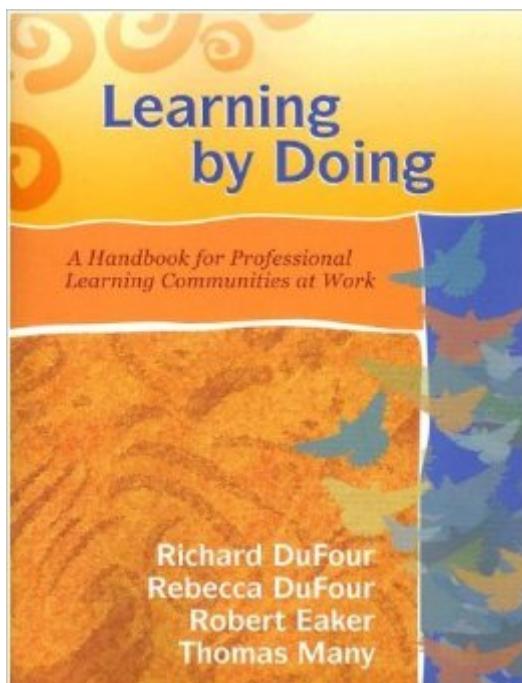


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# Learning By Doing: A Handbook For Professional Learning Communities At Work (Book & CD-ROM)



## **Synopsis**

Learning by Doing: A Handbook for Professional Learning Communities at Work helps educators close the knowing-doing gap as they transform their schools into professional learning communities (PLCs). This handbook is a guide for action that will: Help educators develop a common vocabulary and consistent understanding of key PLC concepts. Present a compelling argument that the implementation of PLC concepts will benefit students and educators alike. Help educators assess the current reality in their own schools and districts. Convince educators to take purposeful steps to develop their capacity to function as PLCs.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (18 customer reviews)

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## **Customer Reviews**

Professional Learning Communities are the big buzz currently. Does your school district have professional learning communities? Have you wondered where to start? Have you wondered how your professional learning communities are doing? If you've wondered about any of those, then this is the book for you. Learning by Doing is a great handbook for administrators and teachers to use as they implement professional learning communities in their school. This handbook gives an overview of the different components of the professional learning community process. As schools implement the professional learning community process this handbook is also a useful tool to assist in self reflection and evaluation. As a school is developing professional learning communities, this handbook is a great resource to use through the process. It begins by giving advice on how to clarify the purpose of professional learning communities, how to build collaborative teams, and how

to establish team norms. The collaborative foundation is essential to the success of the professional learning communities. The professional learning communities must collaborate in order to increase student achievement. The handbook also shares information about how to collect data, how to use the data to improve results, and how to implement interventions in order to improve student achievement. These components help the professional learning community develop strategies to help each individual learner in their classroom. Schools must develop and support a pyramid of interventions in order to meet the students' needs. This handbook includes many useful reproducible handouts and continuums which help analyze the progress of each professional learning community.

Learning by Doing: A Handbook for Professional Learning Communities at Work (Second Edition) by Richard Dufour, Rebecca Dufour, Robert Eaker, Thomas Many (2010) The second edition of Learning by Doing: A Handbook for Professional Learning Communities at Work is a significant rewrite from the first edition of 2006. The first edition is 235 pages and the second is 281 pages. A number of the pages were rewritten and some were relocated. Chapter Eight "Implementing the PLC Process Districtwide" is new. Dufour et. al. have introduced "Implementation Stage" along the PLC continuum. This will be helpful to guide learning leaders as they implement an authentic PLC. A welcome innovation found in this book is that the CD enclosed in the first edition is not included. Rather readers may go online to [go.solution-tree.com/PLCbooks](http://go.solution-tree.com/PLCbooks). In this way revisions and changes may be made without having to produce new CDs. In the not too distant future textbooks will not be required but rather resources for learners in our schools will be online, a twenty-first century reality. The authors have used, with mixed effectiveness, Richard Elmore's (2006) concept of Reciprocal Accountability throughout this volume. Elmore states, "For every increment of performance I demand of you, I have an equal responsibility to provide you with the capacity to meet that expectation. Likewise, for every investment you make in my skill and knowledge, I have a reciprocal responsibility to demonstrate some new increment in performance (p. 93)." The employers of teachers are the first adopters of commercial PLCs. It is easy sometimes to overlook their responsibility to support teachers by developing teacher capacity to work as authentic professional learning communities.

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