

Piggies in the Kitchen

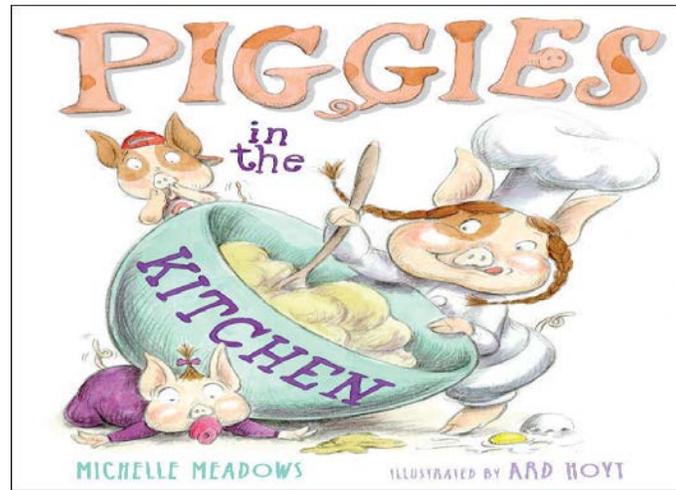
Picture Book Teaching Activity Guide (Pre-k - 2nd Grade)

Written by Michelle Meadows

Illustrated by Ard Hoyt

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Book Summary

Piggies in the Kitchen is a companion to a picture book called Piggies in Pajamas. In Piggies in the Kitchen, the five piglets sneak into the kitchen for a special surprise. When Mama leaves for the day, these piggies have big plans. This is a raucous tale of culinary chaos!

Story Behind the Story

Michelle Meadows, the author of this book, has one son. She imagined a whole crew of pig siblings who are just like her son. One year, she planned a surprise birthday party for her mother. She invited all of her mother's favorite friends—just like Mama Pig's friends in this book!

<http://www.michellemeadows.com>

Piggies in the Kitchen Teaching Activities Linked to Common Core State Standards (CCSS) English Language Arts

Themes: Pigs, family life, mothers, cooking/baking, birthdays, rhymes/poetry; **CCSS:** Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

1. Anatomy of a Picture Book

CCSS: Name the author and illustrator of a story and define the role of each in telling the story.

CCSS: Distinguish between information provided by pictures or other illustrations and information provided by the words in a text.

- ✓ Discuss the role of the author Michelle Meadows (words/text) and the illustrator Ard Hoyt (pictures) and how both play a role in conveying a story.
- ✓ In a picture book, illustrators use the text as a jumping-off point; the text inspires illustrators to express their creativity through visual pictures. Discuss these specific examples:
 - The Piggies in the Kitchen text mentions “piggies” but doesn’t say how many piggies are in the family. The illustrator decided how many piggies to illustrate.
 - The text describes what the piggies are doing, but the text doesn’t describe what the piggies look like. The illustrator decided how the piggies would look and what they would wear. How are the piggies dressed?

2. Comprehension

CCSS: Ask and answer questions about key details in the text.

CCSS: Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.

CCSS: Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

- ✓ What do the piggies do after Mama Pig leaves the house?
- ✓ Explain that Piggies in the Kitchen is fiction. Discuss what elements make the story a work of fiction.
- ✓ Discuss the characters: The characters in Piggies in the Kitchen are trying to do something nice for Mama Pig. After reading Piggies in the Kitchen, ask students to recall how many pigs are in the story and who the different pigs are.

What would you name each pig? Make a list of the pigs as a group activity (Eg. Baby pig, big sister pig...)

- ✓ As a vocabulary builder, discuss the various food items mentioned in the book (eggs, frosting, butter, etc.)
- ✓ Discuss the setting: What is the setting of this story? Where do the pigs live?

3. Story Structure

CCSS: Describe the overall structure of a story, including describing how the beginning introduces the story and the ending concludes the action.

CCSS: Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges.

- ✓ Every story has a beginning, middle, and end. Use a board or flip chart. As a group, discuss what major events happen in the beginning, the middle, and the end.
- ✓ Every story has a problem. As a group, make a list of the problems the piggies encounter.
 - What do the piggies do every time they think Mama Pig is coming back?
 - Which pig is the look-out pig in this story?
- ✓ What does Papa Pig do when he finds the piggies making a mess?

4. Rhyme Time

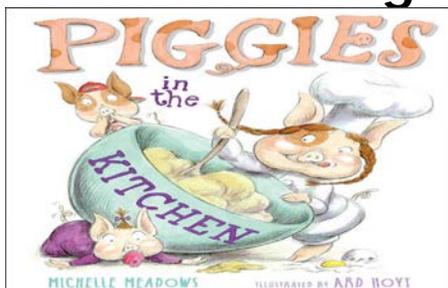
CCSS: Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).

CCSS: Describe how words and phrases (e.g., regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song.

- ✓ Piggies in the Kitchen is a story in rhyme. Discuss the definition of rhyme. Rhyming words end in the same sound.
- ✓ Give students a word from the book and have them brainstorm corresponding rhyming words as a group. MOO: What rhymes with Moo? Ask students to name any rhyming words they can think of.
- ✓ Ask students to identify rhyming words through the Piggies in the Kitchen matching exercise on the next page.

Piggies in the Kitchen

Rhyme Time Matching Activity



Draw a line to connect each word on the left side of the page with a rhyming word on the right side of the page. These words are from Piggies in the Kitchen, written by Michelle Meadows and illustrated by Ard Hoyt.

top

sheep

bowl

tune

cup

cow

spoon

car

now

mess

beat

drop

house

roll

jar

up

dress

mouse

beep

roll

5. Projects

CCSS: Participate in shared research and writing projects.
CCSS: Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.
CCSS: Write opinion pieces in which students introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure.
CCSS: Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.
CCSS: Compare characteristics of animals that make them alike and different from other animals and nonliving things.

- ✓ Ask students to choose their favorite pig from the story and present facts about why they made their selection.
- ✓ Ask students to draw a picture of their favorite pig from Piggies in the Kitchen.
- ✓ Ask students to discuss the characteristics of pigs. What makes pigs different from other animals?
- ✓ In Piggies in the Kitchen, the pigs plan a birthday party. Ask students to write about their last birthday party. What food did they eat? What was the theme of the party? What did they wear to the party?
- ✓ Parts of Speech: Ask children to identify verbs, nouns, and adjectives in the text of Piggies in the Kitchen.
- ✓ Discuss [kid-friendly recipes](#) and ingredients used for baking.
- ✓ Have children write descriptions or poems about their favorite food.
- ✓ Talk to them about [baking rules](#), such as not using the oven by themselves. In Piggies in the Kitchen, Papa turns the oven on!
- ✓ Teach children how to [plan a party!](#) Encourage them to make plans, assign tasks, and bring in decorations and treats for a fun piggy party in the classroom.
- ✓ Show children how to make an [egg carton pig](#) or a [cute CD pig](#).
- ✓ Check out more [pig crafts for kids](#).