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# Interact And Engage!: 50+ Activities For Virtual Training, Meetings, And Webinars



## Synopsis

Engaging online audiences can be challenging. Learn how to break the mold of static lecture-style online training that drives participants to multitask or, worse, tune out. Instructional design experts Kassy LaBorie and Tom Stone cover all the steps necessary to remedy poor online training experiences and ensure that what you teach sticks. *Interact and Engage!* offers proven strategies for captivating your live online audience. With more than 50 activities ranging from openers and icebreakers to closers and recaps, the authors present a framework for igniting online training programs, meetings, and webinars. Within the pages of this book, you will discover how to start events off right and bring them to a fitting end, while achieving the event's goals in the middle—and delve into what facilitators and producers need to do before, during, and after an activity. Light and fun, this book will be your go-to resource when you need that perfect engaging activity.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Kassy Laborie and Tom Stone are experts on creating online education and training that ensures participants are actively engaged. I have personally attended their sessions and have been very impressed with the continual interactivity and dialogue of participants. Their book provides their secret sauce. The format is the book is easy to apply to online conference calls, corporate training sessions, and educational curriculum. I highly recommend it! Sharon Orlopp Retired Global Chief Diversity Officer and SVP Corporate HR at Walmart

Last week was more than a little challenging, however there was one bright spot - I received *Interact and Engage!* I was thrilled and spent some time that evening reading, scanning, and perusing. Unfortunately, I have not been able to spend any time with it since; and it's quite frustrating. It sits on my desk, mocking me, teasing me with information I can't touch, knowledge I can't yet absorb. I can't read it before bed because it's too interesting and I won't be able to fall asleep. Then I realized I can arrange to spend an entire day reading it because my department offers quarterly learning days, a day we spend time learning whatever we want. I seldom read Forewords or Introductions because I often find them boring. Definitely not the case with this book. Kassy and Tom bring the title to life early on. Their advice to readers to think of the book as a cookbook made me smile. I usually flip through industry reads and stop for a bit here and there. When I flip through *Interact and Engage!*, I find myself frequently stopping and getting engrossed in an activity. I'm so happy they took the time to create a cookbook for virtual success - an excellent resource no matter what your level of experience. After my learning day, I know my copy will be filled with notes, highlighting, and post its for future reference; and my coworkers will be inundated with suggestion filled emails.

*Interact and Engage!* is a book written for the virtual instructors, producers, and facilitators of the world. The early portion of the book lays the foundation, exploring the world of virtual platforms and their use. It also examines the importance and value of engagement. With this foundation in place, the bulk of the book explores over 50 different activities that can be used to put the promise of engagement in virtual training into practice. The book concludes with tips to leverage what you learned from the shared examples to create new activities of your own. If you've seen Kassy and Tom present at a conference or online, you know their expertise. That expertise sets a high bar for what you might expect from their first book. Thankfully, it doesn't disappoint. (To read my full review of the book, visit:

<http://davidkelly.me/2016/01/book-review-interact-and-engage-by-kassy-laborie-and-tom-stone/>)

It's a like a cookbook for the online trainer. As your building sessions, delivering Webinars or Live Online sessions you can flip open to a chapter to be expertly walked through a new idea, a new way to run an activity and how to do it. Kassy and Tom give their best practices on what it truly takes to run a Live Online session and allow us to learn from their experiences. Some books you read once, take notes and put on your shelf to reflect on. *Interact and Engage* has actionable steps, competency forms and ways to be effective online. Everyone who is an online trainer, producer or

instructional designer will know immediately that this is the book you keep on your desk and flip to every time you deliver to be inspired!

This book creates the ability to drive facilitation digitally to higher levels of interaction by offering tools, new approaches, and exciting exercises. For me, I keep this one next to me for a quick reference on how to design powerful online presentation that stimulates continuous engagement.

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