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# Old Macdonald Drives a Tractor

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Carter, Don. *Old Macdonald Drives a Tractor*. Illustrated by Don Carter. Roaring Brook Press, 2007. ISBN 978-1-59643-023-5. \$14.95. [24] p.

Reviewer: Sandra L. Tidwell

Reading Level: Toddler, preschool

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Picture Books; Contemporary Realistic Poetry;

Subject: Farm Life—Juvenile literature; Tractors—Juvenile literature; Stories in rhyme—Juvenile literature

"Work, work here. Work, work there." Instead of the animals on Old MacDonald's farm, readers are introduced to the different farm equipment Old MacDonald uses to accomplish his tasks. While driving his tractor, he pulls a plow, a cultivator, a seed drill, a sprayer, a combine, a spreader, a harvester, a baler, and a flatbed trailer. The words are a creative adaptation of the familiar "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" song.

Carter's interesting colorful illustrations are made of various building supplies, including foam board, drywall compound, and acrylic paint. As each new machine is introduced, the history of farming tasks and how they have been and are now completed can be discussed. Classes can also contrast farms then and now. Can also be incorporated into music/activity time as the group sings/acts out the farmer's duties as the pages are turned.