



The Practical Pig

Video #329

Developed for Grades: 2nd - 5th

The WOW videos have been developed to inspire students to learn more about **NGSS Life Science and/or Earth Science Disciplinary Core Ideas**. These could include:

- Plants and animals (including humans) can change their environment.
- Living things need water, air, and resources from the land.
- Humans use natural resources for everything they do.
- All organisms have internal and external structures that serve various functions in growth, survival, behavior and reproduction.
- Importance of ecosystems and habitats
- Cross cutting concepts like patterns, cause and effect, etc.

The WOW videos and their support documents can also be used with **English Language Arts**. Here are some ideas:

1. Select a few questions from the Know-It-All section and have students write their answers.
2. Have students write a story related to the topic. They could even add illustrations. For some grades students could read their stories and/or video tape their readings to share.
3. Students could write a poem, a play, or a song based on something in the video that created an emotional response for them.
4. Key words in the video can be used in creative writing assignments.
5. Older students could explore the difference in learning from video as opposed to a book. What are the advantages and disadvantages?

Answer Key for Know-It-All

1. What adaptations do pigs have to help them survive?

- Pigs have thick bristly fur to keep them protected from sun and to keep them warm. They have cloven (split) hooves that help them balance, and upturned noses to help them dig around in the dirt searching for food. Pigs have an excellent sense of smell, plus eyes on the side and large ears to help them detect predators.

2. Why should you hide your fingers when visiting the pigs?

- You should hide your fingers when visiting the pigs because they have a poor sense of sight and cannot always tell if you are offering them food or not, which could lead to an accidental bite.

3. Pigs are omnivores and scavengers, what does that mean?

- Pigs are omnivores and scavengers. An omnivore can eat both plants and animals, and a scavenger is an animal that will eat odds and ends that others may not prefer, such as potato peelings, apple cores, or chicken bones.

4. Animals fit into three categories depending on what they eat. What is the scientific word for an animal that eats only plants? What is the scientific word for an animal that eats only meat? What is the scientific word for an animal that eats both plants and meat?

- Herbivores eat only plant material, Carnivores eat only meat, and Omnivores eat both plants and animals.

5. What type of teeth do each of these animals need to eat the type of food they do?

- Herbivores have flat teeth that are good for grinding plants. Carnivores have sharp, cutting teeth that are good for ripping meat. Omnivores have some teeth that are good for ripping and cutting and some that are good for grinding.

6. What types of meat products do some people get from pigs? What other products do people get from pigs?

- Although not everyone uses pig products, pigs provide a lot of meat (ham, bacon, pork chops), leather, gelatin from the hooves and bones, and hair for brushes.

