Shape Tractor

Content Areas
Math: Geometry

Objective
Students will be able to:
- Identify basic shapes and manipulate to create a tractor

Materials
- White paper
- Pre-cut construction paper shapes
  - 1 rectangle, 1 square, 2 circles, and 1 triangle per student
- Glue sticks

Background Knowledge
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.

Procedure
1. Begin by reading students a book about farm tractors. Check out Literacy Connection for suggestions. Discuss with students how tractors help farmers on the farm. Have them act out with their arms how the circular wheels roll.
2. Review standard shapes by pointing out various shapes that can be seen in the book.
3. Give each student a piece of white paper and the pre-cut shapes, as well as a glue stick.
4. Instruct students to glue the two circles near the bottom of the page. Next, glue the rectangle on top. Then, glue the square on top of the rectangle. Lastly, glue the triangle to the front. You may choose to model this by using a large sample of the shapes at the front of the class.
5. Have students decorate the background with a farm scene including their favorite farm animals/crops.

Extension
Bring in objects representing the various shapes, such as old milk cartons, cereal boxes, and frozen juice containers. Have students use the objects to create tractors.

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