

Publisher's Foreword to the 2012 Edition

Every lean practitioner occasionally wishes for a simple, fun, and quick-read introduction to lean thinking to give to acquaintances, associates, and family members—especially to our kids. If lean thinking often entails *unlearning* a plethora of bad habits, wouldn't it better if we learned better thinking—and habits—from the beginning?

When LEI author and friend Robert Martichenko self-published *Everything I Know About Lean I Learned in First Grade* in 2008, we immediately fell in love it. I found that I couldn't hold on to a copy very long, because I would give it away. Too many books about lean thinking tend to over-complicate what is an intrinsically simple approach to work, life, and learning.

At LEI, we grew so fond of this book, and it fills such an obvious yet overlooked need, we decided it should be made available to more people than Robert's logistics organization—LeanCor—was equipped to provide and proposed to Robert that we re-release it through LEI for the benefit of the entire lean community.

So, we are pleased to make this gem available to you now. But, buyer beware—this product comes with a warning. If you're like me, you'll find that you can't purchase just one: each time you buy one, you'll give it away and buy another.

John Shook
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