Illustrating LSP: Literacy for beginners in the Trowel occupations

Defining the Trowel Occupations
Module for illustration: Signs, signals and labels
Activity 1: signs and symbols used around the site

Trowel occupations

- Trowel occupations involves any occupation where any one of several hand tools used for digging, smoothing, or otherwise moving around small amounts of viscous or particulate material is used.
- Examples of trowel occupations are found in building and construction, digging, gardening, bricklaying and concrete construction
Skills checklist: Tick the skills you have already and then look at the checklist again when you have used the materials.

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<th>Skills for understanding signs, signals and labels Now</th>
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<td>Recognising and understanding safety signs</td>
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<td>Understanding and using hand signals</td>
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<td>Understanding risk assessments and site procedures</td>
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Learning outcomes

- To know that the shape and colour of signs indicates their purpose
- To interpret a range of symbols
Instructions to teachers

• Show learners a range of signs (full size) and ask for their meanings – include examples of different types of signs. Ask learners to identify on the site plan where they might find these signs.

• Using packs of cards in small groups, ask learners to sort the signs into different types by colour and shape and then to name each category. (Note: it is important that learners know the purpose of the categories but not necessarily the right terminology at this stage.)

Activities

• **Task 1:** Identify types of signs by shape
  - Remind learners that the shape of a sign gives an indication of the type of sign it is – prohibitive, mandatory, warning, etc.
  - Learners need to be familiar with the correct terms used to describe each type of sign. These are shown on the focus page.
  - Extension: Ask learners to give examples of actual signs that fit into each category shown

• **Task 2:** Put together shape, colour, written meaning and appropriate symbol to complete a sign
  - Remind learners that shape and colour indicate the type of message, and that symbols can give a message on their own.
  - Start by matching the shape and colour of the sign to the written message, then add the correct symbol.
  - Extension: Create a sign for a set hazard. Learners can use a computer to do this.
  - **Discuss with learners other signs on their site or in the workshop that are specific to their site (e.g. Report to ... before driving onto site; Your Health and Safety Officer is ...; This site is protected by...).**