**This Little Pig**

**Objective**
Students will read about swine and complete vocabulary worksheets. Students will use plastic bottles to make models of different breeds of pigs and compare.

**Materials**
- 1-liter size plastic bottles
- markers

**Procedures**
1. Read and discuss background and vocabulary.
   — Students will raise their hands when they hear words that are unfamiliar.
   — Write those words on the chalkboard and discuss their meaning.
2. 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.
3. Students will list words that rhyme with “pig.”
4. Hand out Student Worksheet A.
   — Students will place swine-related words under the appropriate pictures.
5. Hand out Student Worksheet B.
   — Read the sentences to students.
   — Students will underline the vocabulary words in the sentences.
   — Students will draw pictures to illustrate vocabulary words.
   — Students will read independently and use the Reading Page to answer questions on the worksheet.
7. Students will make a list of common phrases associated with swine (living high on the hog, acting like a pig in a poke, being in hog heaven).
   — Students will research the meaning of the phrases and their origins.
8. Read several different versions of “The Three Little Pigs.”
   — Students will compare the stories.
   — Students will write a modern version of the story.
9. Discuss the descriptions of the four swine breeds described in the background.
   — Write the names of the four breeds on the chalkboard, along with the descriptions.
   — Students will draw simple pictures of the four breeds and label them.
   — Each student will select one of the four breeds and make a model of it using plastic bottles and markers.
10. After completing their models, students will sort them according to breed.
    — Students will count the models from each breed and create simple graphs to show the distribution.

**Oklahoma Academic Standards**

**PRE-KINDERGARTEN**

**Speaking and Listening:**
R.1,2,3,4; W.1

**Phonological Awareness:**

**Reading and Writing Process:**
R; W. Critical Reading and Writing:
R.2,3,4; W. Vocabulary: 1,2,3

**KINDERGARTEN**

**Speaking and Listening:**
R.1,2,3,4; W.1

**Phonological Awareness:**
2,6. Print Concepts: 2,4,5.

**Fluency:**
2. Reading and Writing Process: R.1; W.1,2,3. Critical Reading and Writing: R.2,3,4; W. Vocabulary: R.1,2,3; W.1

**GRADE 1**

**Speaking and Listening:**
R.1,2,3,4; W.1

**Phonological Awareness:**

**Fluency:**
1. Reading and Writing Process: R.1,3; W.1,2. Critical Reading and Writing: R.2,3,4; W.1. Vocabulary: R.1,3; W.1

**GRADE 2**

**Speaking and Listening:**
R.1,2,3,4; W.1. Print Concepts. Fluency: 1. Critical Reading and Writing: R.5,6,7; W.1. Vocabulary: R.1,3; W.1

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Pigs and Hogs

Swine were among the first of all animals to be domesticated — around 6,000 years ago. A domesticated animal is one that is trained to live in a human environment and be of use to humans. The Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto brought the first swine to the New World in 1539.

Female swine are called sows. Sows give birth to litters of pigs twice a year. Each litter usually has eight to 12 baby pigs. Giving birth to baby pigs is called farrowing. Baby pigs appear very greedy when they are competing for food from their mothers. For this reason the words “pig” and “hog” have come to be associated with greedy behavior. Despite their reputation, pigs will never overeat. Once a pig is full, it stops eating.

Pigs are weaned when they are two to four weeks old. They are called “nursery pigs” until they reach 50 pounds and “growing/finishing pigs” from then until they reach about 240 pounds. After that they are called hogs. Hogs are usually taken to market when they weigh 240-280 pounds.

In the past, hogs were fed table scraps and had a reputation for eating just about anything. The meat from hogs fed that way was very high in fat. Today’s swine producers are more careful about what they feed their animals. Some of the food fed to swine are corn, wheat and soybean meal. Vitamins and minerals are added to increase growth and improve health. Today’s hogs weigh more, but because producers plan their diets carefully, they grow more efficiently and yield more lean meat than ever before. Bacon, pork sausage, pork chops and ham all come from hogs. In addition, swine are used in the production of non-food products like fertilizer, glass, china, floor wax, chalk, crayons, and heart valves.

Pork provides protein, B-vitamins and thiamin to our diets. Pork has three times as much thiamin as any other food. Thiamin changes carbohydrates into energy and promotes a healthy appetite.

There are 377 breeds of pigs around the world. In Oklahoma the most common breeds are Duroc, Hampshire, Yorkshire, Poland and Spot. Duroc pigs are mostly red but can be yellow or golden yellow. They are medium in length with droopy ears. Yorkshire hogs are white. Hampshire hogs are black with a white belt. Poland hogs are black and have droopy ears. Spots are white, with black spots.
This Little Pig

Swine Words
- litter
- bacon
- corn
- boar
- sow

Write the swine words under the correct pictures. Color the pictures.

Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom is a program of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and the Oklahoma State Department of Education.
This Little Pig

Underline the agriculture words in the sentences below.

1. This is a swine.

2. Swine eat corn.

3. A mother swine is called a sow.

4. The sow gives birth to a litter of baby pigs.

5. The daddy swine is called a boar.

Swine Words

sow  
litter  
swine  
boar  
corn

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Name____________________________________________________________

Context Clues/Vocabulary Questions

1. What word from paragraph one means “trained to live in a human environment?”
   a. trained   b. domesticated   c. farrowing   d. swine

2. What word from paragraph 3 means “no longer drinking milk from the mother?”
   a. nursery   b. finishing   c. market   d. weaned

3. What does the word “litter” mean, as it is used in this story?
   a. The young born to an animal at a single time.
   b. A messy collection of things scattered about.
   c. A device used to carry an injured person.

4. What word from the story could be included in this list of synonyms? Look in paragraph two.
   grasping, coveting, desirous, unquenchable, piggish ____________

5. What word from paragraph four means “to make better?” ____________

6. Re-read this sentence from the story. “In the past, hogs were fed table scraps and had a reputation for eating just about anything.” What is another way to say that hogs had a reputation for eating just about anything?
   a. Hogs were able to eat anything.
   b. Hogs were known for eating anything.
   c. Hogs refused to eat anything.

7. Which definition for “appetite” is closest to the way it is used in the last paragraph?
   a. The need for food.
   b. A strong wish for something.
   c. Positive regard for something.
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   improve

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