION LENGTH 60 minutes

OBJECTIVES: *At the end of the session students should be able to:*

- Select Audience Centered Techniques with purposeful intention
- Elicit audience contribution through interactive techniques

TRAINING AIDS

- [PowerPoint from Mather ACE class](#) (or create your own)
- Carol Blaney's arc of dialogue for [Endangered Species program](#), or another strong example of an ACE program outline illustrating strategic selection of techniques paired with questions
- Video clips to illustrate techniques in action
- Supplies for any techniques you choose to demonstrate

WORKBOOK

- Techniques for ACE
- Lists of techniques

FACILITATOR NOTES

As possible, be sure to link traditional skills to ACE skills -- to show how traditional skills are still present and valued, but evolving for ACE.

CONTENT	METHOD	TIME
<p>Introduction</p> <p>What are some of your go-to interpretive techniques? Ones that have worked well for you? Ones you use frequently? Why do you like those? What's the purpose of using those techniques?</p> <p>We all have our favorite techniques – and it's important for you to use techniques that suit your style and personality – but the reason why we're doing this techniques session now, instead of earlier in the week, is because selecting techniques shouldn't be the first thing you do in planning an ACE – you need some preparation first in order to think about purposeful and strategic selection of techniques for ACE vs personal preference or trendiness.</p>	<p>Large group share, gather answers on flip chart</p>	<p>5 min</p>

<p>The function of techniques:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Techniques are tools for <i>facilitating</i> ACE experiences as well as <i>exploring meanings</i> – a functional purpose and an interpretive one • Techniques are the “go juice” for your questions – you can have great questions, but without appropriate techniques, you might have a hard time engaging your audience to respond. Techniques make questions easier to answer. <p>Throughout the class all week, the instructors have been demonstrating ACE techniques – are there any techniques that stand out in your memory? And why? How did those techniques function?</p> <p>Techniques Glossary -- Starting on Page 26 in your notebook, are several lists of techniques... let’s look through these lists to see if you recognize any techniques that have been demonstrated – put a check mark by any that you’ve experienced this week...</p>	<p>Power Point and Discussion</p>	<p>10 min</p>
<p>Techniques to invite audience engagement</p> <p>Prepare several techniques to demonstrate with the class as time allows and/or show and analyze the techniques in video clips of real programs or media examples. Use one or more of the following options to showcase and discuss the purposeful use of techniques.</p> <p><i>Option 1 -- Strategic selection of techniques</i></p> <p>Split the class into 3 groups -- have each group in turn be “audience members” (while the other groups observe the “fishbowl”) for the demonstration of a different technique using the same dialogic question. Group 1-popcorn, Group 2-pair share, Group 3-carpet of ideas or gallery walk, and All Groups together-wagon wheel (speed dating). A good Phase 2 question for this activity is “What species would you not want to live without?” (from Carol Blaney’s Endangered Species arc of dialogue example handed out earlier). Use this activity to illustrate and discuss</p>		<p>35 min</p>

how the choice of technique changes the level and type of audience engagement and response -- and how different techniques can be used strategically to facilitate group process.

Option 2 – ROMO example with a real audience

Show and discuss a video clip of this program from ROMO -- Show min 23-32 -- an example with a real audience using vote with feet technique related to wildland fire.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7q-93j-Q3hU&list=UUlepYYIE0-mx-tAe5NVifzA>

Option 3 – ACE techniques for pop-ups and exhibits

Share slides showing various examples of media pop-up techniques (these are in the Mather Power Point that goes with this session – see link above)

Conclusion -- Using techniques effectively

Points to remember when using techniques:

- **Invitations** – How you make your invitation to participate is as important as the technique itself – invitations need to be clear, concise, compelling and encouraging – careful selection of words – welcoming tone and body language – experiment and seek feedback
- **Logistics** – When selecting techniques, think proactively about the setting, materials, safety (visitors and resource), group size – and plan for accessibility so all visitors feel welcomed and able to participate
- **Flexibility and adaptability!!!** Have your tool belt ready with multiple ideas – questions and techniques – always be ready to switch your approach in order to adapt to your audience needs and interests

10 min

Hopefully you have lots of examples to draw from now for selecting techniques *purposefully* – and that you'll think of new ones to add to these lists!

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