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Ages 3-6 · 28 pages

Piggies in the Pumpkin Patch

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A Discussion & Activity Guide
Developed by Charlesbridge

Two little piggies run amok on the farm, introducing young readers to prepositions of direction. Alliteration, assonance, and rhyme in each of the three stanzas make for a great read-aloud.

Young and old alike will laugh out loud at the antics of these mischievous, fun-loving piggies.



Before reading the story, show the children the cover of the book. Ask them:

- What do you see?
- What do you think the story is about?
- Who are the characters?



Have fun guessing what happens along the way. Go through the book and study the illustrations with the children before reading out loud. Let the children make up the story, then go back and read it out loud. How was their story different from the book? How was it the same?

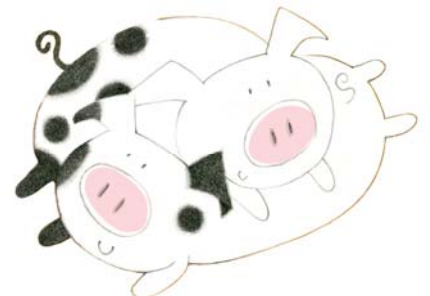


Show the children the end pages with the map of the piggies' adventure. Find the starting point and ask them to follow the piggies' path along the dotted line. Write down for the group to see any prepositional phrases that the children use to describe the piggies travels, such as:

- in the pumpkin patch
- around the truck
- behind the house



On page two of this discussion/activity guide, a list of prepositions is provided. Discuss what a preposition is. After reading the story out loud, go back and ask the children if they recognize the prepositions in the book.





The piggies are twins. They look alike, but are different—like words that rhyme. Point out the rhymes in the story, and challenge children to come up with other words that rhyme. Write them down.



This story also uses assonance—or words with identical vowel sounds. Point out the difference to the children and have them find examples in the story, such as “clean sheets” and “green beans.”



Write five prepositions on the chalkboard and have the children write their own barnyard adventure. They can write about any animal they like and anything can happen, but they must use the five words that you give them somewhere in their story.



Play Mad Libs with the story. Read the story out loud, but leave out the second rhyming word on the pages with rhymes. Ask the children to come up with rhyming words for the story. Write them down.

Prepositions

- | | | |
|-----------|----------|--------------|
| • about | • but | • outside |
| • above | • by | • over |
| • across | • down | • past |
| • after | • for | • through |
| • against | • from | • to |
| • along | • in | • toward |
| • among | • inside | • under |
| • around | • into | • underneath |
| • as | • like | • until |
| • at | • near | • up |
| • before | • of | • upon |
| • behind | • off | • with |
| • below | • on | |
| • beside | • onto | |
| • between | | |

