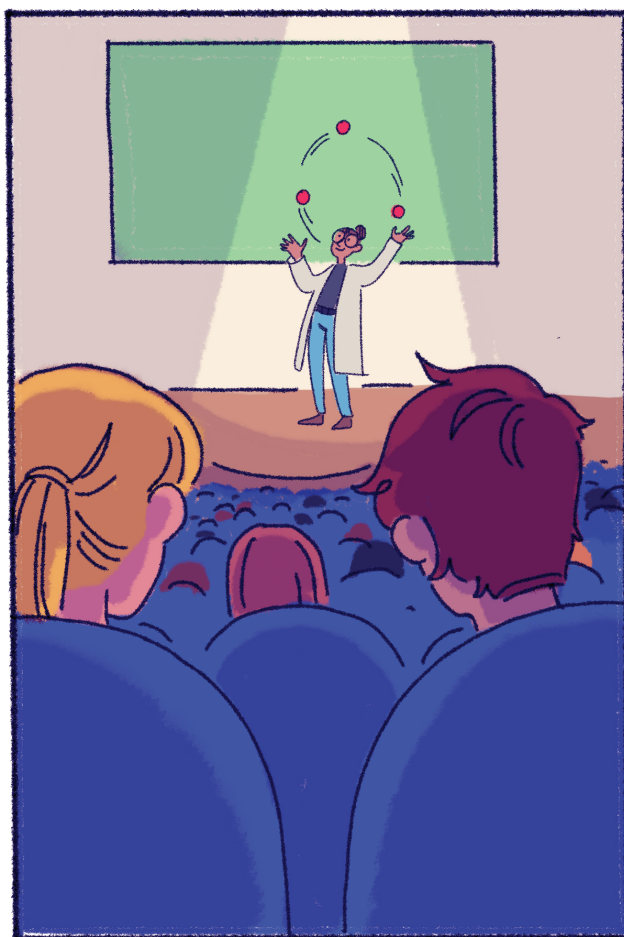


The Show Must Go On

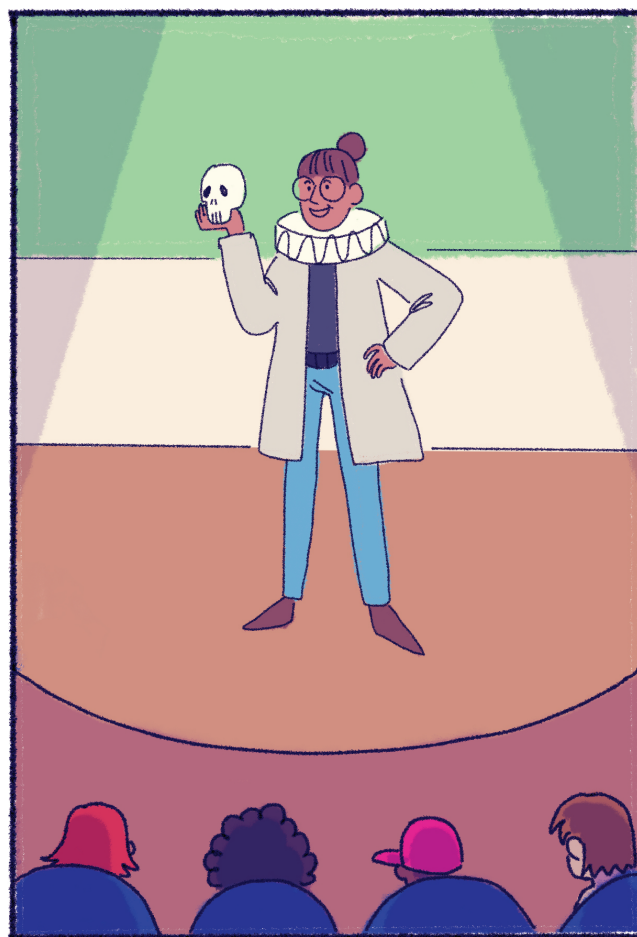
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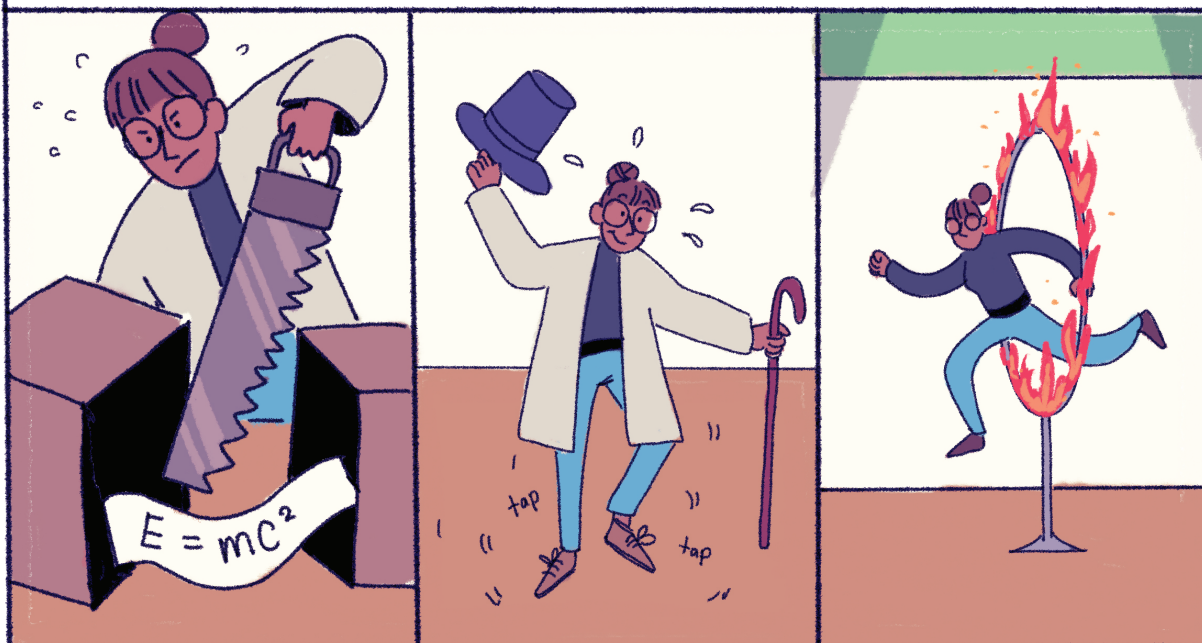


Some studies have argued that students' attention span is about 10 minutes. Other studies argue that it's much longer than that. Either way, it's a major obstacle to effective learning.

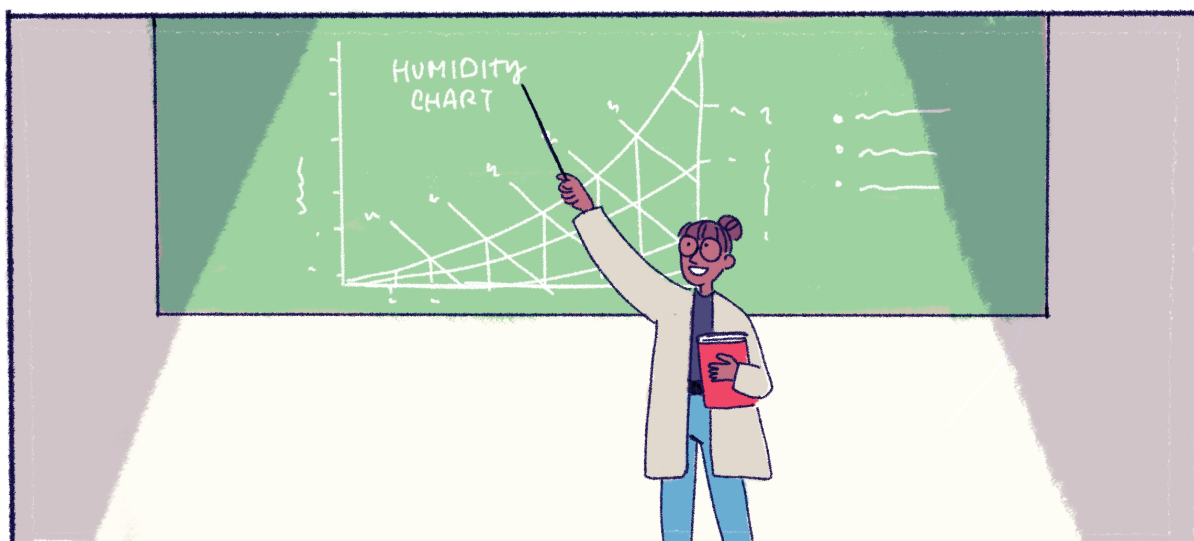


So we might try whatever tactics we think will work to ensure attention and ensure learning – flipped classrooms, clickers, short videos, active learning, humor, etc. And some tactics will work, and some will bomb.

All of which can make teaching feel like you're performing on a stage... your styles and approaches just different elements of a high-energy act... your lessons all part of the show as a means to keep them focused.



Which is all well and good if it works and students learn! Your approach may work for you and only for you, but if it works and students learn, then maybe it's the right approach - no matter how outlandish it might seem out of context.



Be willing to experiment with different approaches. Just remember your 'performance' is besides the point - in their long-term educational plan, the real question is, "yeah, but what did you learn?"

END.