

SWINE — Elementary







Photos from the United Soybean Board

Today, Oklahoma has over two million hogs. Pork is the most widely consumed meat in the world. Hogs were one of the first animals to be domesticated. Swine, hogs, and pigs are all the same animal! Male swine are called boars. 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.

Hogs are actually very smart animals! In fact, they are known to be in the top 10 of the smartest animals in the world. They learn to push a lever in the barnyard to get a drink of water or some food. They have also been taught to tumble, race, pull carts, dance, and hunt. Hogs are unable to sweat, so they roll around in the mud to keep cool. Not only do hogs provide us meat, called pork, but they are also commonly used in the medical field.





Swine are used in the production of chewing gum and nonfood products like adhesives, plastics, shoes, paint, fertilizer, glass, china, floor wax, chalk, crayons, and heart valves.

HAM PINWHEELS



INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tortilla
- 1/4 cup cream cheese
- 1 teaspoon yellow mustard
- 3 slices ham
- 3 romaine lettuce leaves

DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Spread one side of tortilla with cream cheese to the edge. Add mustard to taste.
- 2. Layer tortillas with ham and then lettuce leaves.
- 3. Roll tortilla tightly. Set seam side down.
- 4. Cut roll crosswise into six pieces.
- 5. If making the day before, wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate. Slice the next day.

BUILD A PIG BARN

Like humans and other animals, pigs have four basic needs – air, water, food, and shelter. Pigs raised on farms live in environments that are designed to help farmers meet those needs. Barns protect pigs from weather, disease, and predators. Farmers provide pigs with fresh air, clean water, nutritious food, and shelter.

MATERIALS:

- 4 business-size envelopes
- Paper towel
- 2 toilet paper rolls
- 2 drinking straws (cut into 8 equal pieces)
- Scissors
- Scotch tape
- 8.5" x 11" white paper (cut in half)
- Markers (optional)
- Extra paper for making fencing, pipes, feed troughs, etc. (optional)



WATCH AN EXAMPLE OF A BARN BEING MADE OUT OF MATERIALS

SWINE VOCAB

FARROWING HOUSE

A facility where a litter of pigs is born.

LITTER

The group of young animals born at a time.

NURSERY BARN

A barn where piglets live after they are weaned at three weeks old until they are moved to the finishing barn at eight weeks old.

OMNIVORE

An animal or person who eats food of both plant and animal origin.

PIGLET

A baby pig.

PORK

Meat that comes from pigs.

PREDATOR

An animal who preys on others.

SOW A mother pig.

WEAN

To help a baby to stop feeding on its mother's milk and to eat other foods.