A model for designing instructional narratives for adult learners: Connecting the DOTS

Debra M. Smith, Ph.D., MBA, PMP
Wayne State University

Eighth Annual International Teaching & Learning Conference
Oakland University, Rochester, MI.
May 14-15, 2014
Agenda

- Instructional narrative definition
- DOTS model
- DOTS model theory bases
- Comprehension
- How does this work?
- Getting started
Instructional narrative

Narrative expressly designed for the purpose of enabling learners to acquire particular capabilities, take action, make decisions, alter their perspective leading to a change in behavior.

DOTS model

Describe
1. Audience
2. Content
3. Environment

Operationalize
1. Roots
2. Significance
3. B/M/E

Tailor
1. Own
2. Practice
3. Tell

See
1. Imagine
2. Reflect
3. Discuss

DOTS model: Theory bases

Describe
1. Audience
2. Content
3. Environment

Operationalize
1. Roots
2. Significance
3. B/M/E

Tailor
1. Own
2. Practice
3. Tell

See
1. Imagine
2. Reflect
3. Discuss

Encoding
Communication Theory

Narrative Theory
Learning Theory
Instructional Design and Adult Development Theories

Decoding
Learning & Adult Development Theories

Brain Scans: Comprehension

How does this work?

When learning is comprehended... *(sense)* ...it can be connected to **past experience**... *(meaning)* ...there is more brain activity...followed by retention

DOTS Model

Describe
- 1. Audience
- 2. Content
- 3. Environment

Operationalize
- 1. Roots
- 2. Significance
- 3. B/M/E

Tailor
- 1. Own
- 2. Practice
- 3. Tell

See
- 1. Imagine
- 2. Reflect
- 3. Discuss

Getting Started

- Driving a car
- Rent a car at the airport
- Making a cake
- Your first haircut
- How to give a dog a bath
- How to add an App
- Carving a pumpkin
- How to cut the grass
Thank you!