

Overview: You are participating in the Colorado Literacy Project – an opportunity to teach and show Colorado students (K-4th grade) about agriculture in Colorado, and around the world. This year we are focusing on history and innovation in agriculture.

Book: *John Deere, That's Who!* by Tracy Nelson Maurer, illustrated by Tim Zeltner
This non-fiction book shares about the life of John Deere, a blacksmith from the 1830s who designed the steel plow to help farmers work their fields more efficiently. His invention changed the face of farming forever, and his company is still a leader in the farming equipment industry today. Your class gets to keep the book!

Time: 30-45 minutes

Education Standards:

The book reading, and lesson meet National Agriculture Literacy Standards as well as Colorado State Academic Standards for Reading, Writing and Communication.

National Agriculture Literacy Outcomes:

Culture, Society, Economy & Geography: Identify the people and careers involved from production to consumption of agricultural products (T5.K-2.e)
Science, Technology, Engineering & Math: Recognize and identify examples of simple tools and machines used in agricultural settings (T4.K-2.b)

Colorado State Academic Standards: Reading, Writing and Communicating

Kindergarten: Standard 2 Reading for All Purposes

2.2 A concept of print to read and a solid comprehension of informational text are the building blocks for reading
2.2.a.i With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text. (CCSS: RI.K.1)

1st grade: Standard 2 Reading for All Purposes

2.2 Comprehending and fluently reading a variety of informational texts are the beginning traits of readers
2.2.b.i Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text. (CCSS: RI.1.4)

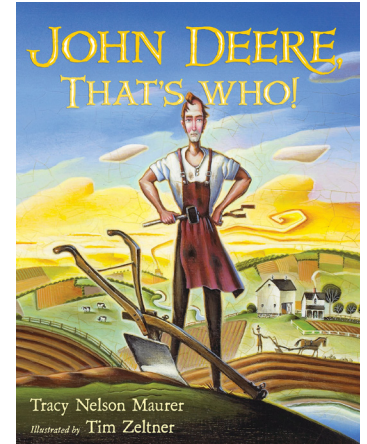
2nd grade: Standard 2 Reading for All Purposes

2.2 Fluent reading depends on specific skills and approaches to understanding strategies when reading informational text
2.2.a.i Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. (CCSS: RI.2.1)

Social Studies

2nd grade History

1.2.b Explain the past through oral or written firsthand accounts of history (DOK 1-2)



Additional activities and resources

Optional additional activities and resources associated with the book "John Deere, That's Who!" are available on the National Agriculture Literacy Curriculum Matrix. Feel free to explore these items by searching for the titles on the Curriculum Matrix found at www.GrowingYourFuture.com.

Lesson Plan: John Deere, That's Who! Students will explore how producers and consumers work together to meet human needs by using the book *John Deere, That's Who!*

Book: John Deere's Powerful Idea: The Perfect Plow John Deere's farm equipment brand is famous around the world, but people may not know the story behind the man himself. Deere's humble blacksmith beginnings and a simple plow eventually led to massive success, but it wasn't easy. The story behind the name will give readers new appreciation for the popular green tractors and equipment around today.

Website: The History of the Tractor How much thought have you given to the great American tractor? If you have food on your table, you have the tractor to thank for it. This website outlines the history and timeline of the tractor and how it has revolutionized farming.

Website: Tractor Timeline- A History of Tractors Use this interactive tractor timeline to learn about the history of tractors. Dive into the history of tractor development and see how the evolution of these farm implements has changed how we farm and made it possible to increase our crop yields. Go to: www.fastline.com/tractortimeline