

The Three Little Racing Pigs

Educator's Guide, Pre-K – 3rd Grade

Prek-K

Language:

Discussion Questions:

- Who lives on the farm?
- What is the purpose of a farm?
- In the story, which animals ran faster – the pigs or the chickens? The pigs or the horses? The pigs or the dogs? The pigs or the Big Fast Wolf?

Opposites:

Fast and slow are opposites. What are some other opposites from the story? (win/lose, up/down, start/finish)

What are some other opposite pairs you know? What is the opposite of the following words?

- mean (nice/kind)
- never (always)
- stop (go)
- in (out)
- off (on)
- little (big)
- littlest (biggest)
- day (night)
- big (little)
- give (take)
- smiled (frowned)
- healthy (unhealthy/sick/ill)
- faster (slower)
- top (bottom)
- first (last)
- tall (short)
- tired (energetic)
- over (under)
- after (before)
- alone (together)

Discussion Questions:

- How is running good for the body? (good for your heart, muscles, stay healthy, keep fit, builds strength, gives energy, avoid disease and illness)
- What are some other fun ways to exercise? (soccer, basketball, swimming, walking, jump rope, playground, other sports, dancing, yoga)

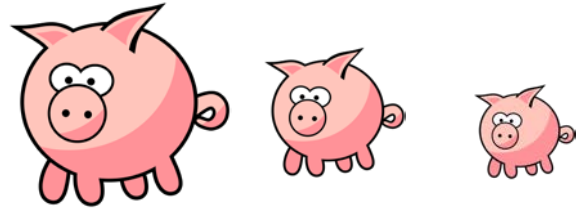
Math

Counting Pigs:

How many pigs were there in the story? Practice counting to 3. Count backwards from 3 to 0. Ask children, "How many pigs could NOT beat the Big Fast Wolf?" (2 pigs) "How many pigs did beat the Big Fast Wolf? (Only 1 pig) Give children the Racing Pigs handout (see next page).

Circle the **biggest** pig.

Circle the **littlest** pig.


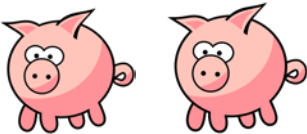


Which pig will be **first** to cross the finish line? Color the **first** pig pink. Color the **second** pig brown. Color the **third** pig gray.

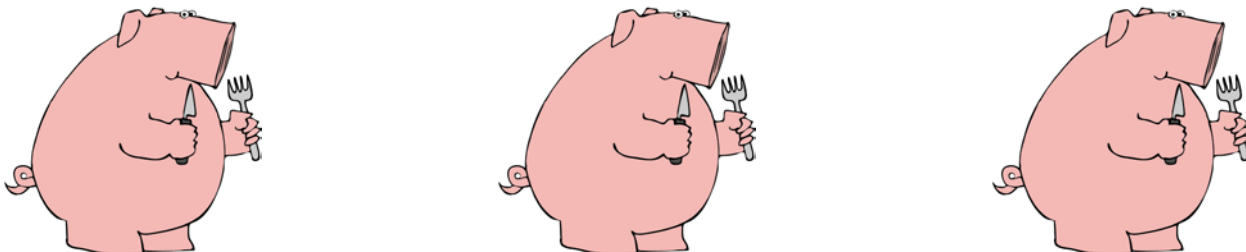


Count the pigs in each group. Write the number to show how many pigs in all.

 +  = _____

 +  = _____

The pigs win the race! Draw 1 piece of pumpkin pie for each pig. How many pieces of pumpkin pie did you draw?



Art Activities:

Pig Racer Puppets

Give each child a copy of the Pig Racer handout on the next page.

Read the directions with children.

Ask them to color, cut, and glue the pigs onto a craft stick. Encourage them to hold their own pig races. Have children work together as a team of 3. Each child will race one of the pigs. On a plain piece of paper, have team draw 10 squares to make a race path. Number the squares from 1-20. Have children take turns to roll a die. Have them move their pig that number of spaces. Take turns until one pig reaches 20. Which pig will win?

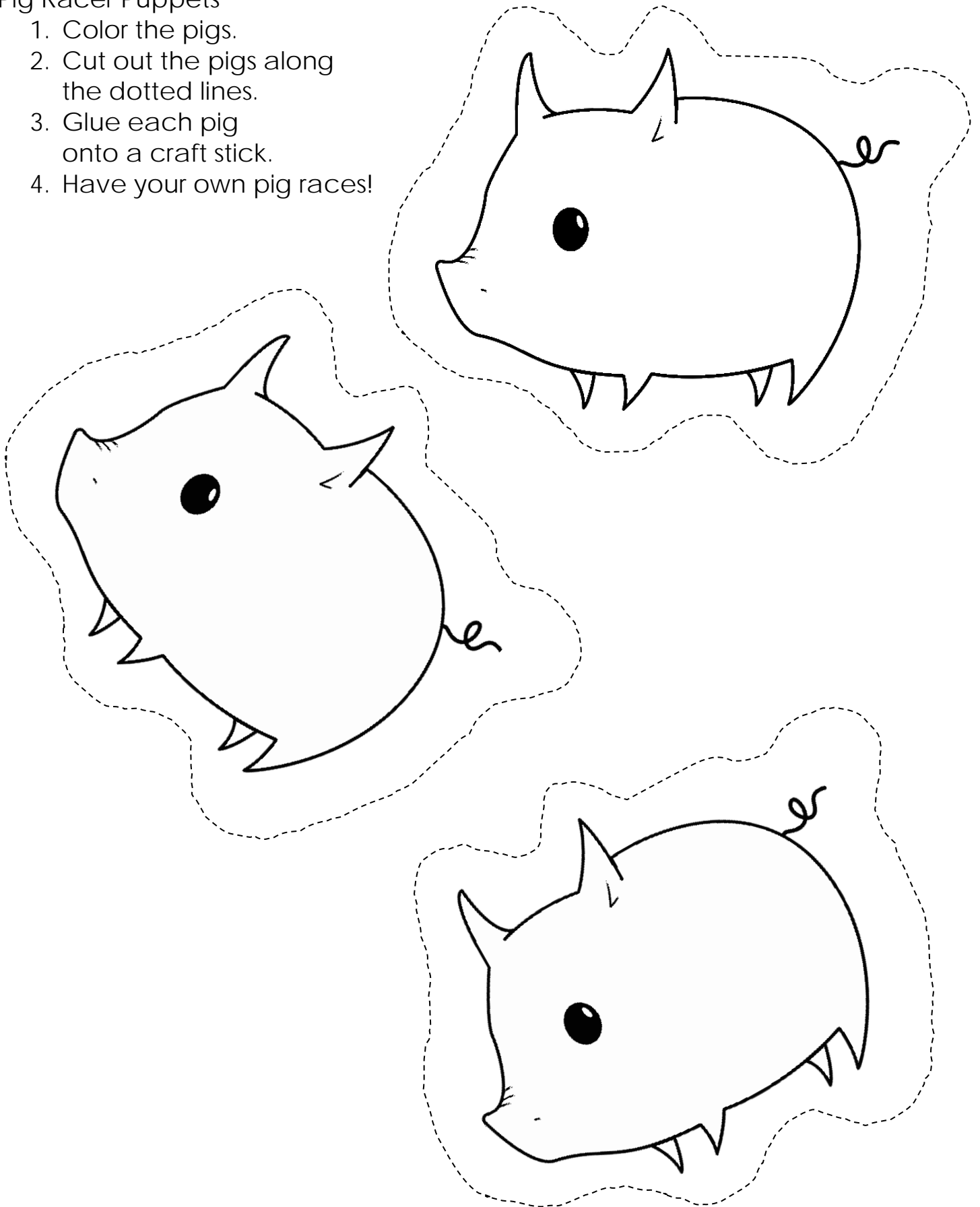
Encourage them to practice counting, adding, and telling which pig comes first, second, and third in the race.

Encourage children to add. Ask them to count their pigs then count their friends' pigs then count all the pigs to find out how many in all.

Encourage children to practice subtracting. Say, "You and your friend have 6 pigs in all. If 2 pigs left the race, how many pigs are left?"

Pig Racer Puppets

1. Color the pigs.
2. Cut out the pigs along the dotted lines.
3. Glue each pig onto a craft stick.
4. Have your own pig races!



Science:

Get to know Pigs

- Pigs are peaceful, intelligent, clean, and social.
- A baby pig is called a piglet. A mother pig is a sow. A male pig is a boar.
- Pigs have a great sense of smell for finding food in the ground.
- Pigs eat plants and animals.
- Pigs roll in the mud to cool off. They are actually very clean animals.
- Pigs are so smart that farmers train them to have races on farms and in other places, like county fairs.
- Pigs are excellent at completing mazes and have a great memory.
- For more information about pigs, check out <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/pig>

K-1st Grade

Language

Words with Short i

Explain to children that the word pig has a short i vowel sound. Make the sound for children then have them repeat the sound with you. Make a list of other words from the story that have the short i vowel sound:

| | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|--------|
| little | his | into | win |
| big | pumpkin | whistle | sticks |
| brick | him | in | finish |
| chickens | if | give | |
| winner | this | chin | |

What Rhymes with Pig?

Show children a piece of chart paper or the chalk board. Write the word pig and ask children to repeat the letters and sounds to say the word. Then ask children for a word that rhymes with pig. Brainstorm a list of words. If children need help, rewrite the letters -ig on the paper with a blank line in front of them and ask children to identify a letter to fill the blank. Make new rhyming words by switching the beginning letter or beginning letter blend. Use a riddle to help them "guess" the new word. Make these words: wig, fig, big, jig, zig, rig, dig, gig, and twig. For example, you might say, "I know a word that is the opposite of little. It rhymes with pig. What is it?"

Compare and Contrast

Ask children to compare the original story, *The Three Little Pigs* story, with *The Three Little Racing Pigs*. How is the plot the same? How is it different? How are the characters similar and how are they different? Who is the hero in each story? What was the pigs' relationship to the wolf like in each story? How is the ending different?

Math:

Race Yourself

Set up a short racing course outside, in the gym, or on a track. Identify a start and end line. Use a timer, a phone with a timer, or a watch with a second hand for the activity. Tell children they will be running two times – a first race and a second race. Use a sticky note to keep track of children's times in the race. Give each child his or her before and after scores. Were children able to beat

the time from the first race? If not, ask them to run again and try to beat it. If they did, show them the difference in the race times.

Science:

Teach children a few fun Pig Facts:

- A pig can weigh between 300-700 pounds.
- A group of pigs is called a sounder.
- Pigs communicate with grunts, growls, squeaks, and oinks.
- Pigs eat roots, fruits, rodents, and reptiles, slop, corn, oats, many things.
- Pigs are so smart that people can train pigs to use joystick controlled video games!
- For more pig facts, check out:
- <http://www.peta.org/blog/top-ten-fascinating-facts-pigs/>

Ask children what other objects or animals weigh around the same amount as a 300 pound pig. What about a 700 pound pig? Ask them to do a little research to find out what to compare a pig to.

2nd - 3rd Grade

Language:

Ask children to look up the definition of fitness and exercise words. Or ask children to write their own definitions and then look up the real definition to see how close the two are to each other. Use the following words to get started: train, prepare, exercise, fit, energy, health, intense, habit, stretch, and hydrate.

What does the word challenge mean? Ask children to identify a fitness challenge for themselves. For example, children might want to do 100 jumps with a jump rope, 50 sit ups, 50 jumping jacks, run a mile without stopping, and so on. Encourage them to record their challenge and train to conquer it over the next few weeks. Check in to see if they have conquered their challenge.

Ask children to compare the original story, *The Three Little Pigs* story, with *The Three Little Racing Pigs*. Ask them to write their own version of the story in any way they choose. Suggest they choose a different kind of animal, a different theme or message, or a different setting. Remind them to write what happens first, next, and last. Have them compare and contrast their stories with the original, too.

Ask children to find prepositions that show place or direction in the story. Have them write a list, including the following words: into, around, through, to, up, and down. Then have them write their own sentences using the prepositions.

Science:

Learn More about Pigs

Have children use the internet or books to gather more information about pigs. Which fun facts can they share with the class?

Tell children these fun facts to get started:

- What do pigs do for humans? (provide meat like pork, bacon, sausage; medicines like insulin)
- Domestic pigs have curly tails, wild pigs have straight tails.
- A mother pig's litter can have 12 piglets.
- A pig can run at a speed of 11 mph.
- Pigs are so intelligent they can remember their own names.
- Pigs are highly trainable; farmers can teach them how to run races and through mazes.

- Check out this website for more fun facts about pigs: <http://animal-facts.org/animal-intelligence/>

Math

Use pigs and pig facts to make up math word problems. For example, there are 3 mother pigs. One pig has 10 piglets. One pig has 6 piglets. One pig has 4 piglets. How many piglets are there in all?

If there are 3 pigs and each pig has 4 ears of corn for lunch, how many ears of corn do they have in all?

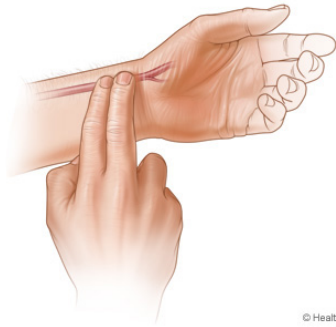
Science and Physical Activity

Active and Resting Heart Rate

Show children how to find their pulse by holding two fingers on their wrist.

Checking your pulse on the wrist

1. Gently place 2 fingers of your other hand on this artery.
2. Do not use your thumb, because it has its own pulse that you may feel.
3. Count the beats for 30 seconds, and then double the result to get the number of beats per minute.



© Healthwise, Incorporated

<http://www.webmd.com/heart/taking-a-pulse-heart-rate>

Ask children to record their resting heart rate on a piece of paper.

Then have children jog in place or do jumping jacks for 1 minute.

Have them check their heart rate again.

Record the active pulse rate. Talk about how the numbers are different and how exercise speeds up your heart rate.

Exercise Your Brain

Work with children to brainstorm a list of ways to exercise. Encourage children to identify sports, as well as other activities that keep you fit. Split the class into teams and see which team can come up with the longest list of exercises.

Talk about the importance of training and practicing to become better at something and why it is good to exercise every day to keep your body healthy.