

From the Article “Ten Ideas for “Natural” Astronomy from Italy” by Dario Tiveron. Summer 2010, *The Classroom Astronomer Magazine*.

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10. Make our students aware that they can see the stars, they are more real than videogames!
9. Organize an evening class, have pizza with them, then get outside and look upwards at the sky!
8. Once you get them curious about the sky, try to make them note a few things: atmospheric scintillation, stars' colors, the moon's surface. See? You don't need an interactive white board at all, all you need is right above your head!
7. Take them to science centers, students like them much more than museums (unfortunately, we have only a few in Italy, but I hope this will change soon, they really can do a great job). Include planetariums in this, too.
6. When in class, make them understand concepts visually first, analytics will follow afterwards!
5. Invite both young and senior researchers to your class, they can show what a great opportunity science gave to them...the chance to have fun for the rest of their lives!
4. Make them work on some projects: get in contact with amateur astronomers. Students could join them at star parties or even take part in simple research (photometry of variable stars, etc...it's not too complicated for a teen!)
3. Have them prepare some presentations on topics they really liked; let them explain their insights to their classmates...I'm sure they'll be able to present them more passionately than what we do!
2. Read as much as YOU can, there are so many resources and great people to know out there, they can inspire you! I wish that teachers and educators in Italy were able to understand English (or that all the tons of resources available in English were available also in Italian), but try to look up online and you'll find excellent examples of what real teaching means. Some of my favorites are Walter Lewin, Alex Filippenko, Richard Muller and Richard Feynman's books—he can just open an amazing new world to you!
And last, but not least...
1. Always remember that the sky won't be boring for anyone, ever!

Here's one more...make this an 11th thing for the list... share resources and ideas across borders among teachers. For teachers it is very important to be connected together, because if you stay alone, you don't improve...not yourselves nor your students. So let's work together, it's much more stimulating!