

Title: Ham

Author: Dhana Fox

Illustrator: Anna Demchenko

Publisher: Larrikin House

Target Age Group: 3-8 years

Key Curriculum Areas: English, The Arts, Technologies, HASS, Science, Health & Physical Education

SYNOPSIS

What happens when Ham and his crew discover that they're destined for the dinner table? Can the farmyard animals come up with a plan to save their own bacon?

THEMES

Teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, resilience, facing your fears, paddock to plate, different diets and preferences, eating vegetables, farm animals.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Despite a love of snowy mountains, Dhana lives on the balmy Sunshine Coast with her husband and two daughters.

Since becoming a mum, Dhana has swapped her musical instruments for a pen and the daunting blank page to pursue her passion to write funny stories for children. She hopes her stories will create a few bedtime giggles. An actual belly laugh would be icing on the cake (chocolate of course).

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Anna lives in Russia with her husband, two daughters, and a funny cat, Barney. She has been drawing since childhood, despite her parents' persistent attempts to sit her down at the piano. Art school became an escape from the hated Solfeggio.

Anna has a diploma as a drawing teacher and has worked as a designer - finally realising her dream of becoming a children's artist.





ACTIVITIES

BEFORE READING

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think this story might be about?
2. Can you point out the following features of the book?
(Spine, title, illustration, front page, back page, blurb, end papers).

DURING READING

Recognising rhyming words - Ask students to 'squeal' like a pig and put up their hand when they notice the rhyming words on a selected page. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Recognising alliteration - Ask students to 'bleat' like a sheep and put up their hand when they notice any alliteration used in the story. (ACELA1439) (ACELT1585)

Clap the rhythm - On a selected page, students clap their hands along to the beat of the words. (ACELT1585)

Questions to ask:

1. What do you think will happen next?
2. What do you notice about the truck that visits the farm?
3. How do you think Ham will solve his problem?
4. Do you think Ham is a good friend? Why?
5. Have you ever had bacon, or lamb or fresh vegetables?
6. Have you ever visited a farm?
7. How many legs do each of the animals have?
8. Can you make any connections to the story so far?
(ACELT1575) (ACELY1646) (ACELT1582) (ACPPS020) (ACPPS004) (ACTDEK003)
(ACPPS018)

AFTER READING

Questions to ask:

1. What did you enjoy most about the story?
2. Who was your favourite character, why?
3. Link to community - Organise a visit to a local farm or have a farmer come and talk to the children about life on the farm.
4. Play 'Pin the tail on the piggy!'
(ACELY1646) (ACELT1581) (ACTDEK003) (ACSSU017)

Funny books by funny people



SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:

1. Cloze passages: Choose a section of text and omit words. Students to fill in the blanks.

Curriculum Links: (ACELA1435) (ACELA1434) (ACELA1786) (ACELY1650) (ACELA1447) (ACELA1448)

2. Character Profile: Students draw the characters in the story and write their name underneath each picture.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1783) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACAVAM108) (ACTDEP007) (ACELA1586)

3. Word Search: Create a word search using words from the text.

Curriculum links: (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056) (ACELY1663) (ACELA1586) (ACTDEP007) (ACELY1653)

4. Retell Activities:

a. Create a table with the following headings: Setting (Where?) - Characters (Who?) - Problem (What?) - 1. In the beginning - 2. Next - 3. Then - 4. Finally - 5. Solution - 6. Lastly. Ask students to write or draw the order of events in the story.

b. Wooden Spoon Story time: Draw or paint each character from the story on the back of a set of wooden spoons. Create a puppet theatre and retell the story in the order it appears in the book.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1578) (ACHASSI004) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056)

5. Acrostic Poem: Students choose a character from the story and write an acrostic poem.

Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACAMAM056)

6. Write a blurb: Explore the existing blurb on the back cover. Explain the purpose of the blurb to the students and ask them to create their own.

Curriculum Links: (ACELY1651) (ACELA1586)

7. Story Map: A story map template could contain the following headings: Title - Setting - Characters - Beginning - Middle - End. Students retell the main ideas of the story with illustrations and words in each of the boxes.

Curriculum Links: (ACHASSI004) (ACELT1578) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056)

8. Story Stones: Stones are painted with symbols and characters from the story. Students can arrange them in order or use them to tell the story.

Curriculum Links: (ACHASSI004) (ACELT1578) (ACAMAM054) (ACAMAM056)

9. Making connections: Students to choose a character from the story and draw them. Then ask students to draw themselves next to the character. Students write about a time that something happened to them that also happened to the character in the story.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1582)

10. A visit to the farm - Reading Response: Students write about a time they visited a farm (or saw a picture or movie about a farm). Ask: What did you see? How did you feel? Remind: Remember to use words like firstly, then, after that and finally to begin your sentences. Ask students to use capital letters and full stops where necessary.

Curriculum Links: (ACELT1575) (ACPPS003) (ACELY1663) (ACAMAM054) (ACPPS018) (ACPPS021)

11. Paddock to Plate: Investigate the many Paddock to Plate resources which are relevant to your community.

Curriculum Links: (ACTDEK003) (ACSSU002) (ACSSU017) (ACPPS018)

12. Cooking with vegetables: Create some healthy vegetable snacks using some of the ingredients from the story. Healthy snack creatures are fun!

Curriculum Links: (ACTDEK003) (ACPPS018) (ACSSU002) (ACSSU017)

Teacher's Notes: Ham

FURTHER INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

The Biggest little Farm Movie: <https://www.biggestlittlefarmmovie.com/>

Old McDonald had a Farm - Super Simple Songs: https://youtu.be/_6HzoUcx3eo

Teacher resource - *From Paddock to Plate* (Area of focus: Producing Food (Topic 2: Farming animals))
https://education.abc.net.au/res/teacher_res/3-paddock-plate.html

IGA Paddock to Plate resources: <https://www.iga.com.au/family-program/paddock-to-plate/>

Paddock to Plate resources: <https://www.farm.org.au/paddock-to-plate-teacher-resource>

Dhana Fox' Website: <https://www.dhanafox.com/>

Anna Demchenko's Website: <https://www.behance.net/annademchenko2>

Anna Demchenko Instagram: http://www.instagram.com/dem_anka/

To order copies of this title visit: www.larrikinhouse.com



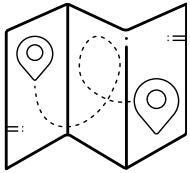
Funny books by funny people

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Story Map Activity

Complete the story map for 'Ham' below using words and pictures.



Title & Author

Setting

Characters

Beginning

Middle

End

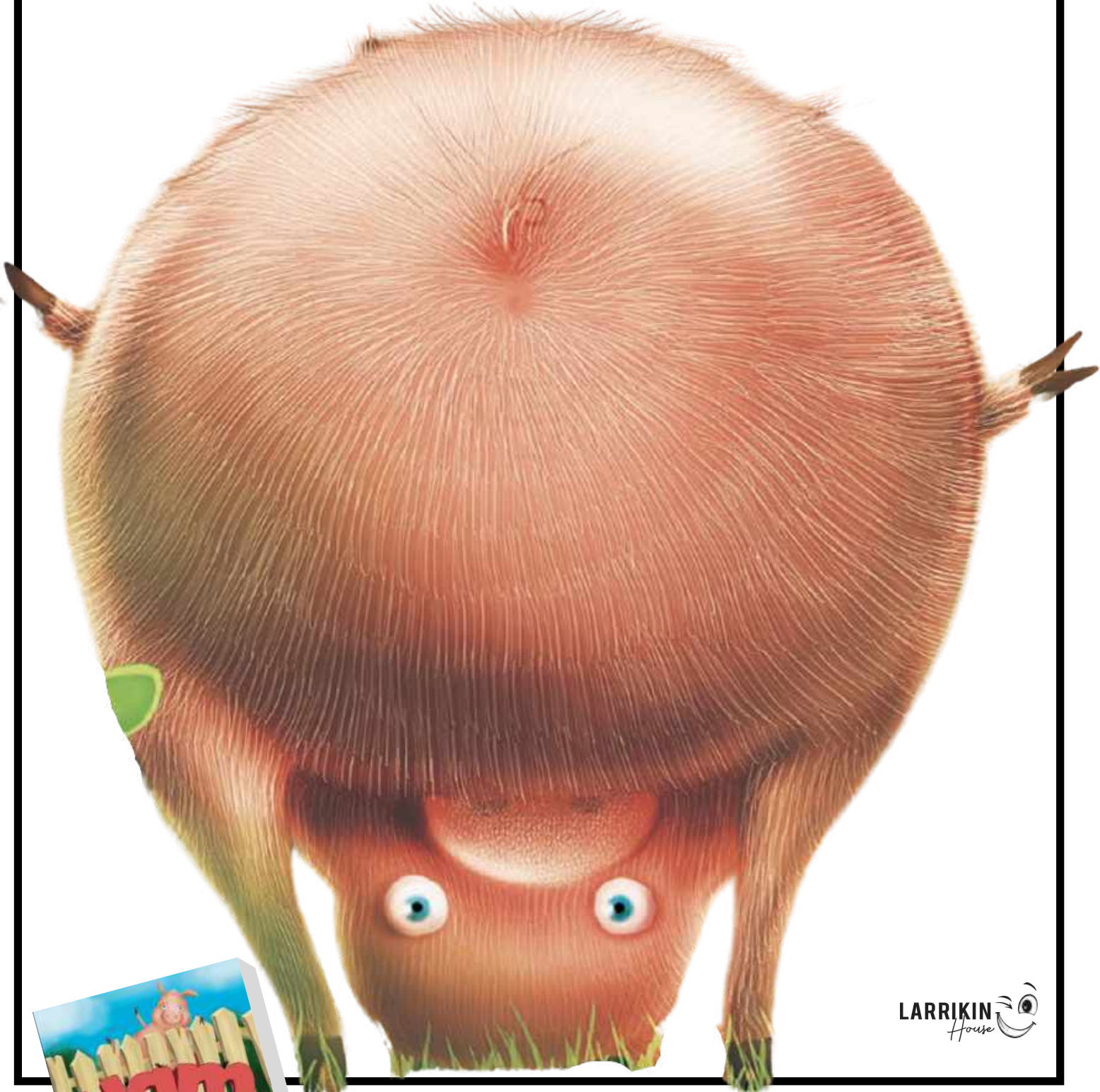


HAM
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ILLUSTRATED BY: Anna Demchenko
SOCIALS: @dem_anka

Pin the tail on the piggy!

Cut strips of pink paper and attach a small amount of double sided sticky tape to one end. Curl the paper, pop on an eye mask and take turns to pin the tail on the piggy!



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