

OBJECTIVE

Learn about the various types of farm machinery and equipment that are commonly used on a farm and how the farmer must be responsible and safe when using tractors.

**PROPS**

A hi vis vest.
Stuff toys
Hand held mirror

GETTING STARTED**1. The Seasons:**

Write the four seasons on the blackboard.

Spring ● **Summer** ● **Autumn** ● **Winter**.

Now ask the children to mention key farm activities that take place in each season:

eg. **Spring:** lambing, calving, sowing crops, ploughing the soil ● **Summer:** hay making, baling, etc. ● **Autumn:** Harvest ● **Winter:** slurry spreading (Jan/Feb), ploughing, etc.

Now ask them to mention key farm machinery used during each season.

**2. Tractor Driving:**

It's time for some tractor work!

Choose one child to play the role of the farmer and ask them to bring their chair to the top of the class. Now ask the class to list out the various safety checks the 'farmer' must do before they start their day's work.



Now ask the 'farmer' to put on their hi vis vest and to pretend to sit into the tractor – what else must they put on at this point – **their seat belt!**

Remind the children why seat belts are so important.

3. Blindspots:

Ask one child to come to the top of the class, they are our tractor driver. As them to stand tall and to look straight ahead. At their feet place three soft toys. Ask the class if they can see the toys.

Now as the child who is standing tall if they can see the toys at their feet? They will not be able to see them even though they are closest to them.

Now give a soft toy to three children sitting down in front and ask again if our tractor driver can see toys while still looking ahead.

The class will realise that the toys can be seen when they are further away from the driver, hence with tractor blindspots they further away you are the more likely the farmer can see you when in their tractor.

Now ask another child to be the 'tractor driver'. As them to stand with their back to the class and holding mirror ask them to describe what they can see behind them. They cannot move the mirror they must hold it fixed as this is how the wing mirror on a tractor would be.

Do they understand how limited their vision behind is?

4. STOPIT

On a piece of paper ask the children to write the letters: **STOPIT**. Now as a class see if they can recall the Safe Stop procedure by using the letters. Put the answers up on the board and the children can copy them down.

**How about rewarding the class with some fun activities,
like maybe drawing their own farmyard scene!
Showing some of the safety tips they have learnt.**