

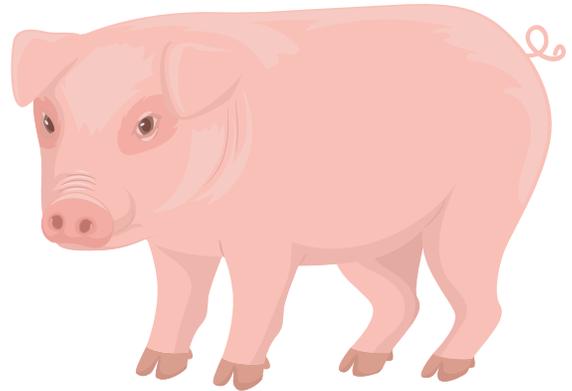
All About Pigs

Meat from Pigs is called Pork.

Ham and
bacon are
Pork!

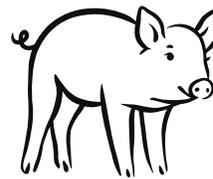
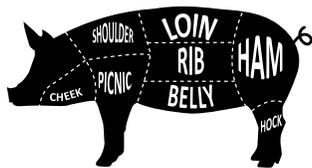
SIZE

When a piglet is born, it weighs between 3-5 pounds. In about 6 months, full grown pigs will weigh around 280 pounds when they go to market. Boars and sows pigs can weigh up to 400-650 pounds!



FEED

Pigs eat a mixed ration of corn, soybeans, wheat, vitamins, minerals, and other proteins.



FUN FACTS

- 115 Million pigs are sent to market each year in the US.
- A sow gives birth to 12-14 piglets in one litter.
- Biosecurity is a procedure that farmers follow to keep pigs healthy.

PIG FAMILIES

- **Sows** are female pigs that have had babies.
- **Gilts** are female pigs that have not had babies.
- **Boars** are males that can get a sow pregnant.
- **Barrows** are males that cannot get a sow pregnant



CARING FOR PIGS

A farmer will do chores twice a day in a pig barn. Each time he or she does chores, they will ensure that all of the animals are alive and well and have adequate food, space, and water to grow and thrive.



FUN FACTS

- Pigs are the 5th smartest animal in the world!
- Because they are so smart, pigs have a very good memory!
- Pigs have very few sweat glands, so they don't sweat much at all!
- Pigs are on every continent, besides Antarctica!

BIOSECURITY

The special procedures and protocols that are used on every pig farm to protect the animals from disease outbreaks is biosecurity. Some examples of this are showering in and out of the barns and having separate clothes and boots that stay in the barn.



STAGES OF GROWTH

When a sow gives birth, it is called farrowing. A single sow will typically farrow 12-14 piglets in each litter. Piglets weigh between 3 and 5 pounds when they are first born.

Around 21 days after the piglets are born, they are weaned from the sow. This means they no longer are with the sow and are taken to a new facility to grow. During this time the pigs have already grown to be 13-15 pounds!

The facility the newly weaned piglets are sent to is called a nursery, where they are taken care of with other pigs from many different litters. This facility provides a specialized environment carefully controlling temperature and ventilation so that the new pigs can get a healthy start on life. During this time each pig will eat up to 4 pounds of food a day and leave after 6-8 weeks weighing almost 60 pounds!

The final stage of a pig's life is called the grow and finish stage. During this stage the pigs are moved to a finishing barn. Here they will spend the rest of their life before going to market. They spend about 16 weeks in this barn and eat around 6 pounds of food a day. At about six months old, the pigs should weigh around 280 pounds and are ready for market.

LOADING PIGS AND GOING TO MARKET

In the United States, 115 million pigs are sent to market each year. These pigs are raised by over 60,000 producers. Each producer treats each pig with care as they load and move them around the barn. One way they do this is using sort boards.



Why are pigs bad at basketball?

Answer the questions below to solve the riddles.

$\overline{20}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{25}$

$\overline{8}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{7}$

$\overline{20}$ $\overline{8}$ $\overline{5}$

$\overline{2}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{12}$ $\overline{12}$

1. When a sow gives birth, what is it called?

$\overline{6}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{18}$ $\overline{18}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{23}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{14}$ $\overline{7}$

2. 21 days after birth, piglets are _____ from their mother.

$\overline{23}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{14}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{4}$

3. At the nursery, pigs eat up to _____ pounds of feed each day.

$\overline{6}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{21}$ $\overline{18}$

4. What is the final stage of a pig's life called?

$\overline{7}$ $\overline{18}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{23}$ $\overline{1}$ $\overline{14}$ $\overline{4}$ $\overline{6}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{14}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{19}$ $\overline{8}$

5. How many times a day will a pig farmer do chores?

$\overline{20}$ $\overline{23}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{3}$ $\overline{5}$

6. Pigs are smart and have a good _____.

$\overline{13}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{13}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{18}$ $\overline{25}$

7. What is the procedure that pig farmers follow to ensure pig health?

$\overline{2}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{19}$ $\overline{5}$ $\overline{3}$ $\overline{21}$ $\overline{18}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{20}$ $\overline{25}$

8. How many pigs are sent to market each year in the United States?

$\overline{\quad}$ $\overline{\quad}$ $\overline{\quad}$ $\overline{13}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{12}$ $\overline{12}$ $\overline{9}$ $\overline{15}$ $\overline{14}$

PLACES A PIG WILL LIVE

There are three different places a pig will live before it goes to market. Look at the images, and complete the word search that has words all about the places a pig will live.



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

- Barrow
- Boar
- Feed
- Gilt
- Market
- SixWeeks
- Water
- Big
- Chores
- Finisher
- Grow
- Nursery
- Sow
- Birth
- Farm
- FourMonths
- Little
- Piglet
- Three Weeks



PORK INDUSTRY

Growing nutritious and delicious pork takes many people doing a variety of jobs.

- An **accountant** is someone who keeps track of finances. They do a lot of math, while tracking income and expenses.
- **Pig farmers** are in charge of the daily care of the animals. They make sure all the pigs are healthy, and have the right amounts of food and water.
- **Truck Drivers** transport the pigs from barn to barn and to market when they are fully grown.
- A **nutritionist** helps decide what pigs should eat. They make ensure the dietary needs of the pigs are met by formulating a ration with the proper protein, vitamins, and minerals.
- A **veterinarian** is a doctor for the pigs. They will preform routine check-ups, give shots, monitor pregnancies in sows, and run tests to determine if the pigs are sick.
- A **meat inspector** looks over every piece of meat at a packing plant before it can be sold to people. They make sure it is safe and follows regulations and standards.

Unscramble the word and match the job to the picture that matches the description above.
Hint: Not all of the jobs will have a picture.

naritevernai

tcouanctna

stiruiotntin

gpi arfrem

team rostcepni

eruct vdrire

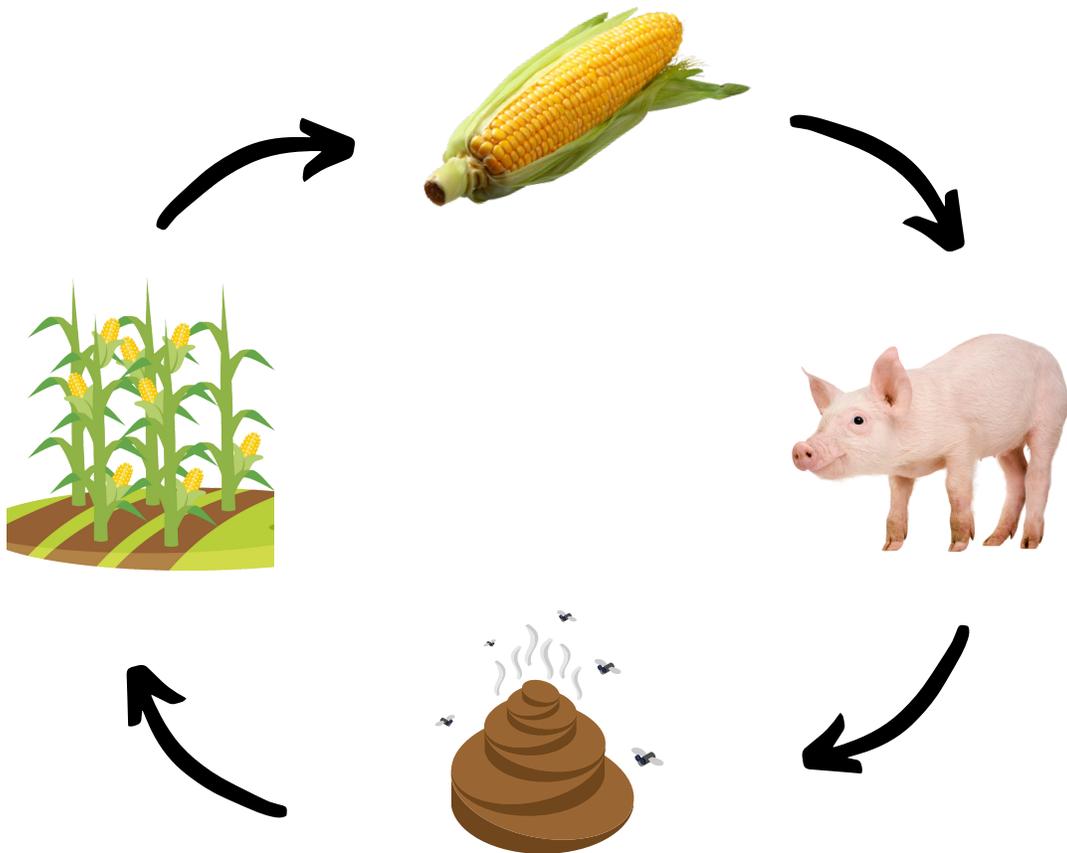




Sustainability



The dictionary defines sustainable as *the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance*. It is a word that is crucial to today's farmers. Their output will need to increase 70-80% in the next 25-30 years due to population growth. The land available to farm continues to decrease due to growing cities. Our pig farmers care for people, pigs, and the planet, so they continually work hard to ensure their farms are sustainable.



Manure is a large output of pig farms and is produced by every pig in the barn. However, it is a very effective, organic nutrient source for sustainable crop production. Simply, manure is an excellent fertilizer for crop fields. This means that farmers spread their manure on the fields to help them efficiently grow a productive crop. The crops, commonly corn and soybeans, are harvested, processed, mixed, and eventually fed back to the pigs. This is a very sustainable cycle that many farmers across the country follow to do their part to establish sustainable farms.

SUSTAINABILITY

ON A PIG FARM



Word Bank:

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| Productivity | Planet |
| Sustainability | Farmers |
| Output | Crops |
| Soybeans | Manure |
| Growing Cities | Fertilizer |
| Pig | Organic |

Across

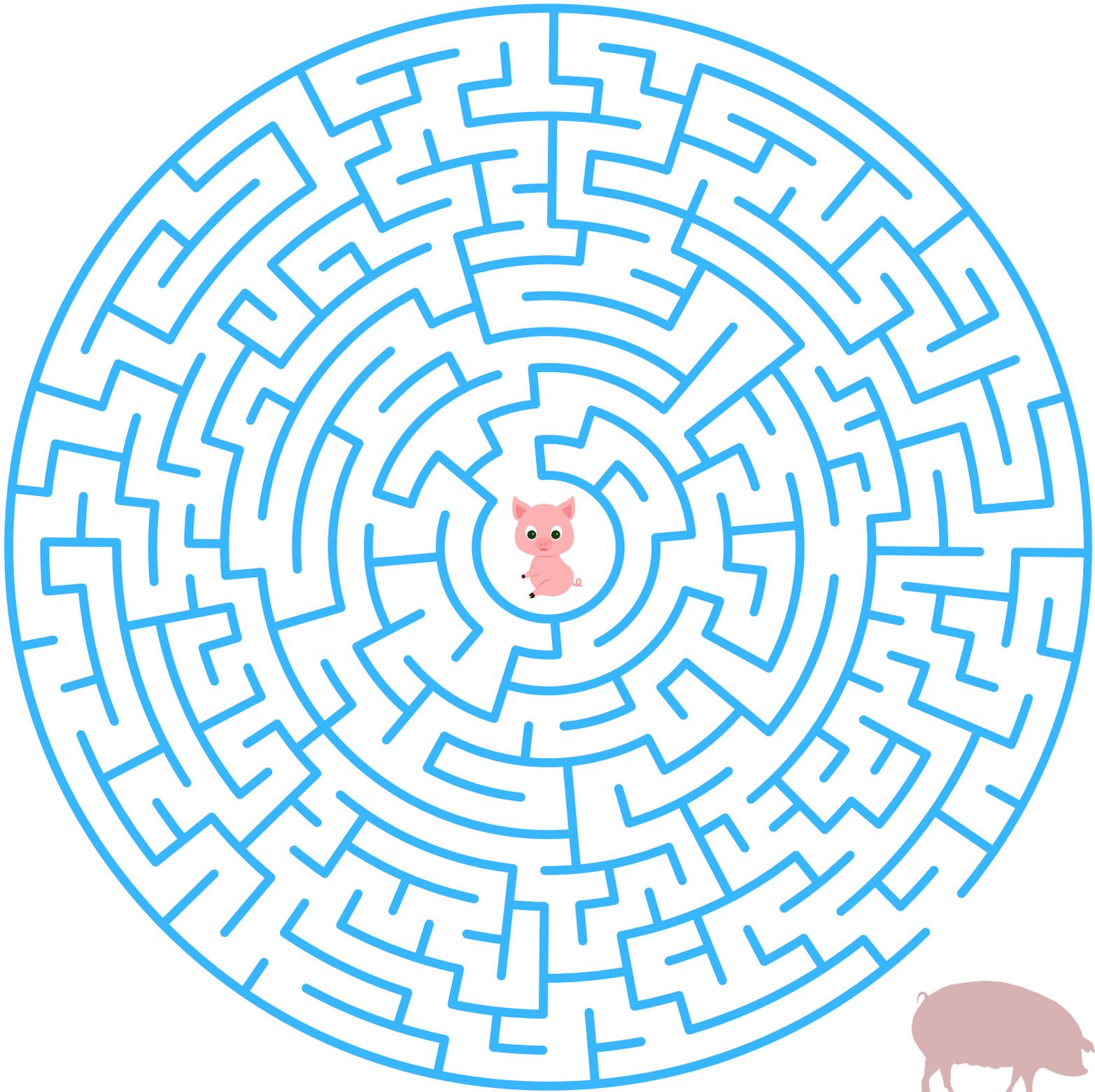
2. a specific crop that is commonly fed to pigs
4. farmers need to increase this in order to feed the world's growing population
5. land available to farmers is decreasing because of this
6. one of the three things our pig farmers care about, so they work hard to practice sustainability
7. pig manure increases this in the fields it is applied to
9. manure is used as this on crop fields, increasing production
10. these are grown in the fertilized fields and eventually fed to pigs

Down

1. this word describes the type of fertilizer that manure is
2. the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance
3. a large output of farms and produced by every pig
8. the main operators of farms that work hard to follow sustainability practices
11. the animal discussed that produces manure and eats the processed and mixed crops

MAZE

Help the piglet find its way back to his mommy!



Pigs Recap



Finish the sentences using the correct words below.

.....
yorkshire Nutritionists manure
pork barrow nursery
.....

A male pig that cannot get a sow pregnant is a

.....

A breed of pigs found in almost every state is the

.....

The place a pig will live for about six weeks is the

.....

..... decide what the pigs should eat.



Meat from pigs is called

When discussing sustainability, one valuable output of pig farms is

.....

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