



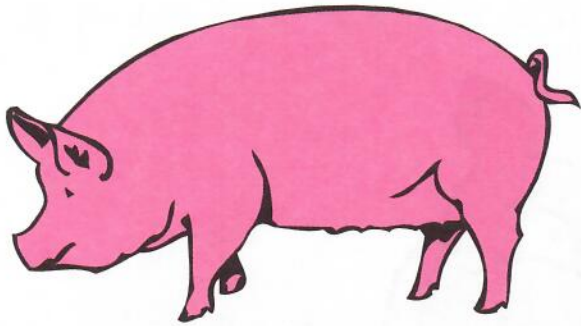
4-H Youth Guide

# Swine

## The Swine Project

Are you responsible? Do others trust you to follow through with a commitment? Being responsible is a skill everyone should have. Learning to be responsible can start by caring for an animal. When you care for an animal, you are responsible for providing everything the animal needs. To do this, you need to know about your animal and how to take care of it.

Raising pigs can be fun. Swine projects are suitable for young people of all ages. Search for the best pig for your budget. Set goals for your project and select pigs to achieve those goals. The most expensive pigs are not always the best pigs. You will not go out and buy a guaranteed champion. Develop your champion with hard work at home.



### Did You Know?

- Pigs are not dirty. They cannot sweat, so they roll in mud to keep cool.
- Pigs do not overeat. They eat until they are full.
- Hogs are smart animals. They can learn to push a lever to get water and raise a top to get food.
- Pigs weigh approximately 2.5lbs at birth.

### Match these pork vocabulary words with their meanings.

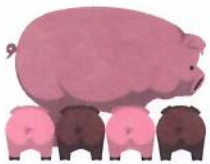
A. Piglet

B. Sow

C. Litter

D. Snout

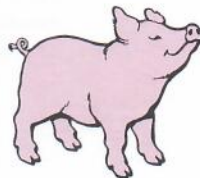
E. Boar



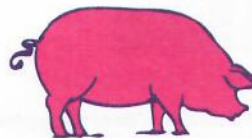
1. A mother pig



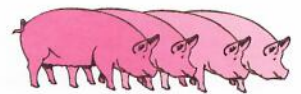
2. A pig's nose



3. A baby pig



4. A male pig



5. A set of pigs who have the same mother

Answers: 1. B, 2. D, 3. A, 4. E, 5. C



# Word Scramble

Unscramble the letters to spell the eight different breeds of pigs.

- NADLOP NACIH \_\_\_\_\_
- TSOP \_\_\_\_\_
- SPREMAHHI \_\_\_\_\_
- CDROU \_\_\_\_\_
- NDCEALRA \_\_\_\_\_
- SRERHIKYO \_\_\_\_\_
- SHERTCE IWETH \_\_\_\_\_
- RKEHERBIS \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1. Poland China, 2. Spot, 3. Hampshire, 4. Duroc, 5. Landrace, 6. Yorkshire, 7. Chester White, 8. Berkshire

# Word Search

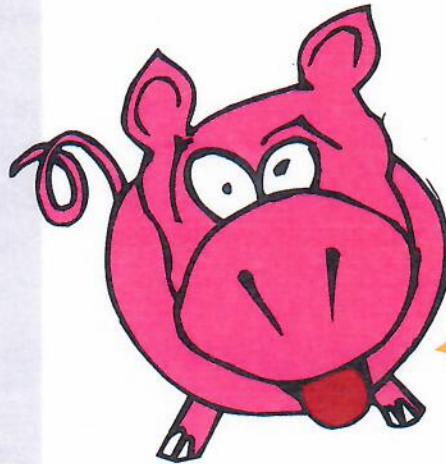
Find and circle the words in the puzzle.

FEED MARKET BREEDING GILT WATER  
BARROW PIGS BOAR SWINE SOW

W P X W Y Q C M N X Q F W B B  
O O I T T E K R A M W B R E O  
T B R G N L V M I F J E O N A  
I P B R S C G A X J E Z P I R  
Z X D W A I A O D D F J O W K  
Y V S K L B P C I I M Z M S R  
W F Z T T D E N Z N V M G E N  
Y C S K V C G B R H E Y T Y W  
N O F T Y J V I E Z F A P K S  
F J C V L W O S B E W N B L F  
R T Z E L U Z B N R J F E E D  
C Z R O D H X R Y R J S L K R

## Pig Facts

- It takes a pig only five to six months to go from birth to 240 to 260 pounds (market weight).
- It takes 550 to 600 pounds of feed for a feeder pig weighing 40 pounds to reach 240 pounds.
- A hog will gain 1 pound for every 2.5 to 3 pounds of feed it consumes.
- More pork is consumed than any other meat in the world.
- Hogs raised in groups of 25 or more inside a finishing building need 8 square feet of space each. Pigs raised as 4-H projects in small numbers need more space.
- Pigs have no sweat glands, so they need to be cooled when the weather is hot.
- White pigs get sunburned easily. Provide plenty of shade.



What do you call a pig thief?

Answer: A Hamburglar



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References: University of Tennessee, <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/4h/projects/activities/Swine-W112.pdf>; University of Illinois, <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/state4h/projects/resources.cfm?CategoryID=1368>; [www.busybarnefarm.com/](http://www.busybarnefarm.com/); Dwayne Nunez, LSU AgCenter Livestock Show Specialist



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Louisiana 4-H is an educational program of the LSU AgCenter.