

# **Pledges and Oaths Throughout History and their Impact**

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# Origins of the Words

## OATH

From the Old Saxon *āð*

A statement of fact or promise

A ritual act or speech act



# Origins of the Words

## PLEDGE

Latin *plebium*

A gage or security

Old High German *pflegan*

To look after or care for

Often used in a personal sense



# EARLY OATHS AND PLEDGES

Egyptian-Hittite Peace Treaty (13<sup>th</sup> Century BC)

Hippocratic Oath (4<sup>th</sup> Century BC)

Roman Sacramentum (4<sup>th</sup> Century BC)

Christian Church (3<sup>rd</sup> Century)

Islam (9<sup>th</sup> Century)

Bodhisattva Precepts (4<sup>th</sup> Century)

English Oath Books (9<sup>th</sup> Century)

Feudal Oaths (10<sup>th</sup> Century)



# OATHS AND PLEDGES TODAY

Presidential and Other Political Oaths

English Coronation Oath

Oath of Citizenship

Oaths in Legal Proceedings

Military Service Oath

Magician's Oath

Secret Society Oaths

Hippocratic Oath

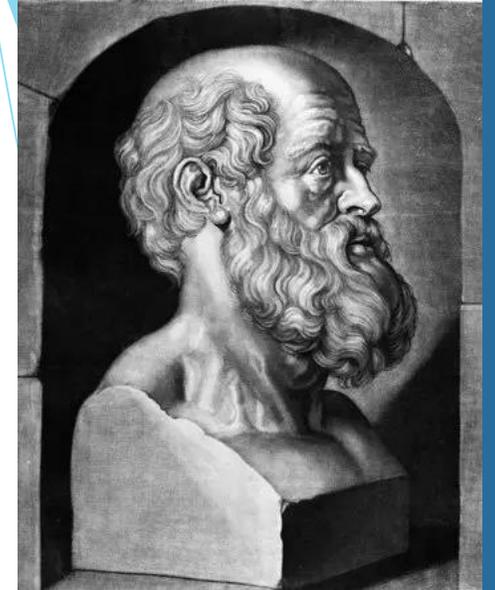


# HIPPOCRATIC OATH

Oldest Greek version 245 AD

I will soothe the pain of anyone who needs my art, and if I don't know how, I will seek the counsel of my teachers.

I will offer those who suffer all my attention, my science and my love. Never will I betray them or **risk their well-being** to satisfy my vanity. **I will not hurt my fellow** or put a knife to his flesh if I don't know how, or give him an herb to soothe his pain, even if he begs for it in anguish, if it might take away his breath.



# SOME UNUSUAL EXAMPLES

## West Saxon Gospel Oaths



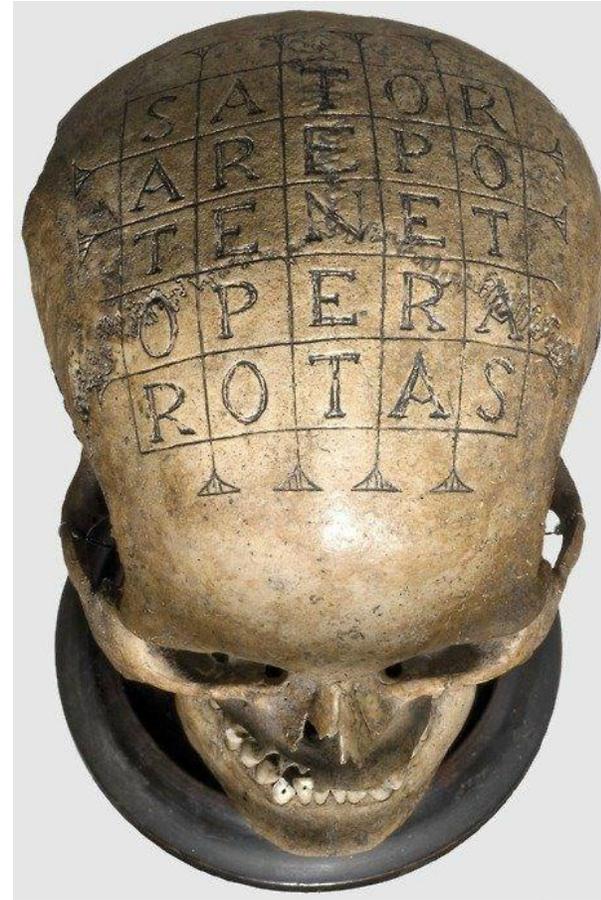
# SOME UNUSUAL EXAMPLES

## Warriors Swearing on Their Sword



# SOME UNUSUAL EXAMPLES

## Germanic Skull Oaths



# SOME UNUSUAL EXAMPLES

## Bodleian Library, Oxford



# IMPACT

Ancient Times: Pledged Fealty to King

Early Church: Required for  
Membership

Medieval Europe: Feudal System

Modern: Mutual Defense Treaties



# WHY ANNE AND I CHOSE “PLEDGE”

Oaths were often religious in nature

Oaths seemed mandatory

*Pledge* had the feel of a voluntary act



# RESEARCH BASIS FOR THE PLEDGES

## **Conceptual Learning**

- ▶ Warren Colburn
- ▶ Daniel Adams
- ▶ Benjamin Greenleaf
- ▶ Joseph Ray



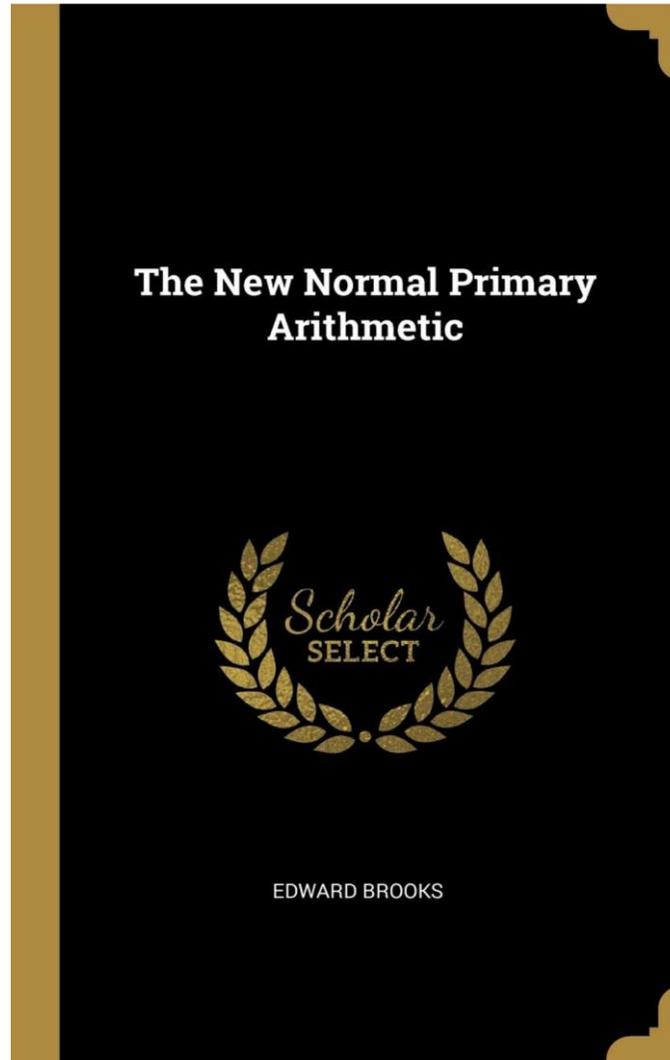
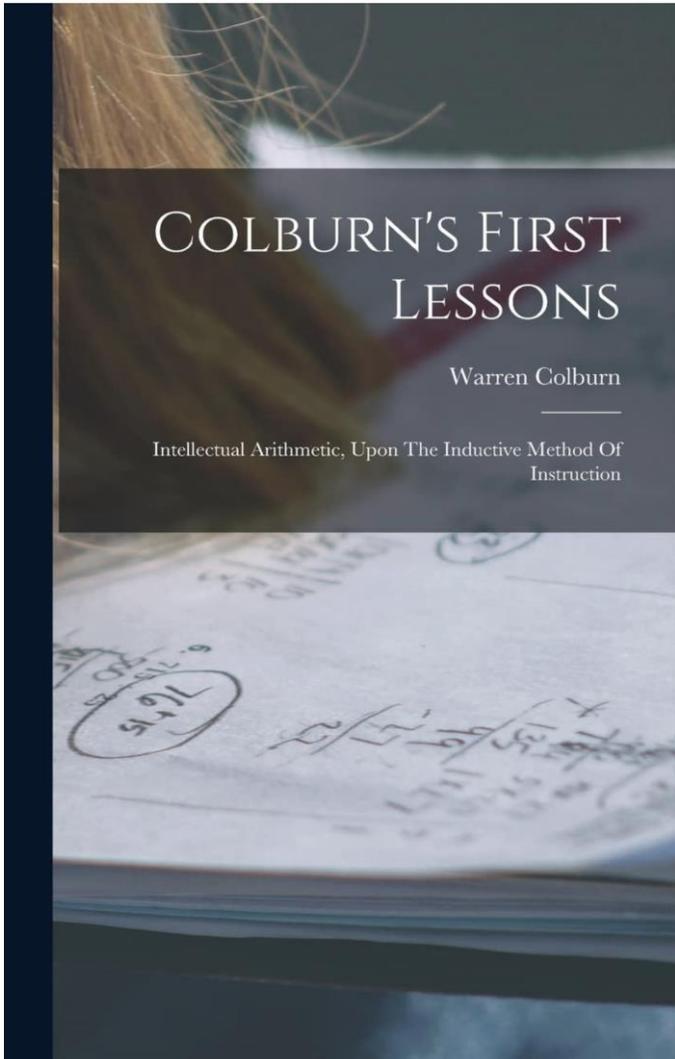


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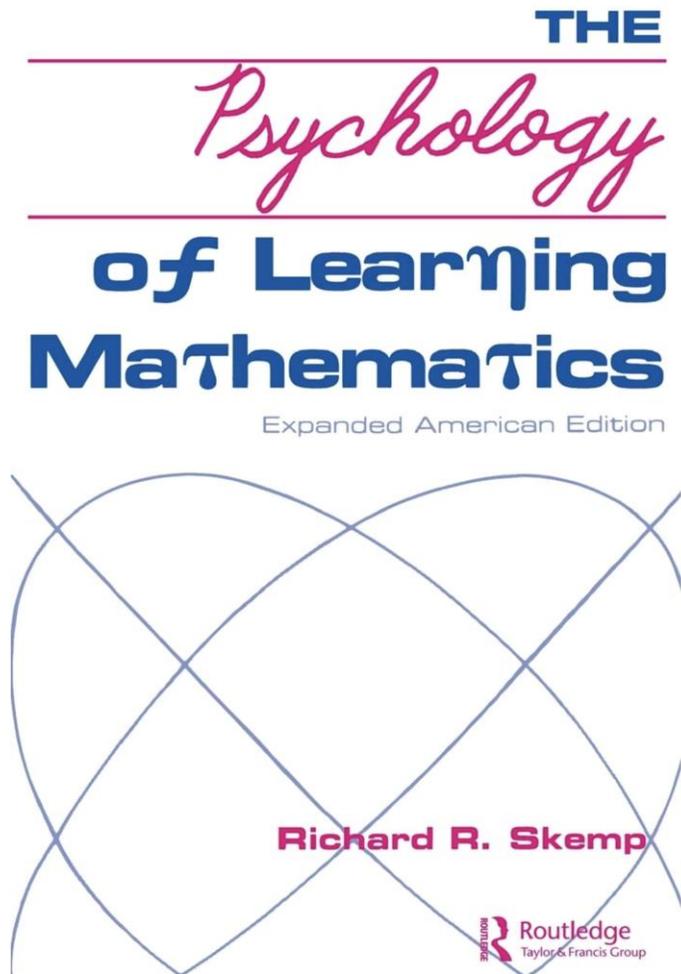
## **Conceptual Learning**

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- ▶ Edward Brooks
- ▶ Paul Foerster
- ▶ Richard Skemp



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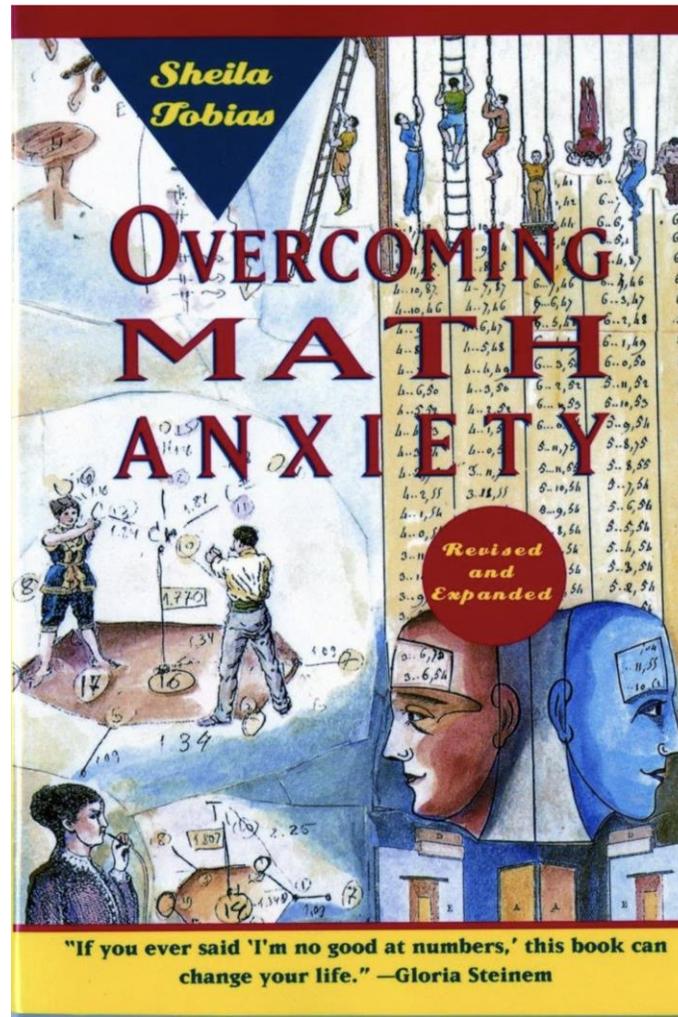
## Conceptual Learning



# RESEARCH BASIS FOR THE PLEDGES

## Brain Research

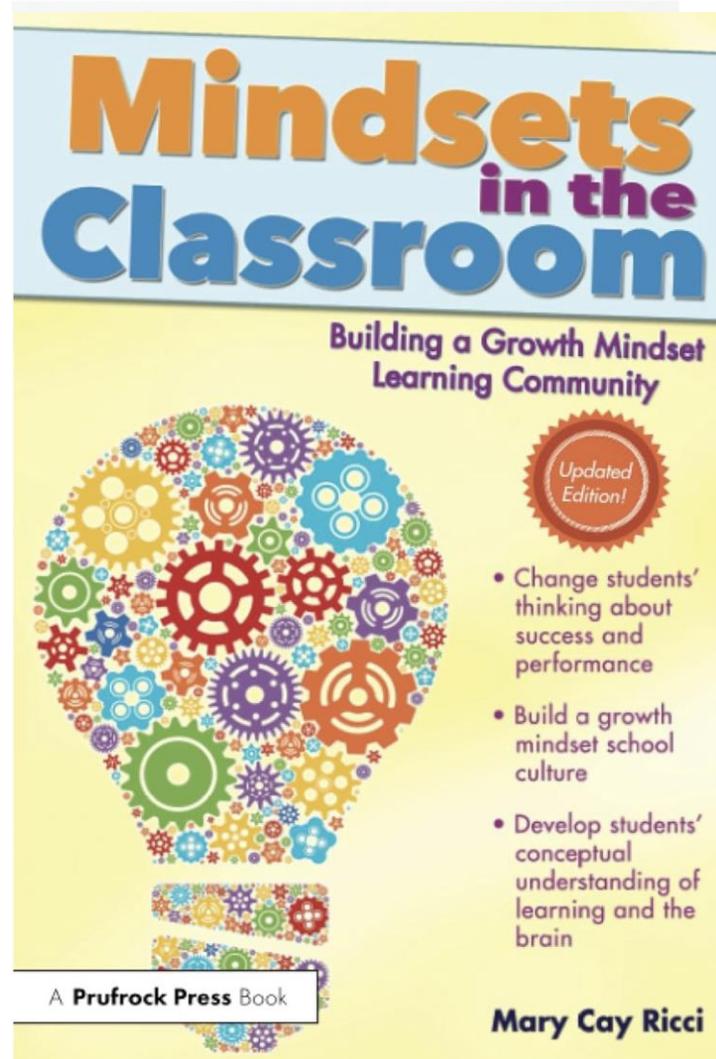
► Sheila Tobias



# RESEARCH BASIS FOR THE PLEDGES

## Brain Research

► Carol Dweck



# RESEARCH BASIS FOR THE PLEDGES

## **Educational Leadership**



[mathedleadership.org](http://mathedleadership.org)



