

Bringing fun to Tea Trolley Training

One of the first principles of creating a successful educational session is to engage learners in the process.^{1,2} Aside from the obvious pleasure of a hot drink and refreshment it is helpful to think about how to bring some fun into your tea trolley teaching session.

1. Set a theme

Tea trolley teaching should be a succinct, 'bite-sized' session with clear learning objectives. To enhance the learning benefit set a clear theme that compliments the take home message.

Set your trolley up so that there is a clear theme and message



2. Make it personal

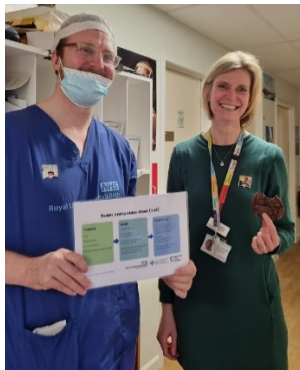
Each department or hospital setting has its own characters and culture. Identify a theme or activity that engages the staff you are delivering your teaching to.

We have two 'Tims' in our department. We played on this theme to match our 'TIM trolley teaching', making cake toppers and stickers with different Tims.



3. Get people talking

Get people talking about the theme or teaching subject using techniques such as themed cakes, stickers people can wear once they've had their teaching, and posters. Make it a theme people want to talk about!



We made stickers with the faces of our different Tims. We asked people to choose whether they were in 'Team Tim Cook' or 'Team Tim Cominos'. People wore these stickers around our theatre complex stimulating conversation, promoting our teaching and engaging people in our activities.

4. Get people involved

Make your session interactive. Get people to make a choice and engage with a short activity, integrate that into your theme. This could be choosing a 'team' to be part of or timing them in an activity.

Stickers which were given to everyone who had taken part



References

1. Benson SG and Dundis SP. Understanding and motivating health care employees: integrating Maslow's hierarchy of needs, training and technology. *Journal of Nursing Management* 2003;11(5):315-320
2. Halpenny A. *Introducing Paiget: A guide for practitioners and students in early years education* 2013. Routledge, Abingdon.