



STEMsational Ag: The Virtual Farm

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



Module 7: Bacon the Pig UNIT 1: PIGS LOVE SLOP Grades 3 – 5



 **National Institute of Food and Agriculture**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MIDDLE TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY.
CENTER FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MIDDLE TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY.
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

MIDDLE TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY.

I AM *true*
BLUE
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

MT 
Fermentation Science

This work is supported by the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, Education and Workforce Development Program. [grant no. 2021-67037-33380/project accession no. 1024880], from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and should not be construed to represent any official USDA or U.S. Government determination or policy.

0722-0800 / Middle Tennessee State University does not discriminate against students, employees, or applicants for admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, age, status as a protected veteran, genetic information, or any other legally protected class with respect to all employment, programs, and activities sponsored by MTSU. The Assistant to the President for Institutional Equity and Compliance has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and can be reached at Cope Administration Building 116, 1301 East Main Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37132; Christy.Sigler@mtsu.edu; or 615-898-2185. The MTSU policy on non-discrimination can be found at mtsu.edu/iec.

Materials are intended for educational purposes only. Content Contributors and the STEMsational Ag team have reviewed to ensure all content is cited. Please contact STEMsationalAg@mtsu.edu with any concerns.



Module 7: Bacon the Pig
UNIT 1: PIGS LOVE SLOP
Grades 3 – 5



3rd – 5th Grade:

Introduction to the Unit:

Explore the world of pigs and their role in agriculture.

Pre-assessment

Did you know that kids around the world exhibit pigs? Think about it like a beauty pageant for pigs!

- ▶ Draw a picture with a few sentences (summary) of what you think life would look like at a pig show. What do you think the judges would be looking for?

Purpose

The purpose of this lesson is to learn common vocabulary used with pigs, identify common products that come from pigs, and explore key job responsibilities of a pig farmer and showman.

Student Learning Outcomes for the Unit:

- ▶ Student will identify common vocabulary used with pigs
- ▶ Student will identify key job responsibilities of a pig farmer and showman
- ▶ Student will identify common products that come from pigs



National Agricultural Literacy Outcomes

Culture, Society, Economy & Geography Outcomes, Theme 5

T5.3-5

B. Discover that there are many jobs in agriculture

Vocabulary Words:

- ▶ **Boar:** a mature male swine
- ▶ **Farrowing:** giving birth to pigs
- ▶ **Gilt:** a young female swine that has not had a litter
- ▶ **Litter:** the young born to an animal at a single time
- ▶ **Pork:** the flesh of a pig or hog used as food
- ▶ **Sow:** a mature female swine who has given birth to piglets

Materials Needed:

- ▶ Writing utensil
- ▶ Scissors
- ▶ Glue

Activity 1: Pig Show

On the following pages, view the video screenshots and follow the narration from the video, "Kentucky Farms Feed Me - Visit a Pig Show and Pig Farm".

After watching the video, answer the following questions:

1. How do they get pigs ready for a show?
2. Where do showmen tap to encourage pigs to move forward?
3. What products come from pigs?
4. True or False: Pig farmers produce three times more pork than they did 50 years ago by utilizing technology and health management.
5. What are some of the daily tasks of the pig farmer in the video?

You can check your answers at the end of this lesson in the "Answer Key" section on page 13.



Kentucky Farms Feed Me: Visit a Pig Show and Pig Farm

Also available online at: <https://youtu.be/Y2heVNL3wC8>



The Kentucky state fair is home to many great Ag traditions including different livestock shows like swine.



Hi, I'm Kylie! Today I'm with Colton Fitzpatrick from Boyle County, Kentucky.

[KYLIE]: Hi, Colton!

[COLTON]: Hi, Kylie!



[KYLIE]: How many years have you been showing?

[COLTON]: Six years. I started showing when I was two years old.



[KYLIE]: What kind of pigs do you show?

[COLTON]: I show different breeds ...
Hampshires, Yorkshires ...

[KYLIE]: There's so many piggies. What do you have to do to get the pigs ready?



[COLTON]: You have to feed them, water them, brush them, and get them to the makeup ring. And then you show the pig, and the judge looks at your pig.



[KYLIE]: Colton was determined to teach me everything he knew about taking care of a pig.

[COLTON]: Now this is a trick that I have to do.
Spray the stuff on them.

[KYLIE]: Where?

[COLTON]: Maybe right here - around here.

[KYLIE]: Oh, that's a lot. Look at that!

[COLTON]: He loves it. He likes that
coconut oil.



[KYLIE]: How do you get them to walk around where you want them to?

[COLTON]: You tap them on the ribs to go. And you tap them on their left cheek to go right, and you tap them on the other side to go left.



[KYLIE]: I have to do this?

[COLTON]: Remember, it's like how I taught you - like walking a dog, okay?

[KYLIE]: What could go wrong - just walking a pig?



[COLTON]: Right here. Right there. Yeah, you're doing great.

[KYLIE]: What?!

[COLTON]: Wait! Let me see the whip for a second.



[KYLIE]: Go. Goodbye. Go. Go. Which way do I want him to turn? This way? Go. Go. Where'd he go? Go, Hoodie. Turn. Turn, Hoodie.

Maybe it's time to hand it back to Colton!



[KYLIE]: What do the judges look for in the pigs?

[COLTON]: They look for a little bit of fat, but you don't want them to have too much fat. They also are looking for muscle in their legs.



[KYLIE]: What do you like about it?

[COLTON]: Well, it's mostly fun. It's been going in the family for generations; and it's really kind of fun going state to state.



[KYLIE]: Let's head over to Shady Rest Farm in LaRue County where, as a pig farmer Caleb Ragland calls it, it's hog heaven.



[CALEB]: Here on Shady Rest Farm we like to think that our pigs are in "hog heaven." There's about 4,000 sows that live on this farm which is a whole lot of pigs, but each one is able to have individual care due to the way our farm is designed.



We use individual stalls for housing of each of the sows. That gives us the ability for each sow to get the exact amount of feed that she needs to eat



each day.

We're able to provide the exact vitamins, minerals protein, and everything. We've got everything she needs right there in front of her. The individual care cannot be matched in any other management setting.



She has her own individual water. She has her own individual area that's hers.



We have climate control in our buildings. It's a hot day today. It's going to get close to 90 degrees, but inside our barns it's going to be somewhere in the mid to high 70s.



Then in the winter, we're heated and insulated. And it'll stay 65 to 70 degrees on even the coldest days. Last winter we had some days below zero and yet the pigs here in the barn stayed nice and comfortable.



The amount of pigs we can produce in a year is close to three times what would have been produced on average 50 years ago. So through technology and better management, we're able



to produce more pork per pig.
[KYLIE]: What's your favorite pork product?



[COLTON]: Sausage!

[KYLIE]: Has he not heard of pork chops? Ribs? Ham? and

... oh yeah ... Bacon?!

[COLTON]: And pizza sausage, too!

[KYLIE]: Yeah, pizza sausage is good.

[COLTON]: Oh man, it's best.

[KYLIE]: Yeah.

I want to thank Colton and Caleb for both teaching me about pigs today.

I hope you learned as much as I did!





Activity 2: "This Little Pig" Vocabulary Activity

Directions:

Read the following sentences and identify which words in each sentence are agriculture words.

- 1) This is 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.

You can check your answers at the end of this lesson in the "Answer Key" section on page 13.



Activity 3: Pork Primal Cuts Worksheet

Follow the activity directions to correctly place the parts of the pig on the blank pig. You can check your answers at the end of this lesson in the "Answer Key" section on page 13.



Name: _____



Primal cuts are the large cuts of meat. Retail cuts are the meat selections you will find for sale at the grocery store. A basic understanding of primal cuts and retail cuts helps you better understand what meat is available for purchase. **Research and use the clues to match the correct primal cuts of pork on this page with the correct part of the pig on the back of this sheet.**

SHOULDER
This primal portion provides a variety of retail cuts like the blade steak, shoulder roast and sausage.

SIDE
This is where many of the meat trimmings come from. The side provides retail cuts like bacon and pork spareribs.

LOIN
This is the highest quality cut of meat located on the pig's back, which has the least amount of fat. A retail cut example from this would be the pork chops, pork back ribs and pork tenderloin.

PICNIC SHOULDER
This cut of meat is located where the pig's muscles get a lot of work as they use it to walk daily. An example of a retail cut from this would be arm pork roast or picnic roast, boneless.

LEG
This is where the ham for a ham sandwich comes from. The ham is at the rear of the pig.



Activity 4: Pig Behavior Charades (Optional Game)

Note: Rules can be adapted for fewer players, partners, etc. This game is appropriate for a classroom environment or an environment with more than one participant.

Objective of the game:

Charades is a game of pantomimes: You must “act out” a phrase without speaking, and your team members try to guess what the phrase is. Your team members must guess the phrase as quickly as possible before time runs out.

What you need:

- ▶ Charades cards or pieces of paper with written phrases on them (See the end of the activity for the phrases)
- ▶ Timer
- ▶ Container for each of the teams to place their cards in
- ▶ Pen & paper to keep score

Rules:

- ▶ Create two teams with an equal amount of players
- ▶ A time and score keeper is selected, usually a person not taking part, or else one person from each team can take turns
- ▶ No words. No pointing at objects in a room. No lip movements
- ▶ Only “acting out” words or pantomiming similar sounding words
- ▶ Two teams play against each other and divide an equal number of charades cards between them
- ▶ A charade card with a phrase of Team 1 is revealed to one person (the actor) of team 2 and kept secret from the rest of team 2; team 2 must guess their actor’s act
- ▶ The team demonstrating the act chooses their actor; no actor may act more than once until all team members had a chance to be the actor
- ▶ The actor has limited time (60 seconds) to act out the phrase to his own team
- ▶ Decide on a time frame within which actors must complete their tasks before play commences; this will stay the same throughout the game
- ▶ The actor can make any gestures to act out the word
- ▶ The teams alternate until each team member has a chance to be the actor

Charade cards:

1. Feeding pigs
2. Watering pigs
3. Showing a pig



4. Brushing a show pig
5. Rolling in the mud
6. Sounds a pig makes
7. Pig eating
8. Pig napping

Post Assessment

Directions:

- ▶ Complete the prompt and the activity below.

Prompt:

- ▶ Reflect on the information that you have learned today
- ▶ Type two things judges would be looking for at a pig show

Activity:

- ▶ Create a short story that includes three things you learned from the lesson
- ▶ Draw a picture to go with your story

Answer Keys

Answer Key to Video Discussion Questions (Activity 1)

1. Training to walk, brushing them, oiling their skin, etc.
2. Ribs
3. Sausage, bacon, pork chops, etc.
4. True
5. Feeding, health checks, watering, etc.

Answer Key to Vocabulary Activity (Activity 2)

1. Swine
2. Swine, corn
3. Swine, sow
4. Sow, litter, pigs
5. Swine, boar

Answer Key for Pork Primal Cuts Worksheet (Activity 3)

