

What is a learning commons?

A learning commons is a whole school approach to building a participatory learning community. The library learning commons is the physical and virtual collaborative learning hub of the school.
Leading Learning, CLA, 2014

This learning guide is designed for use by instructional leaders and professional learning communities or as a self-paced study to explore learning commons.



Use this learning guide after viewing the [LC Video Byte 3, Rethink Makerspaces](#)

Synopsis: *In LC Video Byte 3 we examine re-thinking learning commons resources - makerspaces - to support participatory learning.*

Key understandings:

- Design makerspaces collaboratively for discovery, play and experimentation as presented in the Alberta Learning Commons Policy and *Leading Learning*.
- Makerspaces reflect a “learn by doing” model in attaining curricular outcomes.
- Re-think physical or virtual LC makerspaces using the uTEC Maker Model in a shift from “consumption to creation”.

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

- How are you developing and using makerspaces in the LC?
- How can you involve teachers and students in collaborative makerspace design?

Additional resources:

Learning commons indicators for participatory learning design pp.19- 20, *Leading Learning*
<http://www.canadianschoollibraries.ca>

Learn by Doing model (pgs192-203) *Beyond Bird Units, 2nd ed.* Koechlin, Loertscher, & Zwaan
<http://lmcsources.com/Catalog/beyondbirdunits.html>

Explore the uTEC Maker Model.
<https://sites.google.com/site/utecmakermodel/>

Read “Making Space for New Library Learning: A Makerspace Journey” (Davis)
<https://makingspacefornewlib.atavist.com/a-makerspace-journey>

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