

The eLearning Coach Podcast

ELC 072: No Code Tools for Learning Professionals
A Conversation with Mathias Vermeulen and Mike Taylor
<https://theelearningcoach.com/podcasts/72>

Connie: Hello learning people, and welcome to episode seventy-two of The eLearning Coach Podcast.

In this episode, we're exploring the wonderful world of no code tools. These are powerful apps that you can use to automate work and life tasks and to build apps and websites without programming skills. So, if you like to design, if you're a techie, if you're exploding with ideas or if you just like nerdy fun, this episode is for you.

I'm speaking with Mathias Vermeulen and Mike Taylor who have been presenting and spreading the word to learning professionals about no code tools. Mathias is the founder and manager of Winston Wolfe, an L&D company based in Belgium, which started in 2013. He is also the organizer of Learning Tech Day in Ghent.

Mike has been in the workplace learning field for over 20 years, designing and delivering learning experiences. Mike is a regular and highly rated speaker at industry events and works at Nationwide in Columbus, Ohio. He also teaches in the Instructional Design & Learning Technology graduate program at Franklin University.

Both Mathias and Mike do a lot of curating, sharing, teaching and presenting and have excellent newsletters that I suggest you sign up for.

You can find a transcript and the show notes with links to resources at theelearningcoach.com/podcasts/72. Here's our conversation.

Connie: Hi, Mathias and Mike, good morning or good afternoon, and welcome to The eLearning Coach podcast.

Mathias: Good morning, or good afternoon.

Mike: Could be anything anywhere in the world.

Connie: That's the beauty of it all.

Mike: It is.

Connie: Today we're going to be talking about no code tools. I think listeners will be pretty amazed at what we can do with these tools, so let's get started. Mathias, can you explain what no code tools are and give us an example of one?

Mathias: Well, the best way to describe is it's a bunch of tools and applications that use visual components to create software. When you used to have coding skills to build websites and applications, nowadays, there are plenty of tools out there that you can use without even knowing or having to write one single line of code.

It's kind of like a movement since a few years with a whole bunch of no code aficionados who love to create stunning applications. To give you an example of one, I think for instance, Typeform that we all know of or Canva to create visuals, that might be one of the best-known examples out there.

Connie: Right. How does that compare, Mike, with low code tools and an example of that?

Mike: Yeah. No code tools are specifically designed for people who don't understand code. You're not a coder. You don't have that sort of skill set or background. Low code tools are intended more so for coders and programmers to help them save time and build things faster.

Maybe that's helping them put together a visual interface that they could do quickly with low code that would take them much longer with traditional approaches, or some tools will start to predict the code they're writing and help them out. Or maybe there are pre-made components that they can plug and play around their custom code.

Low code tools, maybe a little bit more capability and complexity, versus no code tools where, hey, I don't know coding, it frightens me, whatever the case may be, but I still need to build stuff. To me, that's the difference between no code and low code.

Connie: Perfect explanation. Thanks. Can each of you give an example of a task you did recently where you created something with a no code tool?

Mathias: Until last year I had CRM system where all my clients were and all the invoices and the proposals that I wrote and to be honest, I paid 1500 U.S.

dollars annually for that specific tool. I was thinking, "Okay. I'm using no code tools today. I have a subscription on Airtable. Why do I still need an app that I pay \$1,500 a year if I just can create it using Airtable?"

I rebuilt my complete workflow from all my clients, all my proposals, my invoices directly into Airtable. It saved me 1500 euros or \$1,500 a year for the small amount that Airtable costs me. That's the most recent example.

Connie: Yeah. That is an amazing example. For people who aren't familiar with a CRM system, can you explain briefly what that is?

Mathias: Basically, it's a customer relations management tool where everything related to projects and clients and stuff like that is all into one tool. You can pay a few bucks for nicely looking tools. It's not that you don't have to buy a CRM application, but for someone who owns a small business like me, that costs a lot of money.

In order to do that, I just created some kind of database with all my clients, with all the invoices, with all the components that I can charge to people where I can easily type in client proposals, where I do the automated workflow when my two employees can enter their workloads for a specific project. Now it's all being monitored into Airtable rather than into the CRM application that I used to use.

Connie: Yeah. That is pretty impressive. Just to explain a little more, Airtable is a form of a spreadsheet, which is essentially creating a database.

Mathias: Yeah. Yeah. If you ever need a specific database, you can use Google Sheets for instance, but Airtable is much more powerful when it comes down to automations, even security, because that's also a thing, right? We're not all that fond of Google, specifically in Europe because we're not really sure if my data is that secure, and Airtable gives me plenty of opportunities.

Connie: That's really impressive. How about you, Mike? What have you done recently?

Mike: I was going to do a Airtable example too, but I will call an audible and do something different, so I don't repeat. One example is the resources that go along with the talks that Mathias and I do around this. You think of all the bookmarks you have and how do you share those with people and

how do you manage that in a way that's sortable and you can filter them and nicely, visually attractive and all that's sort of stuff? Was thinking about how to handle that.

I said, "Well, we'll just build a website, or a mobile app and we'll share that with people and people they can have it forever and interact with it and do whatever they want. Took all of the links and basically collect them in a spreadsheet, Google Sheets or Airtable, both works. Then I used a tool called SpreadSimple, which builds this really beautiful interactive website based off your spreadsheet data.

Then I said, "Well, do I want an app or a website?" I said, "Well, I'll just do both because it's so quick and easy." I used Glide apps to build a mobile app with all those same resources. Those are two good examples I think that are pretty useful for a lot of folks.

Connie: That also is so impressive. Can you give us a little more detail about your process?

Mike: I created the spreadsheet initially in Google Sheets because I don't have security concerns like Mathias was talking about. The one good thing, it's a double-edged sword with a lot of these no code tools. If you have constraints like security or other things, if one tool doesn't work because it's based on Google Sheets, there's probably a dozen others that can be more aligned to your criteria. Lots of options, that's a good thing. Sometimes choosing it's a double-edged sword.

Connie: That's a good point trying to think of all the criteria that might go into making a decision. I hadn't really thought about that, but certainly security is one of them. What are some other criteria you may think about when you are thinking about what tool to choose?

Mathias: Price. Pricing models that they use. In my opinion, they are also related to data security. A lot of those no code applications, they offer you a free model or a free subscription that you can use until a certain point. In my world, nothing is really free. Whenever you use the free option, you have to take into account that you might pay with your data.

For me, those are related to each other so I'm more than willing to pay for a tool that really helps me out. I think currently I have 50 no code tool subscriptions with a wide variety idea of pricing models, but I don't have to

worry about data security because I know within each subscription I'm fully secured. With the free or the free versions, yeah, I wouldn't be so sure about that.

Basically, that's one. Pricing related to security. Then I think it's very difficult for Mike and me to say, "This is a tool that you need to use because of X, Y, and Z." I think if it helps your problem, go ahead and use it. That's my only criteria.

Connie: What about you, Mike?

Mike: Yeah. I think like what Mathias is saying there is like what's the problem you're trying to fix or what are you trying to solve for? That's going to drive which path you take and which tools you consider. Stuff like that. Security, scalability. Does it scale up? Are you trying to do this for 10 people or a thousand people? What kind of data is happening?

That's also going to impact your pricing most likely. Things like that, like learning, right? You base off, what are you trying to solve? What's your end goal? Then that criterion comes out of that ultimately.

Connie: What is the range of pricing, Mike, for no code tools? What have you seen?

Mike: Yeah. From free to infinity, I think. Mathias can probably speak because he's probably got more subscriptions and pay things so he could probably give a more fine-tuned detail. I think the short answer is free to as much money as you have. Yeah.

Mathias: He's right. A lot of tools, they have different target groups. There are no code tools that really focus on freelance people, for instance. Then you know that you are not able to charge thousands of dollars a year because you focus on freelance workers and then you have more of a Spotify kind of like subscriptions.

You pay each month a small amount of money, 20 euros, 30 euro, 40 U.S. dollars a month and that's good. Whenever you go into some kind of a business model or a business subscription, then it's related to how many users will use the application? How many end users will you be targeting? Based on that, you have a wide variety ranging from zero, like Mike says to infinity.

There are plenty of expensive no code tools, but still, if you compare them to the off-the-shelf applications that are out there, they will still be more inexpensive than the off-the-shelf application.

Mike: If you compare them to custom-build applications, they're even more affordable in relation. Two sets. Compared to off-the-shelf stuff, which may or may not do what you want it to, versus, okay, we all can imagine what prices are for custom-built software.

Connie: I know one thing I found in using no code tools. I mean, I don't know if I would consider Calendly a no code tool. However, when I started paying for it, it would automatically send someone the Zoom link. If I'm making like five meetings in a day, that saved me so much time. Sometimes the difference between the free and the paid is almost like night and day.

One is just a scheduler, and the other is taking care of this automation. Speaking of automation, I see when I was looking through your presentation that you categorize no code tools into workflow automation and custom apps. Who wants to talk about workflow automation?

Mike: I'll take that one. The CliffsNotes version, way I like to talk about that is it's like plumbing for the internet. If you think plumbing in your house, you're connecting the sink to the hot water heater to the stuff. You're connecting things and you're sending instead of water it's data, right? For example, I had a project a while back and we were doing an email campaign. We were doing some coaching webinars, and everybody registered through a SurveyMonkey web form, right?

Traditionally in the past, without no code, I would have to go to SurveyMonkey, download the data into a spreadsheet, move it over, edit some data, take out some fields, upload it into GoToWebinar, whatever my platform is. It's a lot of manual stuff, sort of brain-dead copy paste stuff, which I just hate doing. I think everybody hates doing that.

With no code tool, something like Zapier, I can connect those apps and say, "Okay. I want the name and email address from SurveyMonkey to automatically get registered in this webinar on this date." A small investment to make those connections and get it all sort of plumed up and then it runs itself. Tons and tons of things that this open up as possibilities for us to be able to connect apps together and start to build this custom ecosystem of tools.

Mathias: It's like the example that you gave, Connie. It's Calendly and Zoom integration. There are plenty of tools that have native integrations. You don't need a Zapier or an IFTTT to connect Calendly to Zoom, but it saves you a lot of time, right? People schedule a meeting, and they instantly receive an invite with the Zoom URL, and you don't have to worry about anything.

There are plenty of tools that don't have these integrations ready-made, and then you need what they call integrators like Zapier or if this then that, or an Integromat or Parabola, to name a few, and they just do the dirty work. Output from 2A becomes input into B and you don't have to worry about anything.

Mike: What those integrators are doing is there have always been APIs for software, but you previously had to be able to code to tap into that API. Now it's sort of wizardizing, putting it into a step-by-step way to connect those APIs without requiring any coding.

Connie: It is amazing. Just for people who may not be familiar with an API, that's essentially a way to interface with other tools. Is that how you would explain it?

Mike: That's exactly it.

Connie: Let's talk a little bit about some of those integrators. Mathias, you mentioned Zapier and IFTTT. Can you talk about those?

Mathias: Yeah. Sure. Basically, they all do the same stuff. They connect different applications and tie them together. The big difference between IFTTT, which stands for if this, then that, and basically it explains the whole concept of the application. IFTTT focuses more on consumer applications. To give you a stupid example. I could do an IFTTT automation, whenever I leave my house, I have to switch off the Wi-Fi connection.

That could be something that's being done through IFTTT, and I don't have to worry about it. Or every time I leave the office, my wife receives a text message that I will be home in about one hour, for instance. They focus specifically on consumer application. Compared to Zapier, Zapier is the business version of IFTTT.

You can still send text messages or work with the Google applications to send something over to your wife, for instance, but what Zapier does is how can we use the same principles but put it into a business context. That's the big difference. They both do the same thing. They let you create step by step automations. If this happens into A, this needs to happen to B, to C, to D and so on.

Connie: Let's talk a little bit about how this can work for L&D. Do you have some suggestions for learning professionals? How can people use some of these workflow automations?

Mike: Yeah. The good thing is this works for L&D people. It works for just about anybody in any field, which is a rare occurrence. Everybody has calendars. Everybody has weekly status reports, project updates, all those sorts of things that we have to do. Anything that's repetitive, anything where you're doing copy and paste, anything that moving data between apps, those are all candidates for some type of automation. Saving files to the cloud or your Calendly example, right?

Like I'm scheduling meetings and I want to automate sending the Zoom links, converting emails into tasks in your project management system, automating your calendar's to-do list. We could probably sit here and think of things all day long, notifications, or you publish a video to a Dropbox folder, and that gets published to YouTube or Wistia automatically, so tons and tons of possibilities for literally everyone.

Mathias: I have a small example that I recently did for a client. I think for a lot of e-learning professionals, that might be something to take a look at. I had a client who asked me, "Hey, Mathias, we just got a subscription on Articulate 360, and we want to build a module on Rise and Storyline. The thing is, we don't have an LMS system, but we would like to have a certification send out to the participants after completing the e-learning module.

And we would like to have, as a client, some kind of database where we can have a look, and 'Okay. Mike completed the course, and this is his or her certificates that we can download.'" Mathias from five years ago would've said, "I'm sorry, I'm unable to help because I don't know how to code, how to create certifications, how to send it out and stuff like that. Maybe you need to hire an external consultant or an IT guy to write something that specific."

Nowadays with no code it took me two hours to set it up. Basically, what I needed was just, "Okay. This is the problem that they are facing. Let's break it down into smaller steps. First of all, they need to create an e-learning module. They use Articulate and Rise. Okay. Secondly, people need to register within the final tests and that data needs to go out to a database."

I use Google Sheets for that because I found a tutorial on the internet, how to send data from Articulate into a Google Sheet. That was a little bit of JavaScript codes that I needed to tweak without me even knowing what I was writing. That was that. I had the data into a Google Sheet. Next step was, okay, we need create automated PDFs. There are tons of tools out there where you can create your own PDFs based on the input that they receive from Google Sheets.

I used a tool called CraftMyPDF, or something like that. I had that. Finally, I needed to send it out to the participants. The data that was stored into the Google Sheet, I reused into a Gmail account to send the certification to the end user and to store everything into an Airtable. That was a whole automated workflow. It took me two hours. Now, my client, he has the e-learning module somewhere on their servers.

New hire programs, they enter the company, they go through the e-learning module, final test, they got 80 points out of a hundred and the whole workflow starts running. Data, goes to Google Sheets, that gets triggered, so it creates a PDF file. That PDF file is being sent out to the participant and it's also being stored into an Airtable environment. My clients only need the Airtable URL, where they can check, "How is everything running?" And that's it.

Connie: I love the idea of breaking down the problem into the small steps. That's really the key. At first, it can seem overwhelming, but having a process in place where you can really break it down makes the whole thing seem doable.

Mathias: Yeah. You just break it down into smaller steps and you go search for tools. Okay. What do we already use that creates a PDF or that sends out an email or that stores data? If you don't have the tools in-house, just go to Zapier where there is a whole bunch of tools that are Zapier-ready, and you just collect one of them. You see how much do they charge to use it? And you're good to go.

Mike: I think it's super important too, just like we wouldn't go off and start building stuff for an e-learning course, we wouldn't just go into Storyline or PowerPoint and start building stuff without having the plan. Mathias can probably talk to this a little bit, but the hardest part is often getting the logic in your head. Once you've got the logic in your head, the building parts relatively easy.

Mathias: Yeah. Yeah. That the most difficult. Sometimes we make it too complex. I have created workflow automations that were super complex. In the end, you just end up with something that's rather simple because you can skip a few steps. Something is not that important, and that's the hard part. Connecting tools in Zapier, it literally takes two or three minutes and you're done but doing the thinking process takes a bit longer.

Connie: I can imagine that diagramming it can really help. You've got this visualization exactly what you want to do. I'm going to do it as soon as this podcast recording is over. Now, let me go down a rabbit hole for a moment. Mathias, were you able to get the person's name to print into the PDF?

Mathias: Yeah. I used variables in my Storyline tests, so they needed to fill out where they were going to work, their name and their email address. Of course, I needed the test course and there is a filter in my automation when someone has less than 70 points out of 100, he does not get the certification. If you have more than 70 points, you receive the certification.

On that, it's printed their name, where they are going to work, the date, their results, and the signature of the CEO signing off the documents. It's a very easy way to create something that a lot of companies need without ever needing an LMS system.

Connie: Yeah. That is pretty amazing. How did you get variable data out of Storyline?

Mathias: That was a tutorial on YouTube. I went out to the Rise community or the Articulate community and there was someone who had a script, I think it's already five or six years old. I tried to reuse his script and change it to my specific needs. Yeah.

Connie: That was probably the JavaScript. I too have gone out there, found some JavaScript. Didn't really get it. I know it a little bit, copied and pasted in and it worked.

Mathias: Yeah. Don't ask me to explain the JavaScript codes. That's Mike.

Mike: No, it's not.

Mathias: If it works, it's good for me.

Connie: It's kind of shocking that we can go out there, find a little JavaScript code that we need and drop it in there. It's amazing. Okay. Let's move on to custom apps. We are categorizing these no code tools, or you are, into workflow automation and custom apps. We've got the workflow automation. What's an example of an app that's built with no code tools?

Mathias: Well, workflow automation makes my life easier, or it makes my clients' life easier by connecting all types of tools. By custom apps, it's more of what can I build for an end user to create a meaningful learning experience using different no code tools without the end user knowing that he's using a wide variety of tools?

He only has one interface where all the information is stored, but beneath that, there might be two, three, four, five, no code tools working together to create that one visual interface for the end user. That's what I mean by that. The best example is what Mike said in his introduction, what he built using SpreadSimple and Glide apps.

You build something for an end user, without them ever having to know what's lying beneath the surface. Am I right, Mike?

Mike: Absolutely. Absolutely. A hundred percent.

Connie: Mike, earlier in this podcast, you mentioned that you used SpreadSimple. Can you talk a little bit about what no code tool can do?

Mike: Yeah. You basically copy and paste your Google Sheet ID or the URL or whatever the identifier is that they use, paste it into SpreadSimple. Then there's a form where you're going to connect. You're basically going to point to, okay, I want you to pull the title from this column. I want you to pull the URL from this column. If you have images, I want to pull the image

from this column. Then you can choose a layout, what do you want it to look like?

You can enable things like sorting and filtering on the website. It's a little bit of configuration. I think when I built it took me about five minutes and then you have this beautiful website that not only is it a beautiful website, but it's interactive. I can sort and filter and find things.

If you want to spend a little more time, you can go in and add your own graphics and do the colors and you can do a lot more stuff. If it's just you just want to get the website up, literally five minutes or less if you've already got the data and it's beautiful.

Connie: Well, that's amazing.

Mathias: The example that Mike's giving, that's something that a lot of people who are trainer or they run workshops and they want to provide the participants with meaningful resources after the training session, what we typically use now is I'm going to send you an email or I'm going to put it into a Google Sheet, and you can access that. Nowadays, it's just, "Here's the URL."

It gets updated every week so we add resources on the go and participants they can tap into a wide variety of topics of URLs, podcasts, webpages, articles, whatever it might be just to keep learners engaged, help them out if they have specific issues and stuff like that.

Connie: That is a better way to present resources for presenters, trainers, facilitators.

Mathias: Yeah. That's an easy one, but there are also examples of creating the custom applications, combining dozens of no code tools to build something that is also meaningful for one specific end user. You can use the whole workflow automation process also with your custom app development in the same way. My moment de gloire, so that's French for my glory moment, in COVID was something I built called Message To The Future.

I think it was in the early days of COVID and I found a website called futureme.org. On that website, you can send an email to the future you. You can send yourself a message with a reflection, with something that you want to achieve and say, "I want to receive this email in one year or in

18 months, or in five years." Up to you. Then 18 months later, you get an email from Future Org with that specific message. Really simple idea.

I figured I want to build this using no code tools. In one day, I used, I think, six or seven no code applications to build my Message To The Future where people can send themselves an email to the future them, if that makes sense, right?

Connie: Sure.

Mathias: I build it and I think I sent Mike the URL, "Hey, do you want to test it out?" And course participants and my family, my daughter with her ambitions for the next five years, for instance. All of a sudden it got picked up on Product Hunt. I think in one year now I have more than 18,000 messages sent from people in 136 countries all over the world. It's the free app. You can use it, messagetothefuture.re, send yourself a message.

It's totally free and people seem to like it. That has been my best no code custom-built application so far. I only made 27 bucks out of it because you can buy me a virtual coffee, but I've done a lot of cool stuff in L&D, but this is without doubt, the most beautiful thing I've ever done.

If people sent me a personal email or a thank you email that the message that they sent to themselves helped them out to make a tough decision or it helped them through a breakup or a professional struggle that they had. I don't care what people write to themselves, but yeah, even when I'm talking about it, it gives me goosebumps. Yeah.

Connie: Yeah. That's beautiful. Really fulfilling to do something like that. That's great.

Mathias: Yeah.

Connie: Did you have anything else you wanted to add about custom tools?

Mike: I'll add one thing. This is not mine. This is Mathias again. He didn't mention this, but I read an article and it was about using a campaign sort of approach and follow-ups. Like the whole repetitive learning, space learning sort of stuff. I said, "Hey, this interesting article, what do you think about this?" I sent it to him and unbeknownst to me, he, about a day or two later, went out and built this whole amazing, incredible no code system. What's the URL? Text or TXT?

Mathias: Txtr.it. Yeah.

Mike: If you have a training program and you want to do some follow-up, Mathias has built this amazing tool where you can go in and say, "I want to give a reminder seven days, 15 days." Customize the messages, send it via SMS. Just incredible stuff. Just the potentials are amazing and endless. It's like your creativity is their only limit.

Connie: That's inspiring. I just can't wait to get started.

Mathias: Yeah. It only works with Belgian phone numbers I've noticed, but let's say that you want to add a U.S. phone number, I mean, it takes 10 minutes to buy a cell phone number to add it to my text database and you're good to go. Basically, it was Mike's article that got me thinking, "I have to build this on no code tools." Yeah. You have a dashboard where you can type in your text messages and say, "Okay. I want to send on this specific date on that date and on that date."

Boom. People subscribe and they receive the text messages with a challenge or with something that they need to complete. Yeah. Yeah. We were all talking about spaced learning and retrieval practice and stuff like that. Why not use no code tools to create your own space repetition, post-training follow-up system, whatever that might be? Yeah.

Mike: Because it's so flexible and accessible to build, if you can't do text, SMS, could be email or it could be Slack, could be whatever you want because you have control over it.

Connie: Right. Yeah. Pretty amazing. Do you have a few no code tools that are just your favorites that are just so powerful you can't believe it? I mean, like one is Zapier, one is IFTTT. Certainly, I've heard you speak about Glide and SpreadSimple sounds good. Is there another one or two that you would say to people like, "You got to check this out."

Mike: We've talked about Airtable a bit now. That's definitely a great one. There's lots of uses for web form. Mathias mentioned Typeform. Tally is another really good no code that integrates well. We always have documents, right? Creating documentation or guides or performance support or whatever it is. A couple of those worth checking out. Notion is one.

There's another new one that's called Coda, which is pretty powerful that I can embed content from other places into a single Coda doc. Websites, when it comes to websites, everybody probably familiar with WordPress, which is what my personal site's build on. Carrd is one that Mathias has integrated no code things with. Those are a handful that are good ones to get started with.

Connie: I know Notion has a lot of functionality. What do you use it for?

Mike: A couple of different things. You can build websites out of it. It's just easy. It's like a WYSIWYG website. I curate things. If I'm trying to collect, for example, no code resources and I want to do that, I've got a little bookmark that I click the bookmarker and I could send it to where I want it to do and I can put categories or stuff and then I can build resource sites out of that.

People are doing CRM systems with it. People are doing incredible, amazing things with Notion. It's really a good embodiment of this whole idea of no code, and it's just so flexible and powerful. You can do probably whatever you can think of in there almost.

Connie: Mathias, what would you add to the list?

Mathias: I was hoping, "Don't mention Notion. Don't mention Notion so I can say Notion." I would say Notion. For me, that's my discovery of 2021. I build a course platform on Notion and I tied it to MailerLite. That's an email sending campaign application. Basically, it helps people go through a long training program with reminders, with specific challenges, with tasks that they need to fulfill. It all uses MailerLite and Notion in one workflow.

Notion, MailerLite, if you want to send emails. My Txtir campaign, for instance, it uses Twilio, and you can use it to send text messages or to send emails.

Connie: Basically, there's an unending list of no code tools. Now I get it. I'm wondering, what is the most impressive thing that you've seen someone else build and no code tools?

Mathias: There are some guys who build course platforms on no code tools and their courses are about no code tools. It's meta. You know?

Connie: Meta. Yeah.

Mathias: Yeah. A few months ago, when I saw it was a Dutch guy and I enrolled into his online training on no code applications. In the beginning he said, "This is totally built on no code tools." Everything from A to Z, subscribing, payments, follow-up, everything was all no codes. So, my big dream is to build a no code LMS system.

If you give me two months of time and you're willing to pay me for my efforts, I'm building the best LMS system out there using no code application because it is possible if you just connect the right tools to each other. There are plenty of people who have built amazing stuff.

Connie: How about you, Mike? What have you seen that you found fascinating?

Mike: Yeah. Similar to what Mathias was just saying there, some of the course-related things, tons of stuff that are based on Airtable. Airtable's got a great customer education channel that they have amazing examples, and they have guests and talk about the things that you built. There is a really cool LMS type system built entirely with Airtable, registrations, content, the whole deal.

I'm just continually amazed at what you can do with these. I'm also amazed when I throw an idea at Mathias and he calls me the next day and he's like, "Oh, yeah, I built this yesterday in my spare time."

Connie: The whole thing is very exciting. I wanted to thank you both for sharing your knowledge. I think a lot of people will find this very inspiring.

Mike: No. Absolutely. I would just encourage people to not be intimidated or scared, but just dig in. Start small. Start with that spreadsheet you've been downloading and uploading into another system for 10 or 20 years and automate it. We all have those things that, "Gosh, I wish I didn't have to do that."

You're not going to build the LMS system the first day but start small with these little baby steps and before you know it, you'll be creating some pretty useful, impactful stuff.

Connie: Yeah.

Mathias: It saves you a few minutes a day and you can play Wordle with the free time.

Connie: All right. Thanks so much.

Mathias: Thank you for having us.

Mike: Thank you, Connie.

Connie: That was inspiring. Let me know what you end up creating in the Comments at thelearningcoach.com/podcasts/72. You can find links to all of the tools and a transcript there.