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Some typical strategies for motivating students include introducing the topic through applications, showing a need for the skill in subsequent courses, and emphasizing analytical problem solving skills in the liberal arts setting. We will explore the use of history as an additional motivating tool, particularly in courses before calculus. We will focus our attention on topics presented in algebra, trigonometry, pre-calculus, introductory statistics, and math for the liberal arts. We will investigate ways to add a broader perspective to a mathematical concept by considering the historical application that was the impetus for its development, discussing the origin of important words and symbols, and telling stories about the personalities behind the mathematics. (Received September 15, 2005)