

Learning work, learning to work: literacy, language and numeracy as vehicles for learning in Training Packages

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This paper reports on the recent project funded under the ANTA Adult Literacy National Project by the Commonwealth through the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs. It is one of six state based projects being undertaken through the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Australian Research Consortium (ALNARC) to investigate literacy and numeracy competencies in industry Training Package units.

The project undertook two levels of investigation, one being to explore the practices and strategies set in place by management to promote a culture of training and to integrate a knowledge and understanding of literacy and numeracy practice within that training culture. The other was an exploration of the actual pedagogical practices and learning strategies that are utilised as a medium for learning work and learning about work and the strategies explicitly related to the definitions of literacy and numeracy operational in the research sites. The paper will use the research findings to consider the literate practices employed as vehicles for learning in industry Training Packages, and to think about the implications of this for work related learning.