

## Interactive Whiteboards: Interactive Pedagogies?

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An interactive whiteboard is a large interactive display that connects to a computer and projector. A projector projects the computer's desktop onto the board's surface, where users control the computer using a pen, finger or other device.

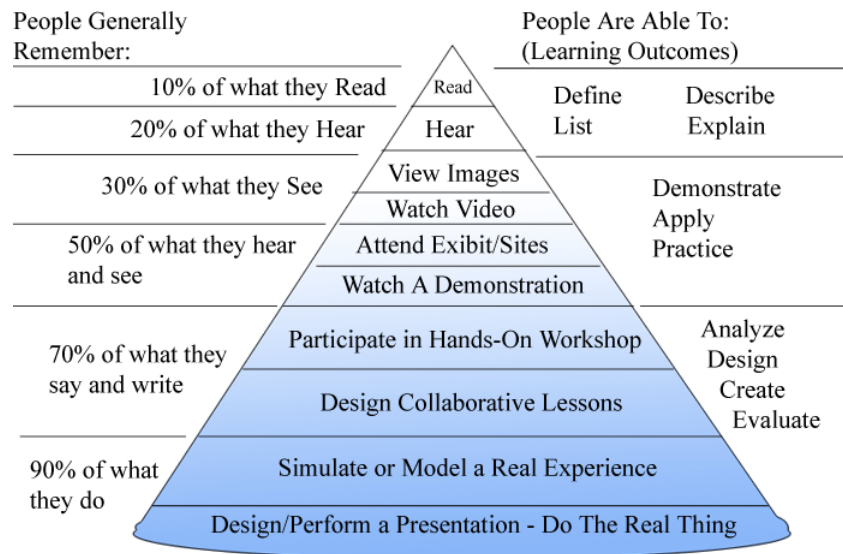
Two elements:

"A projector projects the computer's desktop onto the board's surface" - display

"where users control the computer using a pen, finger or other device." - interaction

We are looking at different pedagogies here.

- Transmission pedagogy: Passing on information to learners - in order that they remember it.
- Interactive pedagogy: Involving learners in creating, manipulating and using information - in order that they understand it.



Dale's Cone of Experience

The Harnessing Technology survey 2007 carried out by Becta, reveals that Interactive Whiteboards are in place in 98% of secondary and 100% of primary schools in the UK

There is evidence of impact on attainment. The BECTA (UK) commissioned study into the impact of Interactive Whiteboards over a two year period showed very significant learning gains.

But, there are concerns that Interactive Whiteboards can maintain traditional forms of didactic teaching, especially when they are used to simply project Powerpoint type slideshows, rather than the teacher taking advantage of the interactive tools the boards provide.

A key finding in much of the research is the need for high quality and sustained professional development for teachers in order to maximise the technology investment.

So, what might interactive pedagogy with interactive whiteboards look like?

Some examples using Easiteach, a software package developed specifically for Interactive whiteboards by Softease Ltd in the UK.

See [www.easiteach.co.uk](http://www.easiteach.co.uk) for more details.