

Tractor & Machinery Safety















Objective

Here we introduce the children to the various types of farm machinery & vehicles that are commonly used on a farm and how the farmer must be responsible and safe when using them. Note: In older the groups we delve into more detail on quad bikes.

Getting Started

Ask the children to name different types of farm machinery or vehicles that might be used on farm. Now ask them what each piece of machinery does, the prompt guide below will help you with the discussion.

Farm Machinery & Vehicles		
<p>Tractors – vehicles</p> <p>Used on farms to pull equipment such as ploughs, harrows, slurry agitators, etc.</p> 	<p>Plough</p> <p>Digs up the earth to loosen the soil or before the farmer sows the next crop in their field</p> 	<p>Trailers</p> <p>Normally pulled by a tractor and used to carry a variety of products around the farm, such as grain and food crops.</p> 
<p>Combine Harvester - Vehicles</p> <p>Cuts and harvests grain and cereal crops.</p> 	<p>Slurry / Muck spreader</p> <p>Spreads slurry across the farmer's fields</p> 	<p>Cultivator / Tillers</p> <p>Used after ploughing to break down the soil and prepare it for sowing seed.</p> 
<p>Slurry agitator</p> <p>A slurry agitator is used to mix (agitate) slurry which is kept in the slurry tank / pit.</p> 	<p>Mowers</p> <p>Cuts grass when making hay, silage, haylage. Can also be used to keep fields tidy</p> 	<p>Topper</p> <p>Used to keep fields tidy by cutting weeds and long grasses, rushes, etc.</p> 
<p>Sprayer</p> <p>Sprays fertilisers or pesticides on crops to keep them healthy</p> 	<p>Diet Feeder</p> <p>A diet feeder weighs, mixes, and shares out animal feed.</p> 	<p>Quad Bike – vehicles</p> <p>4 wheel motorised bike used to drive across fields. They are only not suitable for passengers and safety equipment must be worn.</p> 

<p>Hay Turner</p> <p>When grass has been cut, the turner is used to turn the grass so it can dry in the sun and be baled for hay.</p> 	<p>Baler</p> <p>Used to bale hay and straw. Bales can be round, small rectangle or larger rectangle.</p> 	<p>Sower</p> <p>Used to sow crop seeds such as barley, oats and wheat</p> 
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Tractors	Staying Safe
<p>Types / brands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Deere • New Holland • Massey Ferguson • Deutz • McCormick • Fendt • Claas • Ford • Case • David Brown • Landini • Zetor • Fiat • Valtra • International <p><i>Have we missed any??</i></p>	<p>1. Blind spots – You cannot be seen</p> <p>Remind the children never to stand near a moving tractor! Visibility can be limited for farmers when sitting high up in tractors, combine harvesters, etc.</p> <p>They must <u>NEVER</u> play near a moving tractor or any other type of farm machinery as the farmer may not see them. Look at the picture below and note where the blind spots are located.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>FRONT</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>BEHIND</p>  </div> </div> <p>Suggested Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite a local farmer or tractor expert to visit to learn more about what they do and learn more about blind spots. (see below) • In the absence of a real tractor, draw a tractor outline with chalk on a hard surface. Ask the children to mark where they think the 'blind spot' will be. • Read 'The Red Tractor' or watch it via the link online. • Complete the 'Tractor' exercises in the workbook. • Do a poll in the classroom to find out which tractor is the children's favourite. • Do our colouring fun <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 20px;">   </div>