A Teacher’s Guide for I Know a Wee Piggy

Written by Kimberly Norman, Illustrated by Henry Cole

About the Book

A fun day at the fair becomes color chaos when one boy’s lively pig gets loose. Upside down, piggy wallows in brown, but that’s only the beginning of his adventure. Soon he’s adding a rinse of red, a wash of white, a pinch of pink, and all the colors of the rainbow. Can piggy be caught before he turns the whole fair on its head?

About the Author

Kim Norman is a graphic designer, singer, comedic actress and writer of books for young readers. She is the author of Ten on a Sled, which received starred reviews from both School Library Journal and Publishers Weekly, as well as the following rave from Kirkus Reviews: “With animal identification, counting, vocabulary building and print awareness all scaffolded on a can’t-lose rhyme, this one’s a keeper.” Kim and her husband reside in Virginia and have two grown sons and one grand-dog. Visit her online at www.kimnormanbooks.com.

About the Illustrator

Henry Cole is the self-taught illustrator of more than fifty books, including A Nest for Celeste, Jack’s Garden, And Tango Makes Three and the Big Chickens books. He is inspired by all the colors in Florida, where he lives.

Pre-Reading Activities

Using the picture on the cover for clues, what do you think this story will be about? Who will be the main character? What is the setting?

Reading Questions

1) Who is the main character of the story?
2) What other animals do you see in the story?
3) Take a look at each page that shows the wee piggy getting into a mess. What is the mess that goes with each color?
4) What is the setting for the story?
5) What does the wee piggy get at the end of the story that is BLUE? What does a blue ribbon mean?
6) Have you ever been to a fair? What do you enjoy most about a fair?
7) What are some things that the wee piggy sees at the fair?
8) How is a fair different than a circus?
9) How many colors did the wee piggy have on him by the end of the story?
10) What was your favorite color that the piggy got into? Why?

Storytelling Aide

Using the supplied artwork on page (???) of this guide, create a flannel board with a pig and an image of each mess that the wee piggy encounters. As you are telling the story, have students stick each mess to the pig as you come to it in the story. Have them name the color as they put the piece on the flannel board.
Vocabulary

Do you know the meaning of each word? Try using it in a sentence.

1) Wallowed
2) Polite
3) Bore
4) Shack
5) Glimpse
6) Glob
7) Brilliant
8) Exhibit
9) Wee
10) Livestock

Writing

Use the illustrations in the book to help you make up your own story. Can you think of a different adventure for the wee piggy? What is the title of your new story?

Reading

Phonemic Awareness- Rhyming

Put each of the words on a flash card and match each one with its rhyming mate. Once they are all matched up, see if you can think of other words that rhyme with the ones on the flash cards.

1) Down/Brown
2) Head/Red
3) Polite/White
4) Think/ Pink
5) Fellow/Yellow
6) Shack/Black
7) Clean/Green
8) Way/Gray

Ask students to guess why there are no rhymes for “orange” and “purple” in the story. (Answer: Because nothing in the English language rhymes with orange or purple!) For fun, invent new words that DO rhyme, and think up silly definitions for the made-up words. Example: “A sherple is a tiny pony that loves to eat purple grapes.”

Math

Picture Math

Count the number of items on the pages listed below and use them in a math problem to come up with an answer.

1) (page 1) Number of pigs - Number of ribbons =
2) (RED page) Number of women + Number of jars =
3) (WHITE page) Number of people - Number of cows=
4) (PINK page) Number of cotton candies - Number of balloons=
5) (BLACK page) Number of paint brushes + Number of signs=
Science

Cut out 4 large pieces of cotton fabric. Soil each piece of fabric with the following things from the story:

clay, grass, black paint, cotton candy (or pink-tinted sugar), milk, tomato sauce, mud

After allowing each stain to dry, you will wash each piece of fabric in a bowl of:

1) Water (only)
2) Hand Soap and water
3) Baking Soda and water
4) Laundry Detergent and water

Before washing each piece of fabric, make a hypothesis about which cleaning method will be most effective on which stains. Which stain will be the easiest to get out? The hardest?

After completing the experiment, record your results and compare the results to your hypothesis for each stain.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Stains</th>
<th>Hypothesis</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cleaning Solutions</td>
<td>Cleaning Solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Hand Soap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Paint</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Candy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomato Sauce</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mud</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Art

Color Theory: Copy the sheet entitled “Paint Project: Five Mixed-Up Little Piggies.” Have students paint each pig according to the instructions.

Coloring: Copy the sheet entitled “I know a wee piggy who said...” After reading the book, have students fill in each line with the correct color. They can also color in each box to the right of each line. The letter inside of each box offers a hint to the name of the correct color. Students may need a little help with this since some of the colors start with the same first letter. The colors on the sheet follow the order of the colors in the book.

Music

Of course, I KNOW A WEE PIGGY is written to match the song I KNOW AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY. If you’re not familiar with the melody, you can find many versions on YouTube.

And here’s another song about Wee Piggy, to the tune “Frère Jacques”
Original song can be found on YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wyKqvCg4gs

Look at piggy, look at piggy (shield eyes as if you’re looking into the distance)

There he goes, there he goes (pointing)

Now he’s getting messy, rolling in the brown mud (place hands on cheeks and look surprised)

Naughty pig, naughty pig (shame on you finger gesture, forefinger rub)

Repeat the song, replacing the underlined part with the lines below.

Running through tomatoes
Splash in the white milk
Sticky cotton candy
Breaking all the egg yolks
Hopping into wet paint
Rolling in the green grass
Covered up in wet clay

OTHER CRAFTS YOUR STUDENTS MAY ENJOY:

YOGURT CUP PIG NOSES:

Ask students to collect yogurt cups. (4 oz. cups work well.) Remove labels and paint the cups pink. Punch two holes in the rim of each cup, on opposite sides. Thread string through the holes long enough to tie behind each child’s head.
Piggy “pet rock:”

Paperplate craft:
http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mplatepig.htm

Have students draw pigs using the following awesome (but simple!) technique...
http://spittin-toad.blogspot.com/2012/06/kids-art-water-colors-and-elmers-glue.html#

Easy origami pig craft:
http://www.origami-instructions.com/easy-origami-piggy.html

Balloon pig:

FLANNEL BOARD:
http://lisaslibraryland.blogspot.com/2012/06/flannel-friday-i-know-wee-piggy.html

This guide was created by Helen Presnell, a Bookmobile Librarian whose specialty is children’s programming.
In the story, the wee piggy mixes together a lot of colors to make one big mess! Try your hand at mixing colors. Mix the two colors written over each pig and paint that NEW color onto each circle.

What new color did you get by mixing together those two colors? Write the name of that color on the line below each pig.

PAINT PROJECT: FIVE “MIXED UP” LITTLE PIGGIES!
I know a wee piggy who said...

First, I need a **B**atch of __________________!

I think I’ll add a **R**inse of ________________!

I think I’ll add a **W**ash of ________________!

I’d better add a **P**inch of ________________!

I need about a **Y**ard of __________________!

And now I’ll add a **B**last of ________________!

I should add a **G**limpse of ________________!

Now I need a **G**lob of ________________!

I won’t forget an **O**unce of ________________!

Next I’ll try a **P**ile of ________________!

I won a ribbon of **B**lazing ________________!
Please complete the crossword puzzle below.

Across:
1. A small building
3. The color of carrots
5. The star of the book!
7. The color of tomatoes
9. The color of mud
10. The color of grapes
11. The color of coal
12. The color of an elephant
13. Roll around in something
14. Loud noise made by pigs
15. Not rude
16. The color of water

Down:
2. A pig's foot
4. The color of a CLEAN piggy
6. Wet and slimy
8. The color of egg yolks
9. Shout
12. The color of grass
14. Goofy
16. A blob

http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/crossword-puzzle.php
KEY
Please complete the crossword puzzle below

Across:
1. A small building (shack)
2. A pig's foot (hoof)
3. The color of carrots (orange)
4. The color of a CLEAN piggy (pink)
5. The star of the book! (piggy)
6. Wet and slimy (slippery)
7. The color of tomatoes (red)
8. The color of egg yolks (yellow)
9. The color of mud (brown)
10. The color of grapes (purple)
11. The color of coal (black)
12. The color of an elephant (gray)
13. Roll around in something (wallow)
14. Loud noise made by pigs (squeal)
15. Not rude (polite)
16. Goofy (silly)
17. The color of water (blue)

Down:

http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/crossword-puzzle.php