

# CREATING IMMERSIVE LEARNING SPACES

## THE NEW VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS

### Three Types of Facilitated Immersive Learning Activities

#### IMMERSIVE TOOLS IN VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS

Use built-in tools like hand gesture recognition, video backgrounds and filters, avatars, and add-on apps to build a more immersive experience.

#### IMMERSIVE ACTIVITIES IN A VIRTUAL CLASS

Use the virtual classroom to launch immersive simulations and experiences, either using a browser or a VR headset.

#### FACILITATED ACTIVITY

Learners meet up with the Facilitator in a simulation that they launch from their own headset or browser. The entire experience takes place in VR from start to finish.

#### WHEN IS A FACILITATOR NEEDED IN AN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE?

Facilitators add value to VR learning experiences, especially when:

- its a highly emotional experience
- there's a potential lack of trust
- human intervention is needed to run the simulation
- learners would benefit from a debrief discussion

### Five Steps to Facilitate Immersive Learning

- 1 Master the Technology.** If you are new to immersive learning, start by getting comfortable with the equipment. If using a headset, use the controllers, and practice explaining to someone else how to do the same. Also, go through the simulation so that you know it inside and out.
- 2 Prepare and Support the Learners.** If learners need a headset, communicate all tech requirements well in advance, and check in to see if all tasks have been completed (software downloads, etc.) Establish a safe, trusting environment by letting learners know what to expect, and how to reach help if needed.
- 3 Facilitate the Activity.** Determine in advance if you are a part of the simulation (Active Agent) or if you will be an external observer (Simulation Sage). Either way, be an expert coach, an active listener, flexible, and seamlessly guide learners through the activity. Use improv skills if required.
- 4 Be Prepared to Assist.** Let learners know what they should see on screen upon entering the simulation. Provide verbal and visual directions that are short, simple, and extra clear. Set clear guidelines so that learners know how they will interact with each other (if they will), and check in frequently without disrupting the storyline. Be prepared to troubleshoot as needed.
- 5 Debrief the Experience.** Allow time and space for individual reflection (especially if it was an intense or highly emotional experience). Ask questions, and when appropriate, provide relevant feedback. Help learners apply the experience to the real-world with lessons learned and actions.

#### FOR MORE INFO:

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