It’s also not effective. But many of them don’t know what else to do. Again, it is true that many teachers simply teach the way they were taught.

Do you have a few teachers who may be in a rut, lacking in creative ideas for making learning more fun for their students (and making teaching more fun for themselves)? Rest assured that today’s inservice will spark new life in all your teachers. No longer will they lack ideas for ways to make learning more enjoyable.

**INSERVICE**

Begin the inservice with a brief discussion of the importance of making learning fun for students. Then tell your teachers that today they will be creating a list of fifty ways to make learning fun for students. To spark their creativity, provide them with a few examples of ways to make learning more fun:

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**Making Learning Fun—Examples**

- Compare story characters or historical figures to people students know.
- Incorporate short video clips into lessons.
- Involve students in role-play activities.
- Turn content into songs or allow students to create their own songs related to the content.
- Create stories or plays.
- Read to your students.
- Take online field trips.
- Let them go on virtual vacations and then report to the class about them.
- Take field trips on your own campus.
- Send students on treasure hunts in the classroom and have them search for clues to solve problems.
- Play learning games based on game shows.
- Allow students to teach one another.
- Have friendly competition in which teams of students race to solve problems or find answers.
- Let them make their own videos.
• Perform experiments.
• Have them interview community members and share those interviews with the class.
• Invite community members into the classroom as guest speakers.
• Have contests in which students create their own learning games.
• Incorporate technology into practically anything.
• Communicate online with students in other states or countries.

We’ve shared a few broad suggestions, but you will want your teachers to be more specific in their descriptions of ideas. For example, a teacher might share that when she is teaching grammar, she has students close their eyes, and she begins speaking. Every time she makes a grammatical error (which she does intentionally), the students are to raise their hands.

Because this inservice is only ten minutes, you might choose to do the following:

• Get them started compiling the list and then leave them on their own to finish
  or
• Send all of them off with the task of emailing a designated teacher with two ideas for the list. We recommend having each teacher provide two ideas in case some offer the same idea. The designated teacher will compile a list of fifty and send it to you. You can then ensure that all teachers receive a copy.

Share this inservice idea with a principal or staff developer in a neighboring school. After his or her teachers come up with a list of fifty, exchange lists. Your teachers will now have a list of one hundred ways to make learning fun.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Have every teacher send you an email telling you about one new strategy (gained from this inservice) that she will be incorporating into her teaching this week. Tell them all to include the day and time they will be using it. Let them know that you will be stopping by some of their classrooms to enjoy watching the students