



# Tool Box Talk

Focus on Performance

## Archaeology

Sust. 29

### What?

Archaeological finds can help build to up a picture of the previous historic uses of a site. Items such as old structures, pots, coins, bones and even ash can all be of historical interest, and some may be legally protected.

### Why?

Preserving or recording archaeological finds tells us about the history of the site and wider area. Important archaeology may include items from prehistoric times through to the Industrial Revolution and even later.

Finds of buried treasure (gold or silver items) are required to be reported by law.

### How?

Archaeological finds may be unexpectedly discovered during excavation. If you discover any of the following on site, stop work, alert your Supervisor:

- Unexpected stonework
- Significant brick or tile fragments
- Pottery
- Coins or jewellery
- Bones

On some sites (of known archaeological interest) you may need to carry out any digging under supervision from an Archaeologist.

- The Archaeologist will direct you in how to carry out the excavation.
- Follow the Archaeologist's instructions and halt work if required.
- Be aware, excavating under an Archaeologist's supervision may significantly slow the work.



### Questions

1. Why are archaeological finds important?
2. What should you do if working under an Archaeologist's supervision?
3. What should you do if you find gold or silver items?

If you have any queries regarding the content of this tool box talk please contact your Sustainability Advisor or Line Manager.