

Chapter 1



Starting Out

First Impressions

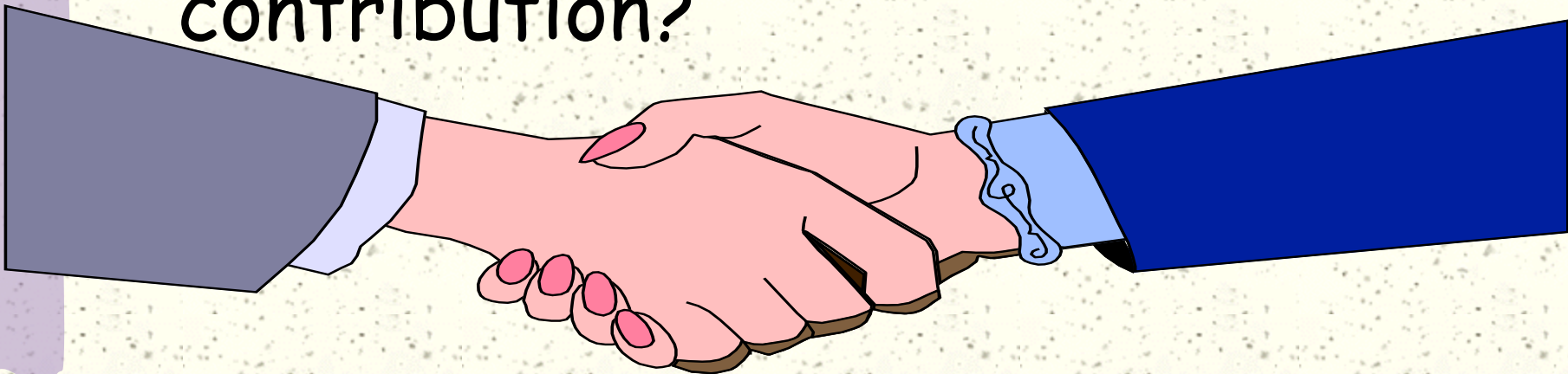
"Courage is being scared to death and saddling up anyway."

-John Wayne

- What we do at the start of the course - goes a long way in establishing the learning experience for everyone involved.

How do we Involve Students?

- # Do we remember to involve them?
- # Are they part of the teaching team?
- # Do we acknowledge their contribution?



Selecting the Room

- # What are the requirements?
- # Do we have a choice?
- # What do we have to do in order to ensure students are comfortable?
- # Are students included in the decisions?

Setting Up

- # Preparing the Environment (Clean if you have too!).
- # What should the classroom look like (p.3)
- # How do we greet the students? (p.5)
- # There does not need to be a proclamation that I am the teacher and you are the student!

Introducing the Session

- Establish a comfortable atmosphere
- Address people by name as soon as possible
(tricks for learning names)
- Prepare an agenda
- Course outline at the end of the day
- Consider the needs of students

Three Aspects of the Opening/First Session

- 1) Be clear about what is to come
- 2) Ensure the students are interested
- 3) Ease discomfort and anxiety

Revealing Values and Showing Respect

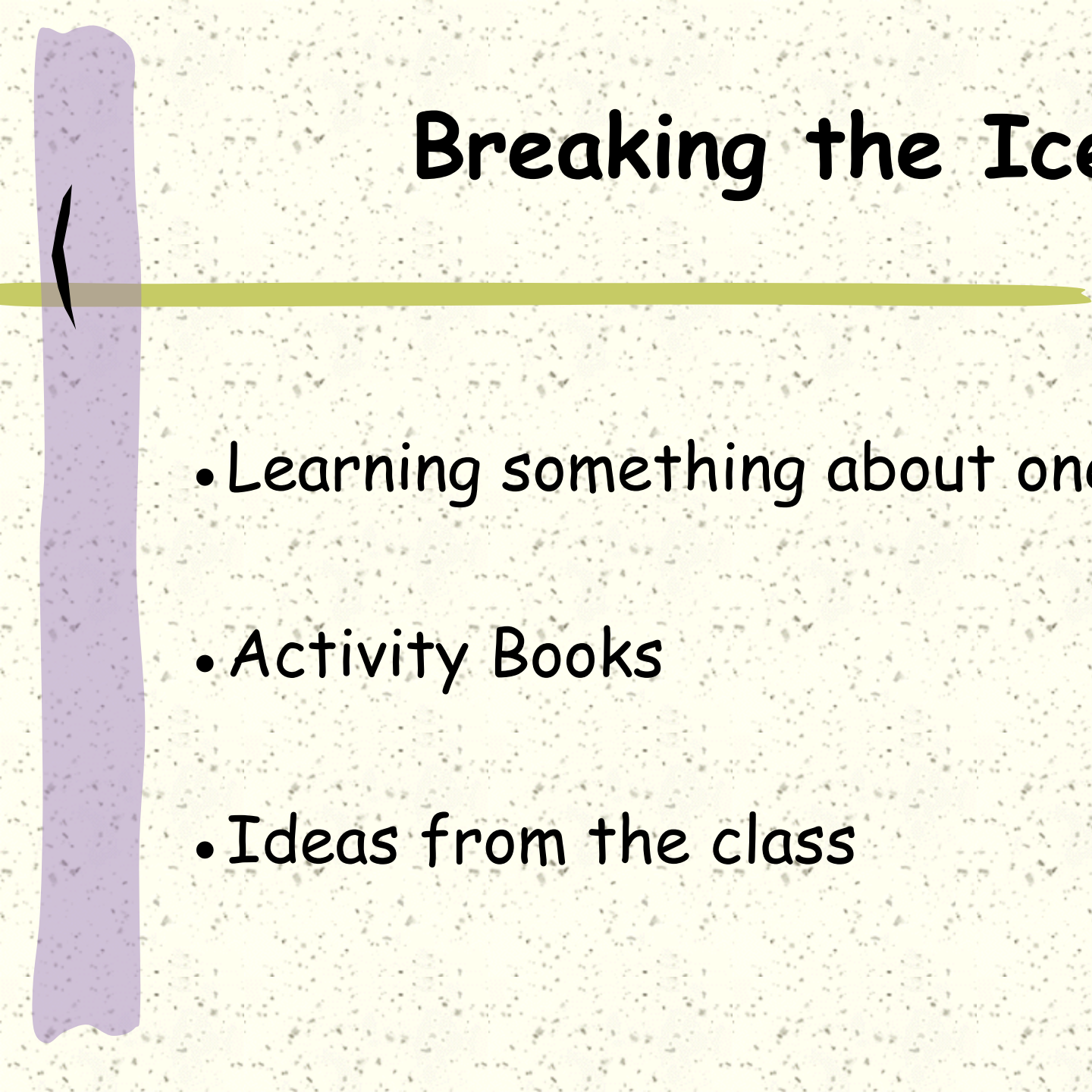
- **Do NOT open with a lengthy outline**
 - 1) Re-assure students that they can do it, they will succeed and they will enjoy the process
 - * Welcome participants
 - 2) Demonstrate to students that their concerns are shared
 - * Let them know you understand it is a difficult transition

Revealing Values and Showing Respect

- 3) Offer reassurance through your own attitudes, values and style as an educator
 - * Be human, authentic, friendly and supportive

Page 10 quote - review

Breaking the Ice



- Learning something about one another
- Activity Books
- Ideas from the class