



In 1946, Edgar Dale created his Cone of Experience which was depicted to illustrate the increase of retention when using more interactive mediums for instruction. Over the years, percentages were added to the cone without documented research. Possibly Dale's selection of a cone shape gave others the wrong assumption that retention was a linear increase starting with 0% at the apex.

If you consider child development, infants start learning at the lowest level, primarily interaction with their parents. Their parents then introduce them to picture books and television. Then as children mature they learn to read. The enactive (or concrete) level provides children with more interaction which employs more of their senses. A large portion of preschool learning occurs at this level. Some exceptions would include the instruction of colors, shapes and numbers.

Dale's cone does not necessarily relate sequentially with learning. Many parents start teaching their child at the iconic stage while in the womb. They think exposure to classical music will be an educational benefit.

Over the years many educational experts have modified Dale's cone (good or bad) usually to include advances in technology. Below is my attempt to assimilate the changes into one table.

### Edgar Dale's Cone of Learning (modified)

Learning Activities	People remember...	People can...	Learning Outcomes
<b>Passive Learning</b>			
Read	what they read	Define, List	Verbal
Hear	what they hear	Describe, Explain	Receiving
View Images Watch Videos	what they see	Demonstrate Apply	Visual Receiving
Attend Exhibits Attend Sites Watch a Demonstration	what they see and hear	Practice	
<b>Active Learning</b>			
Participate in Hands-On-Workshops Participate in a Discussion Design Collaborative Lessons Give a Talk	what they say or write	Analyze Define Create Evaluate	Receiving and Participating
Do a Dramatic Presentation Simulate a Lesson Model or Perform a Lesson Experience a Lesson Design a Presentation "Do the Real Thing"	what they say and do		

*"I see and I forget. I hear and I remember. I do and I understand."* - Confucius