

# KANSAS FARM BUREAU'S AG LEARNING ZONE

## YOUTH ACTIVITY: TRUTH OR HOGWASH?

**OBJECTIVE: YOUTH WILL HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE PORK INDUSTRY IN KANSAS.**

### Vocabulary Words

- Swine – animals in the pig family
- Pig – young swine
- Hog – older swine
- Pork – meat from a pig or hog

### Lesson

Ask youth how much they know about **swine**. Allow time for a short discussion.

- Many Kansas farmers keep their **pigs** inside for the same reasons we stay inside: health, comfort, safety and better access to food and water. Some farmers raise pigs in outdoor pens or pastures and some are in hoop buildings. Some raise only mother pigs or market hogs, while others raise pigs from birth to market. No single way is right for everyone; farmers do what is best for their farm, their family and their community.
- Pigs grow fast because they eat well. For a pig to reach 250 pounds, it will eat 600 pounds of corn and 100 pounds of soybean meal. Much of the grain fed on Kansas farms will be grown by the farmer or by members of the local community.
- More than 500 important things come from **hogs** besides meat. Examples include chewing gum, animal feeds, leather, glue, combs, buttons, plastics, paintbrushes, plywood, adhesive, insulation, upholstery, cosmetics, antifreeze, cellophane, floor waxes, cement, crayons, chalk, matches, putty and linoleum, just to name a few.

### Fun Facts (Truths) About Pork

- People eat pork (ham, bacon, sausage, etc.) more than any other meat in the world.
- Kansas has close to 1,500 hog farms; almost all of them are owned by families.
- Salt pork was an important food for George Washington's troops at Valley Forge in 1776.
- More than 40 medications are made from pigs and pig heart valves can be used to replace damaged human heart valves.
- Out of all farm animals, pigs have the best sense of smell.
- Pigs are the cleanest farm animals, they roll in mud to cool off because they don't sweat.
- Pigs can run a seven-minute mile and their squeal can be just as loud as a jet plane.

### Assessments

- Truth or Hogwash? More than 40 medications are made from hogs.
- Truth or Hogwash? Pork is the most widely eaten meat in the world.
- True or Hogwash? Hogs are slow runners. False, they can run a seven-minute mile.

### Hands-on Activity

- Today we are going to make paper pigs!
- Everyone gets one baggie that has eight pre-cut paper pieces inside (or a template sheet).
- Be sure to discuss the shapes we'll be using: circles, ovals and triangles.
- Remove all pieces, then glue them together placing each shape where it belongs.
- Remember the new things you learned today when you see your pig proudly displayed at home on your refrigerator!

### Suggested Resources

- Pre-cut template or printed template and age appropriate scissors
- Glue



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