

Learning as Knowledge Construction Within a Community of Learners. An attribution to Don Schön

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Abstract: The paper, written as an attribution to Don Schön, is based on a simple device he had suggested, as an instrument of analysis. Applying it to excerpts taken from transcribed group meetings, the analysis of the group discourse is demonstrated. The group consisting of high-school teachers from different disciplines collaborating with two educational researchers, acted as a 'community of learners', whose explicit aim was to develop a new STES (Science, Technology, Environment in Society) curriculum module. Analysis of the group discourse disclosed the process of their participative learning, namely their construction of new pedagogical knowledge by questioning and reflecting critically on their action and conceptualizing their teaching practice into a curriculum module. Finally the dialectics between the process and the product of learning, between the individual and the group as a community of learners, is elaborated, leading to 'Ecological Thinking' our new keystone educational concept.

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