Samantha S. Reed Carol A. Mullen Emily T. Boyles

# Problem-Based Learning in Elementary School What Strategies Help Elementary Students Develop?



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# Problem-Based Learning in Elementary School

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Samantha S. Reed Carroll County Public Schools Virginia, VA, USA

Emily T. Boyles Grayson County Public Schools Virginia, VA, USA Carol A. Mullen Virginia Tech Virginia, VA, USA

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I dedicate our book to my children, Blake and Grant; my dad; and my work family.

—Samantha S. Reed

Dedicating this to the amazing 2017–2020 Roanoke doctoral cohort I had the pleasure to grow alongside at Virginia Tech.

—Carol A. Mullen

This book is for my parents and my sister. Thank you for showing me how to truly love and support one another.

—Emily T. Boyles



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Samantha S. Reed, Ed.D. Carol A. Mullen, Ph.D. Emily T. Boyles, Ed.D.

## Praise for Problem-Based Learning in Elementary School

"This easy-to-read book makes an important contribution to the problem-based learning (PBL) literature. The research is limited on this topic and specific instructional strategies that help students grow, learn, and develop. The study is important for practitioners interested in effective PBL implementation in the elementary grades. They will learn of vital strategies that elementary teachers use to effectively implement PBL, making the book very informative. The importance of utilizing PBL to connect classroom experiences with real-world applications is illustrated. A vivid picture is painted of practitioners' experiences with PBL. Educators can readily implement the strategies described to increase interest in learning tasks as well as achievement for all students. As a guide, it will appeal to practitioners looking to improve students' achievement and twenty first century skills. It's also an excellent choice for higher education faculty seeking to develop school leaders and teachers who can benefit from this alternative model of pedagogy for educating students. Courses addressing effective instruction would gain from adopting this text."

—Barbara M. Wickham, Montgomery County Public Schools, Virginia

"Problem-Based Learning in Elementary School makes an original contribution to the field in that PBL is not that common in primary and elementary schools. Because the research on PBL in elementary schools is not substantial, this book is instrumental in adding to the research. The work contains key instructional strategies that promote skills and knowledge that can be applied when using the PBL approach. I believe that the ideas and practices described by the authors apply globally because PBL has become a global instructional program that supports the development of critical skills. The authors offer a well written book that does a great job delving into PBL approaches that could benefit elementary schools all over the world. Without a doubt, I recommend it as an outstanding choice for elementary curriculum and instruction courses."

-Lee B. Shields, Campbell County Public Schools, Virginia

### **Contents**

1	Introduction	1
	Overview	1
	About This Book	3
	Statement of the Problem	5
	Significance of the Research	6
	Purpose and Justification of Study	7
	Summary	7
	References	7
2	A Review of Literature	9
	Overview	9
	Search Processes and Criteria	10
	Synthesis of the Literature	11
	PBL Defined	11
	Compared with PjBL	12
	History of PBL	13
	PBL in Medicine: Howard Barrows's Influence	13
	PBL in Education: John Dewey's Influence	15
	PBL and Constructivism	15
	PBL in K–12 Public Education	17
	PBL and STEM	20
	Closely Related Instructional Practices	25
	Impact of PBL on Student Achievement	27
	Profile of a Virginia Graduate—The 5Cs	29
	Engaging Qualities Present in PBL Tasks	31
	Summary	32
	References	33
3	Methodology	37
	Overview	37
	Research Questions and Design	38
	Data Collection Procedures	41
	Instrument Design and Validation	43