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Embodiment and Cognitive Science

This book explores how people's subjective, felt experiences of their bodies in action provide part of the fundamental grounding for human cognition and language. Cognition is what occurs when the body engages the physical and cultural world, and it must be studied in terms of the dynamical interactions between people and the environment. Human language and thought emerge from recurring patterns of embodied activity that constrain ongoing intelligent behavior. We must not assume cognition to be purely internal, symbolic, computational, and disembodied, but seek out the gross and detailed ways in which language and thought are inextricably shaped by embodied action. *Embodiment and Cognitive Science* describes the abundance of empirical evidence from many disciplines, including work on perception, concepts, imagery and reasoning, language and communication, cognitive development, and emotions and consciousness, that support the idea that the mind is embodied.

Raymond W. Gibbs, Jr. is Professor of Psychology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He is the author of *The Poetics of Mind* and *Intentions in the Experience of Meaning*. He is coeditor (with G. Steen) of *Metaphor in Cognitive Linguistics* and editor of the interdisciplinary journal *Metaphor and Symbol*.

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