While teaching the introductory statistics course, knowing that most of our students are not mathematics majors, we focus primarily on showing them why they need statistics at a level higher than just manipulating data. During the years we were teaching statistics courses we tried different approaches on the subject and while some did not give the expected results, some became valuable tools for learning, exploring, and assessing students’ understanding. This presentation will show some of these methods and how we use them both in the traditional statistics course and the online statistics course that we developed recently. (Received September 16, 2014)