

Terrific Tractors: Reading Adventures!

Lesson Activities:

1. Introduction: Tractor Talk! (5-10 minutes)

Start by engaging your student's interest. Ask questions like: 'What do you already know about tractors?', 'What sounds do they make?', 'What jobs do tractors do on a farm or construction site?' Look at the cover of the selected book/article together and predict what it might be about.

2. Vocabulary Power-Up (5 minutes)

Before reading, introduce 3-4 key vocabulary words from the text that might be new. Examples could include: 'engine', 'plow', 'harvest', 'tire', 'hitch'. Briefly explain each word, perhaps using pictures or actions. If using vocabulary cards, show them now.

3. Reading Time: Tractor Tales (15-20 minutes)

Read the selected tractor text together. You can read aloud, have the student read sections, or take turns reading paragraphs (shared reading). Pause occasionally to ask clarifying questions or discuss what's happening. Encourage the student to point out the new vocabulary words when they appear.

4. Comprehension Check-In (10 minutes)

After reading, discuss the story or passage. Ask questions to check understanding:

- 'What was the most important thing that happened in this story/article (main idea)?'
- 'Who were the main characters (if fiction)?'
- 'What jobs did the tractor(s) do?'
- 'Can you tell me what happened first, next, and last in the story?'
- Use the new vocabulary words in a question, like 'What did the tractor use the plow for?'

5. Creative Connection: Tractor Drawing (10-15 minutes)

Ask the student to draw their favorite part of the story or draw a tractor doing one of the jobs mentioned in the text. Encourage them to label parts of the tractor or use one of the new vocabulary words in a caption or label for their drawing.

6. Wrap-up: Tractor Recap (5 minutes)

Briefly review what you read about. Ask the student to share their drawing and explain it. Revisit the new vocabulary words one last time. Praise their effort and enthusiasm for reading about tractors!

Differentiation Ideas:

- **Support:** Use a simpler text with more pictures. Focus on just 1-2 vocabulary words. Ask yes/no or choice questions instead of open-ended ones. Allow verbal answers instead of written ones.
- **Challenge:** Use a slightly more complex text. Ask 'why' or 'how' questions. Have the student write sentences using the new vocabulary words. Ask them to retell the entire story in their own words.