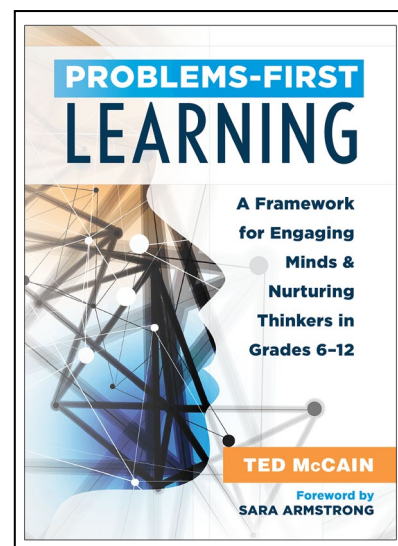


Problems-first learning

A framework for engaging minds and nurturing thinkers in grades 6–12

Ted McCain

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Supplementary resources	Download reproducible resources at go.hbe.com.au



Summary

The instructional pattern of ‘teaching as telling, learning as listening’ has remained a tradition for generations. However, the 21st century requires a different approach. Through author Ted McCain’s problems-first instructional method, educators present their curriculum to students as a problem to solve – rather than as content to listen to – and then equip students with transferable processing skills that will help them effectively address challenges in school and beyond. Filled with problems-first lesson examples and tips for elevating students’ thinking, *Problems-first learning: A framework for engaging minds and nurturing thinkers in grades 6–12* provides step-by-step guidance for teachers to increase students’ engagement and development of real-world skills in their classrooms.

Grades 6–12 educators will:

- consider the thinking and processing skills that students need in the 21st century
- recognise the shortcomings of a traditional lecture-based instructional method
- understand how a problems-first teaching style can equip students with higher-level thinking skills
- assess their current classroom methods and learn how to shift to problems-first practices
- review examples of problems-first lesson plans.

Other resources

- *Everyday problem-based learning: Quick projects to build problem-solving fluency* (117057)
- *Problem-based learning in the life science classroom, K–12* (NST0492)
- *Problem-based learning in the physical science classroom, K–12* (NST7576)