This Little Pig

Objective

Students will read basic information about swine and write and identify related vocabulary words.

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.

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.

Language Arts

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. Students will list words that rhyme with “pig.”
3. Read and discuss background.
   — 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 Student Worksheet A.
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.
6. Read 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 stories.
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.
—Students will copy and illustrate the poem.
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.

Visual Art
1. 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.
2. 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.

Extra Reading

www.agclassroom.org/ok
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