

FORCEPS AND FUN: METHODOLOGY FOR GRASPING WHAT MAKES ORAL SURGERY DIFFERENT



CDA/CADAT Annual Conference 2026 | Presented by: Stephanie Marquez, RDA

COURSE OVERVIEW

This roundtable session is focused on making oral surgery more engaging, less intimidating, and easier to teach through interactive, hands-on strategies.

QUICK-START ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Instrument ID Game
- Sterile Set Up Challenge
- Procedure Sequencing Cards Activity
- Oral Surgery Vocab “Family Feud”
- Timed setup challenges
- Role-playing: Assistant, Dentist, Patient
- Pharmacology Label - Candy Activity

SKILL STATIONS

- Instrument identification
- Sterile setup
- Procedure flow
- Suturing practice

OBJECTIVES

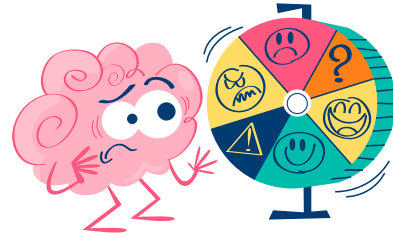
- 1 Apply creative techniques to teach oral surgery concepts
- 2 Teach sterile technique clearly and effectively
- 3 Engage students with interactive activities and skill stations
- 4 Reduce student anxiety in surgical settings

BIG IDEAS (KEEP THIS IN MIND!)

- Normalize student fear: “It’s new—not scary”
- Learning sticks when it’s interactive + repetitive
- Break skills into small, manageable steps
- Use visual, hands-on, and peer learning

REDUCING STUDENT ANXIETY (DON'T SKIP THIS!)

- Start with observation before participation
- Normalize discomfort and fear
- Use low-pressure practice first
- Pair students strategically for support
- Debrief after activities



WHAT WILL STUDENTS ACTUALLY NEED TO KNOW?

- Instrument names and purposes
- Understand the sequence of procedures
- Recognize when sterility is compromised
- Communicating clearly and professionally

This keeps learning relevant and reduces student anxiety

YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED TO BE PERFECT. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE PREPARED, AWARE, AND WILLING TO LEARN.

3 THINGS I CAN IMPLEMENT

IDEAS I WANT TO TRY...