In a rut?

How will I ever get out of here?!
What is a rut?

- Rut: noun usually singular, a situation that is boring and difficult to change according to the Macmillan English Dictionary.
Is a rut a bad thing? According to the definition? Yes!

Is it bad for English teachers? Yes. We see the effects—how?
In a rut

- Unmotivated teachers.
- Students who lack interest.
- Finally—no more English class.
Is there any hope?

- If we look at the up side of a rut: it becomes routine.
- The routine lets learners feel comfortable and they know what to expect and what is expected of them. Therefore they can perform well.
Can we change a rut into a routine?

Margarethe Garland  BESIG 2012
Stuttgart
look at the problem:

- the book/material is boring
  - the students are unmotivated
  - attendance is down
  - the teacher becomes unmotivated.

- what needs to be changed?
  - Different book
  - Lesson structure
  - Ways of presenting
  - Material
Think about it

- Can we find a different book?
- Do we even need a book?
  - What are we learning (grammar, vocabulary, sentence structure)?
  - What level are we at?
  - What are the students interested in?

What could we do instead of a book?
Think about it

- Lesson structure—how do we change it?
- Can we be more active?
- Can we change the venue?
Think about it

Ways of presenting

- Using different media?
- Having the students present?
- Creating relevance with different material?
Taking the next step

- which alternatives do we have?
  - Games
  - Relevant material or news
  - Media and presentation

- Homework
Why should we do it?

- If we find a way to get the student more involved, we will have:
  - higher attendance levels
  - Better learning—more progress
  - Increase in student ownership
  - Our job will be easier
Final words

- These are only some ideas and will not fix all the problems that can come up in class.
- Not all of these suggestions will work for everyone—but everyone can find something that does work for them.
- Remember: teaching should make the student happy to learn BUT the teacher needs to be happy too.
Any questions
Thank you and have fun communicating!