



## **Ski Spectacular Instructor Academy**

**Hosted by The Hartford Ski Spectacular  
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### **Clinic Summary Notes**

**Clinic Topic:** Practical Application of Teaching Aids – Scott Giffin [scottgif1@gmail.com](mailto:scottgif1@gmail.com)

1. Teaching aids can have practical and creative applications. How do we use them to teach and strengthen solid fundamentals? Aids should not limit independence or be considered as a means to an end, but instead provide progress toward greater independence and learning.
2. Do students have prior experience with different types of teaching aids? What other off-snow activities do they enjoy? Focus on prior experiences; current goals and motivations can create connection and enhance lesson success.
3. When using an aid, consider how it promotes and reinforces the fundamentals. How does it affect body performance? Does it have the intended effect on the skis/board?
4. Creative uses can be fun and enhance motivation but ensure the aid is having a positive effect on ski/board performance.
5. Always consider safety. How does it affect chairlift loading/unloading? Could it cause injury if it falls from the chairlift? Could it cause harm to you or the student? Is it safe in the current environment (terrain, traffic, etc.).
6. See chapter 3 in the PSIA-AASI Adaptive Alpine Technical Manual for further safety considerations and drill adaptations. <https://www.thesnowpros.org/education/digital-manuals-for-every-discipline/>.