A **Personal Learning Network (PLN)** is similar to a social network but focuses on learning. It can be an informal learning network or a formal one. Another term used for PLNs is a Community of Practice or Learning Community, which shares ideas and knowledge and collaborates around a specific area of interest or vocation. Some networking sites have Groups that you can join to extend your knowledge about a topic of interest, see below.

**Benefits and Uses**

PLNs offer many benefits for **learners** such as:

- Access to global learning communities and expertise
- A place to discuss and explore with others, to ask questions
- Many other sources of information and knowledge
- Collaborative learning and sharing
- Self-directed and informal learning

**Personal Learning Network Options**

Education Network Australia (EdNA) Groups - [http://www.groups.edna.edu.au/](http://www.groups.edna.edu.au/)


Yahoo Groups - [http://groups.yahoo.com/](http://groups.yahoo.com/)

Blogs – [http://www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com)

Social Networking Tools: Facebook and Twitter.

**Find Out More ...**

The Innovative Educator – [Blogpost on PLNs](http://www.blogger.com)

Wikipedia Article on [Online Learning Communities](http://www.blogger.com)