

Heinemann supports the Government's Skills for Life initiative with the launch of Sure Skills

Oxford UK, 16 May 2006 - Sure Skills Literacy and Sure Skills Numeracy are two brand-new programmes of fully interactive e-courses designed especially to motivate learners to achieve goals for Adult Literacy and Adult Numeracy across Entry Level 3, Level 1 and Level 2.

Published by Heinemann, part of Harcourt, Sure Skills is structured to provide step-by-step learning of key topics from Literacy and Numeracy across these levels, supported by interactive activities to reinforce this learning and keep learners motivated.

Sure Skills can be used with classes of mixed abilities and allows tutors to cater to individuals by building personalised learning routes so everyone gets the most out of lessons, this increases motivation, ensures learners build their confidence through practice and ultimately helps them succeed in the National Tests. A Learner Management System sits behind the whole course, enabling tutors to monitor and track individual progress and see exactly how they are performing.

The Government's Skills for Life programme, a key initiative, aimed at improving adult literacy, language and numeracy skills and Adult Learner's Week (20-26 May 2006) highlight the importance of the launch of Sure Skills. The shocking statistics are that five million adults in the UK have skills below Level 1 in literacy and 15 million adults have skills below Level 1 in numeracy. Sure Skills really can make a difference.

The authors of Sure Skills are experts in the Skills for Life arena.

- **Jane Langford** is an experienced author of adult Literacy and Numeracy materials, and is a Lecturer in Additional Learning Support at Dudley College.
- **Tina Lawton** is an Education Consultant in Skills for Life and has an enviable track record in writing Skills for Life resources for both learners and tutors.
- **Marie Flanagan** is based in the Skills Zone Department of Warrington Collegiate, where she provides Numeracy support to individual students. She is also involved in mathematics teaching in various college departments, including Key Skills, Adult Numeracy, GCSE and the mathematical elements of vocational courses.





Jane Langford comments: “As a practising lecturer I know how important it is that learners on these courses have access to a high level of input and practice materials. Tutors need to be able to offer learners lots of reinforcement and consolidation, with relevant examples and contexts. Many tutors have to resort to resources made for a much younger age group, often resorting to either hand-made worksheets or primary school schemes. It is great that Sure Skills now provides a revolutionary solution with a bank of online resources at their fingertips that match the National Curricula.”

Jill Duffy, Director of Vocational learning at Harcourt, adds “We are extremely excited about Sure Skills. Our aim is to create resources that inspire generations and allow tutors to plan lessons as effectively as possible within the constraints on their time, never is this more critical than with adult learners. Sure Skills has the power to make a difference through its potential to break down barriers to learning in adults and we look forward to developing this area further.”

Find out more about Sure Skills at www.heinemann.co.uk/sureskills