

This Little Pig

Grade Level: 1

Approximate Length of Activity: One class period

Objective

Teacher

1. Discuss different facts about pigs with students.
2. Encourage students to develop a curiosity for vocabulary.

Students

1. Hear basic information about swine.
2. Write and identify vocabulary words relating to the subject.

Michigan Content Standards: (Language Arts) R.WS.01.10; W.PR.01.02; W.AT.01.01

Background

Pigs and hogs are part of the swine family. Male swine are called “boars.” Female swine are called “sows.” Baby pigs are called “pigs” until they reach a weight of about 240 pounds. Then they are called “hogs.”

A sow gives birth to a litter of pigs about twice a year. A litter usually has eight to 12 baby pigs. Some people think pigs are greedy because that is how baby pigs look when they are competing for food from their mothers. But pigs never overeat. Once a pig is full, it stops eating.

Swine eat corn, wheat and other grains. Bacon, pork sausage, pork chops and ham all come from swine.

Materials Needed

- Copies of “This Little Pig” worksheets A and B

Activity Outline

1. Write the word “pig” on the chalkboard.
 - Ask students what words they think of when you say the word “pig.”
 - Write the words on the chalkboard.
2. Read the background to students.
 - Students will raise their hands when they hear words that are unfamiliar.
 - Write those words on the chalkboard and discuss their meaning.
 - Discuss the swine-related vocabulary words on “This Little Pig” Student Worksheet A.
3. Hand out “This Little Pig” Student Worksheet A.
 - Students will place swine-related words under the appropriate pictures.
4. Hand out “This Little Pig” Student Worksheet B.
 - Read the sentences to students.
 - Students will underline the vocabulary words in the sentence.
 - Students will draw pictures to illustrate vocabulary words.
5. Lead a discussion about stereotypes. People have perceptions about pigs that are not true. (“Pigs are greedy.”) Ask students, “Have you ever had a perception about another person that you found not to be true after you got to know the person?”
6. Acquire several different versions of “The Three Little Pigs.”
 - Students will compare the stories.
 - Students will write a modern version of the story.
 - Students will act out their story.
7. Students will write a cooperative class poem.
 - Students will write adjectives on index cards.
 - On the chalk board write the following, and fill in the blanks with adjectives from the cards:
I like _____ _____ pigs.
Don’t forget _____ _____ pigs.
_____ _____ too.
Those are just a few.
Last of all, best of all _____ _____ pigs.
8. Divide students into groups of four or five.
 - Each group will write a recipe for “Pigs in a Blanket,” using canned crescent rolls and small sausages.
 - The groups will trade recipes and follow the instructions provided by the other group.
9. Students will illustrate and make a pig flip book, using vocabulary words.
10. Use the vocabulary words to develop word families.



Discussion Questions

1. What is a female pig called?
2. What is a male pig called?
3. What is a baby pig called?
4. Do pigs overeat?

Related Activities

1. For more information and activities, contact the Michigan Pork Producers Association, 4801 Willoughby Rd. #5, Holt, MI 48842, (517)-699-2145. www.mipork.org
2. The lesson "Truth or Hogwash" located in the language arts section of this curriculum guide.

Book Resources

1. "Color Farm" by Lois Ehlert
2. "Farm Animals" by Marc Grave and Grace Goldberg
3. "About Mammals: A Guide for Children" by Cathryn Sill and John Sill
4. "Do Pigs Have Stripes?" by Melanie Walsh
5. "Life on a Pig Farm" by Judy Wolfman and David Lorenz Winston

Acknowledgment: Adapted from "This Little Pig," Oklahoma Agriculture in the Classroom.

This Little Pig

Worksheet A

Directions:

Write the swine words above the correct pictures.

Color the pictures.

Swine Words

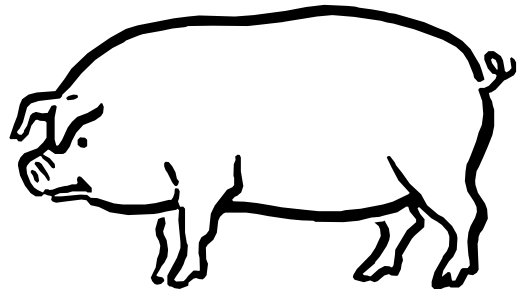
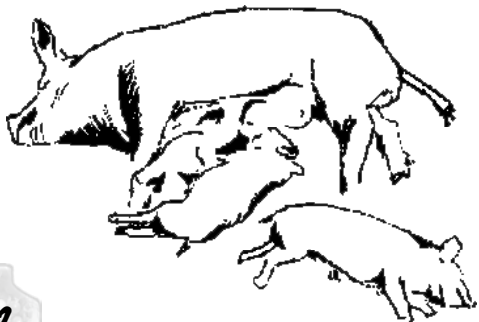
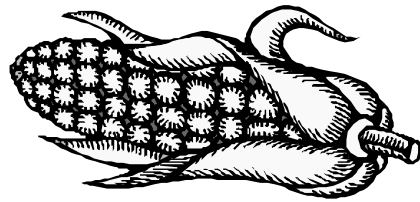
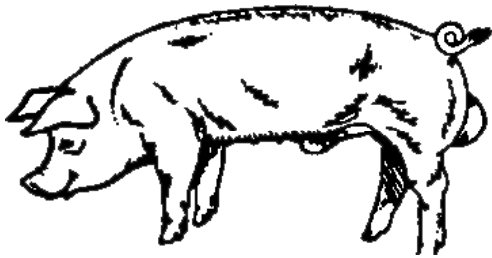
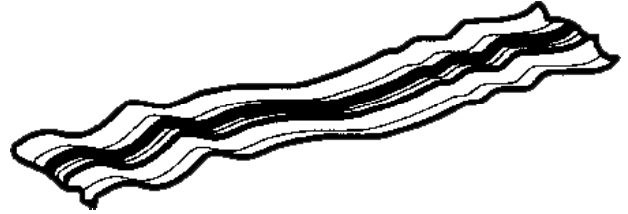
litter

corn

bacon

boar

sow



This Little Pig

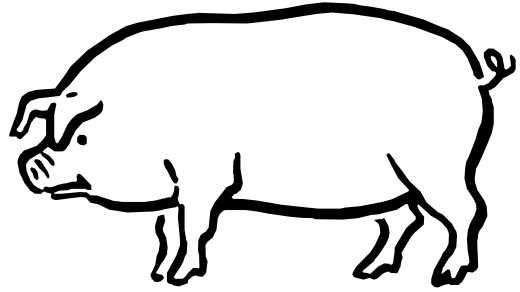
Worksheet B

Directions:

Underline the agriculture words in the sentences below. Draw a picture that describes the sentence.

Swine Words

bacon
boar
corn
litter
pig
sow
swine



This is a swine.

Swine eat corn.

A mother swine is called a sow.

The sow gives birth to a litter of baby pigs.

The daddy swine is called a boar.

We eat bacon for breakfast in the morning.