1. Pigs overeat and really “pig out.”

2. On modern hog farms, hogs are fed table scraps and garbage.

3. A hog is ready to go to market when it weighs between 260-280 pounds.

4. Pigs have small eyes and poor eyesight.

5. Hogs lay in the mud because they are lazy and dirty.

6. Most hogs are raised in temperature controlled buildings.

7. Female hogs, called sows, are pregnant for 3 months, 3 weeks, and 3 days before giving birth.

8. Pigs are primarily raised to produce meat such as bacon, ham, sausage, and pork chops.
(2) **Hogwash:** Pigs are fed carefully balanced rations matched to their age and weight that consist of feeds such as corn, barley, and soybeans.

*Ration* – amount of feed consumed by one animal for one day.

(4) **Truth:** They have poor eyesight. However, they have a strong sense of smell.

(6) **Truth:** Pigs live in clean, modern buildings that protect them from weather and predators and provide optimum temperatures. Fans and sprinkling systems cool pigs in the summer. Heat lamps and heaters warm them in the winter.

(1) **Hogwash:** Pigs stop eating when they have reached their energy requirements. When compared to humans, pigs eat more frequently throughout the day and in smaller amounts.

(3) **Truth:** Most market pigs weigh 260-280 pounds and produce about 140 pounds of consumable meat.

(5) **Hogwash:** Pigs roll in mud or water to cool off. Pigs do not have sweat glands and cannot cool down by sweating. As mud dries on their skin, water evaporates and cools the pig as well as providing a protective barrier from the sun.

(8) **Truth:** Pigs produce meat that provides protein and vitamins to our diet.

(7) **Truth:** Sows are pregnant for about 114 days before they give birth to a litter of piglets. Each sow has an average litter of 10-14 piglets.
9. Pig heart valves are used to replace damaged human heart valves.

10. Pork products produced on farms in the United States are only used in our own country.

11. In order to gain one pound of body weight, a pig must eat 2.5 – 3 pounds of feed.

12. A newborn piglet is approximately the same size as a human baby.

13. Chewing gum, crayons, bristle brushes and drum heads are all by-products of hogs.
(10) **Hogwash:** Pork products from the United States are shipped all over the world. Japan and Mexico are the leading buyers.

(9) **Truth:** Heart valves from pigs are used to replace diseased/damaged heart valves because they function the same way as a human heart valve.

(12) **Hogwash:** Newborn pigs weight about 3 pounds and are 11 inches long. Newborn human babies in the U.S. average around 7.5 pounds and 20 inches long. Newborn pigs are half the size of a newborn baby.

(11) **Truth:** Pigs gain one pound of weight after eating 2.5 – 3 pounds of feed. This is called *feed conversion*.

(13) **Truth:** The parts that cannot be used for food (blood, bones, hooves, hair, hide, and fat) are used to make these *by-products*.

*By-product*- a secondary product made from what would otherwise be wasted.