Make a Shape Tractor

Farmers do a lot to prepare the soil for planting and to care for the crop and harvest. One of the farmer’s most helpful pieces of equipment is the tractor. Tractors come in many different sizes and have different attachments that help them accomplish various tasks, such as planting, mowing, or baling hay. Before tractors, farmers used horses or other animals to help plow and harvest the crops. Provide children with an opportunity to learn about farm machines while practicing their shapes and following directions.

You will need:

The following shapes cut out of construction paper –
- One square per child
- One rectangle per child
- 2 circles per child
- Assorted other shapes

Glue
Paper

How to:

1. Discuss with children that farmers use a variety of machines to do their job. Ask children if they can name any. Discuss what a tractor is and what farmers use it for.
2. Pass out one piece of white paper to each child along with glue, one square, one rectangle, and 2 circles.
3. Tell students to glue their rectangle down first, so that the wide part goes left to right (horizontally). Next, glue the square above the rectangle on the left side. Lastly, glue the circles below the rectangle, one on the left side and one on the right side.
4. After they have completed their tractors, pass out other assorted shapes cut out of construction paper and have them complete their farm scenes (example: a circle may be the sun, a square and triangle may be a barn).

Suggested Books:

- Grandpa’s Tractor by Michael Garland
- Fantastic Farm Machines by Cris Peterson
- Farm Tractors by Matt Doeden
- I Drive a Tractor by Michelle Wagner Nechaev
- Touch and Feel Tractor by Gary Paulson

For more resources to connect children to agriculture visit AgInTheClass.org.