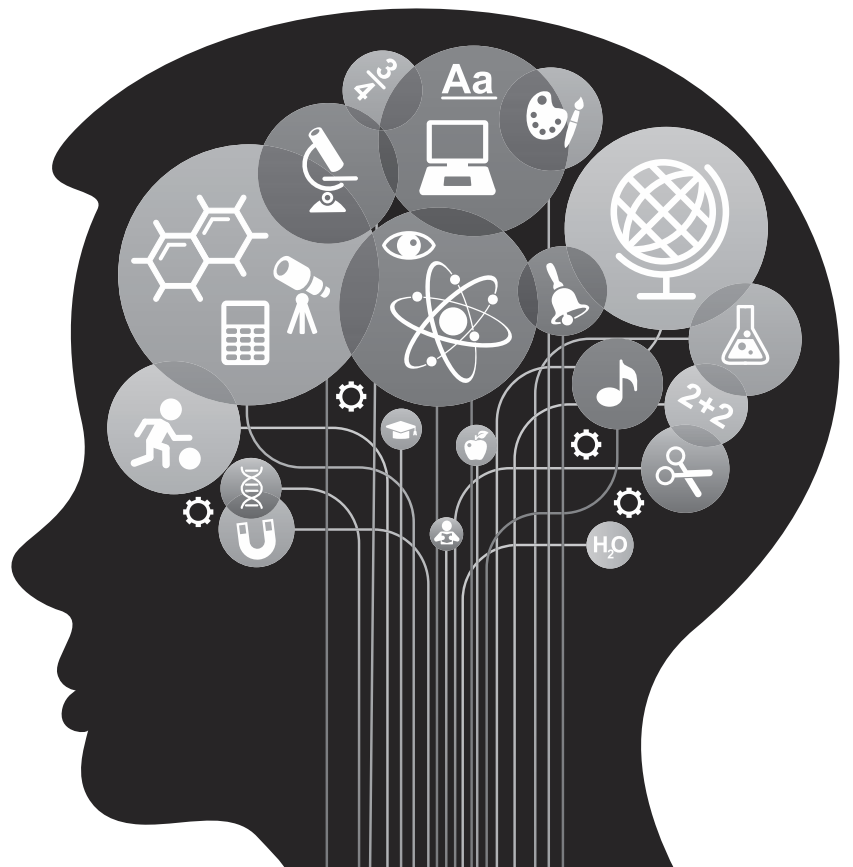


YOUR PERSONAL LEARNING GUIDE TO

# BUILDING *Better* LEARNERS

*Bringing Out the Potential  
in Every Student*

**By the Authors of**  
*THE MASTER TEACHER*  
*Weekly Pd PROGRAM*



THE  
MASTER TEACHER®  
*Develop · Support · Honor*

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# Introduction

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We are all striving to build our repertoire of skills so we are the very best educators we can be. No doubt this takes considerable effort, because it is no small undertaking and every day presents countless challenges.

Equally, we must be building the skills of our students as lifelong learners. It is predicted that this generation of learners will change careers (not jobs) five times in the course of their professional work lives. Just think about that for a moment—five career changes! This means today’s students will have to be willing and able to learn five different skillsets over the course of a lifetime, and be flexible and adaptive learners within those different career paths. They will also have to be effective and efficient problem solvers, both independent and collaborative thinkers, and very disciplined in the way they approach work learning challenges.

Becoming better learners requires both time and patience. It requires working through frustration and learning strategies to employ so as not to give up when learning gets hard or complicated. Students need to be able to take what they know about learning in one context and apply it in an unfamiliar way or new circumstance. And they have to be able to learn from one another and collaborate to bring about successful outcomes. For these reasons and more, we are providing you with the hundreds of strategies in this book.

After each lesson you will find a Personal Learning Journal. We encourage you to use these journaling pages to reflect upon the ideas and strategies you glean from each lesson. We also encourage you to share and discuss what you learn with your colleagues to gain even more insights into the important challenge of building better learners.









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# Personal Learning Journal

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This is your personal journal for building better learners. It focuses on a four-step learning process specifically designed to enhance lifetime learning. Every step is important. To actually acquire and remember knowledge, it's important to write what you learned as well as what you already knew. Likewise, it's essential to know what worked and didn't work—and to reflect. When reflection is followed by adjustments, that is, what you will do differently as well as when you will do it, long-term learning and improvement are enhanced.

Simply write your journal entry after reading each message, and apply what you've learned in the classroom. This journal will help you retain the material and provide you with notes to review at a later date.

## I. Learning/Planning

a. What did I already know about this topic?

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b. What did I learn that was new?

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## II. Action/Application

a. What did I do that worked?

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b. What did I do that didn't work?

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c. What did I *not* do—and what happened?

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### III. Reflection/Assessment

a. What will I do with what I've learned from my experience?

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b. What do I still need to learn on this subject?

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c. How can I get this information?

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### IV. Change/Adjustment

a. What will I do differently the next time?

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b. When will I use what I've learned? (first day or week of school, before grade cards go out, etc.)

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c. What impact do I think it will have on my students and/or colleagues?

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