

A photograph of three young piglets in a barn. They are standing on a bed of straw or wood shavings. The piglets are pink with some darker spots. The background shows a wooden fence and some equipment.

DESIGNED FOR STUDENTS
IN GRADES 4-6

PORK

VERSION 2

FUN FOR EVERYONE

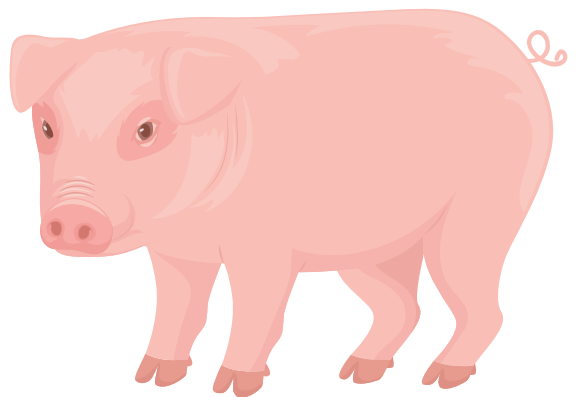
All About Pigs

Meat from Pigs is called Pork.

Ham is
Pork!

SIZE

When a baby pig is born, it weighs between 3-5 pounds. In about 6 months, full grown pigs will weigh around 280 pounds when they go to market. Boars and sows can weigh up to 400-650 pounds!



FOOD

Pigs eat a mixture of corn, soybeans, wheat, vitamins, minerals, and other proteins.



FUN FACTS

- 115 Million pigs are sent to market each year in the US.
- A sow gives birth to 12-14 piglets in one litter.
- Biosecurity is a procedure that farmers follow to keep pigs healthy.

PIG FAMILIES

- **Sows** are female pigs that have had babies.
- **Gilts** are female pigs that have not had babies.
- **Boars** can get a sow pregnant.
- **Barrows** cannot get a sow pregnant.

BREEDS OF PORK

Top 3 Breeds in the US

- 1 YORKSHIRE:** Found in almost every state, white in color with perky ears, known for muscle, with a high proportion of lean meat and low backfat.
- 2 DUROC:** Red in color with droopy ears, known for product quality, carcass yield, fast growth and lean-gain efficiency, also make great females for breeding.
- 3 BERKSHIRE:** Black in color with white on its feet/legs, tail, and nose, known for fast and efficient growth, reproductive efficiency, cleanness and meat flavor and value.

Match each word box to the correct picture

Found in almost every state

Black with 6 white points

Red with droopy ears

White with perky ears



Known for muscle with lean meat and low fat

Known for fast growth and high quality females

Known for fast growth, cleanness, and meat flavor

PLACES A PIG WILL LIVE

There are three different places a pig will live before it goes to market. Look at the images, and complete the word search that has words all about the places a pig will live.




S	I	X	W	E	E	K	S	O	B	B	O	A	R
F	I	N	I	S	H	E	R	C	M	I	L	U	K
T	E	M	H	W	W	I	T	S	E	E	G	G	E
F	F	A	T	T	H	Y	R	F	A	W	O	S	B
O	W	E	E	T	M	F	N	E	W	F	W	O	O
U	O	L	R	W	I	R	R	E	A	A	B	R	C
R	F	I	R	C	E	T	X	D	T	R	U	H	S
M	B	G	T	L	I	G	K	I	E	M	O	I	T
O	G	L	I	T	T	L	E	L	R	R	O	I	E
N	K	Y	R	E	S	R	U	N	E	R	R	P	K
T	R	F	H	I	L	E	R	S	W	A	E	B	R
H	T	H	R	E	E	W	E	E	K	S	B	U	A
S	E	G	R	O	W	B	A	R	R	O	W	H	M
I	E	U	O	P	I	G	L	E	T	R	R	H	K


- Barrow
- Boar
- Feed
- Gilt
- Market
- SixWeeks
- Water
- Big
- Chores
- Finisher
- Grow
- Nursery
- Sow
- Birth
- Farm
- FourMonths
- Little
- Piglet
- ThreeWeeks


CARING FOR PIGS

Draw lines to connect the question to the correct answer.

What is the procedure that farmers follow to ensure the health of their  pigs?

What tool do farmers use to move their pigs in and out of the barn?

 How often will a pig farmer do chores?

About how many pigs are sent to market each year in the United States? 

2 Times a Day



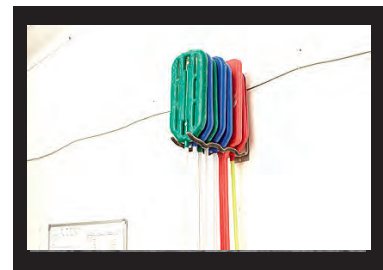
Each time they ensure every animal is healthy and has proper feed and water.

115 Million



These pigs are raised by more than 60,000 producers!

Rattle Paddles



When moving and handling pigs, the farmers will guide the hogs using these.

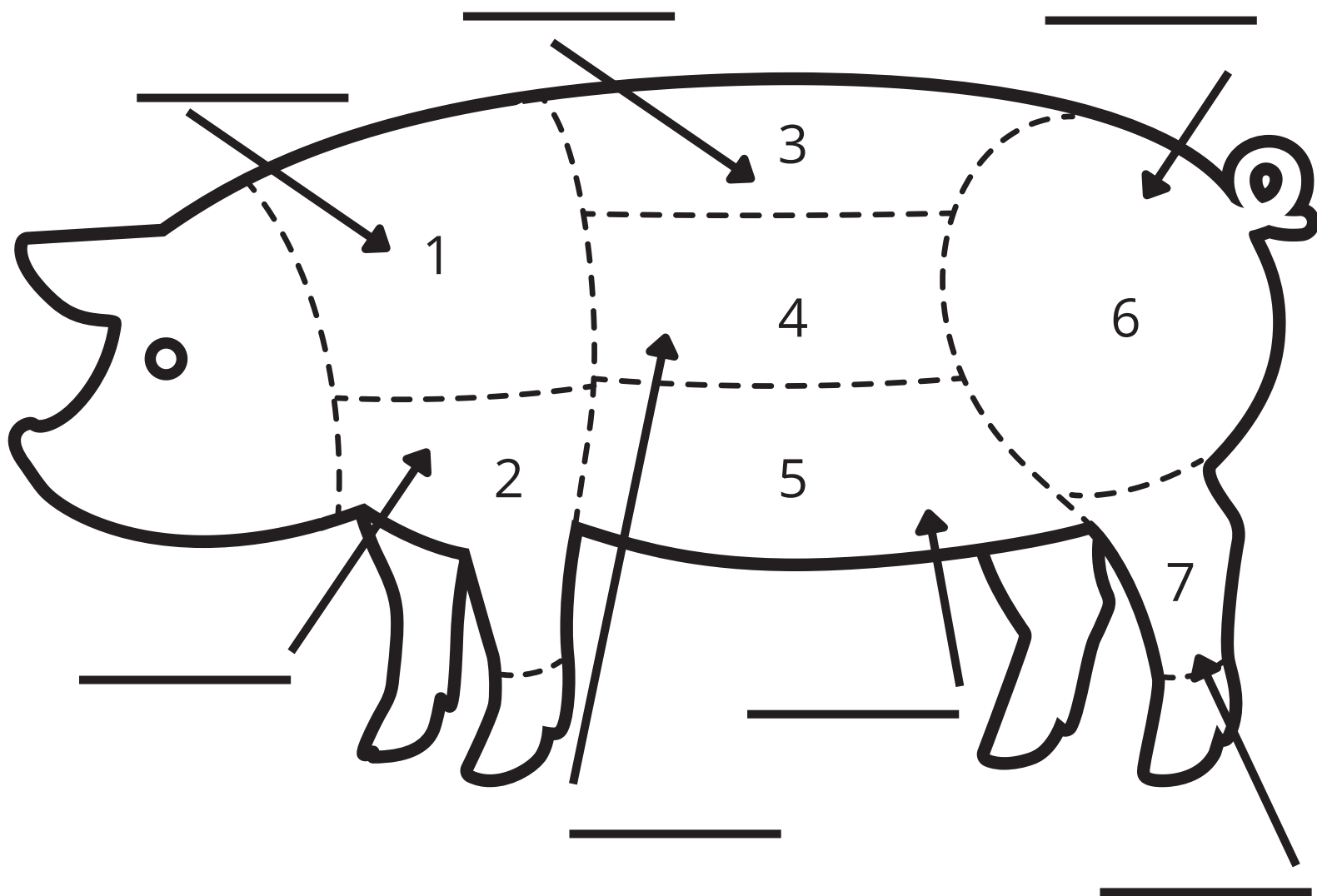
Biosecurity



This means living and working safely around animals so that both the people and animals stay healthy.

CUTS OF PORK

Color the cuts of pork by number and **Write** the name of each in the correct part.



- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Boston Shoulder: Blue | 5. Belly: Purple |
| 2. Picnic: Yellow | 6. Ham: Orange |
| 3. Loin: Green | 7. Hock: Red |
| 4. Ribs: Pink | |



Careers in the PORK INDUSTRY

Growing nutritious and delicious pork takes many people doing a variety of jobs.

- An **accountant** is someone who keeps track of money. They do a lot of math, while tracking income and expenses.
- **Pig farmers** are in charge of the daily care of the animals. They make sure all the pigs are healthy, and have the right amounts of food and water.
- **Truck Drivers** transport the pigs from barn to barn and to market when they are fully grown.
- A **nutritionist** helps decide what the pigs should eat. They make ensure the dietary needs of the pigs are met by formulating a ration with the proper protein, vitamins, and minerals.
- A **veterinarian** is a doctor for the pigs. They will preform routine check-ups, give shots, monitor pregnancies in sows, and run tests to determine if the pigs are sick.
- A **meat inspector** looks over every piece of meat at a packing plant before it can be sold to people. They make sure it is safe and follows regulations and standards.

Unscramble the word and match the job to the picture that matches the description above.
Hint: Not all of the jobs will have a picture.

naritevernai -----

tcouanctna -----

stiruiotntin -----

gpi arfrem -----

team rostcepni -----

eruct vdrire -----

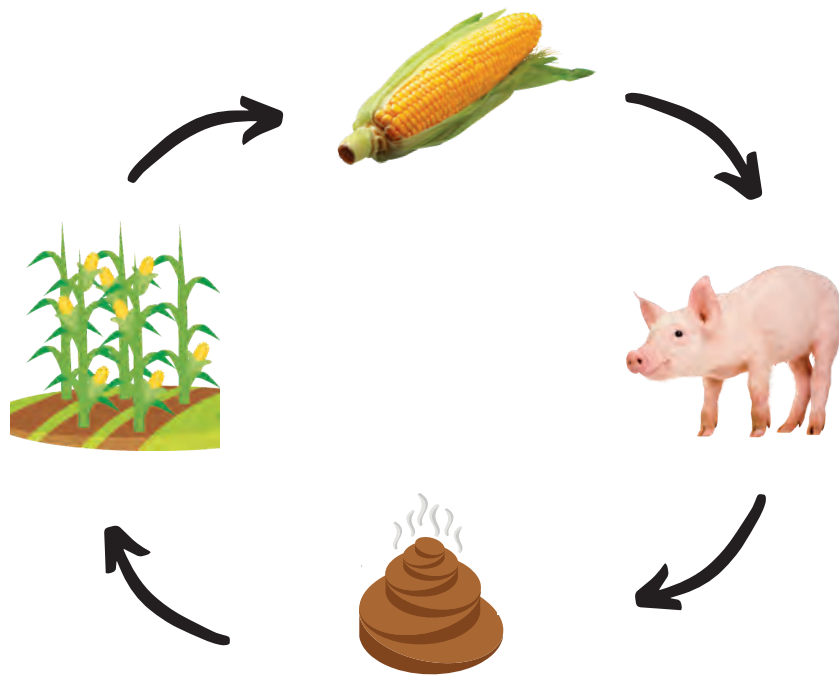




Sustainability

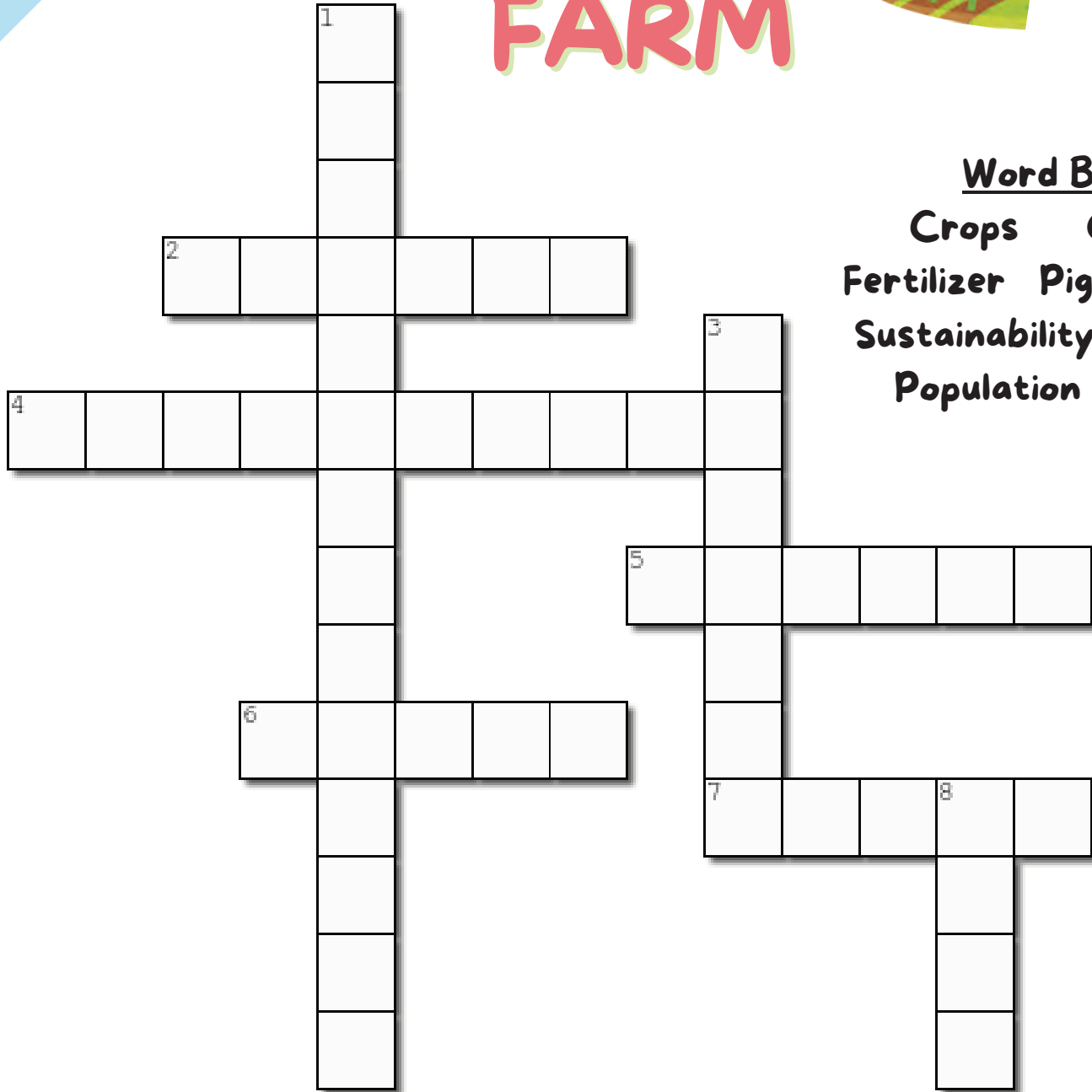


The dictionary defines sustainable as *a method of harvesting or using a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged*. This is crucial to today's farmers because their output will need to increase 70-80% in the next 25-30 years due to population growth.



Pig farmers take sustainability very seriously and follow procedures to ensure that they protect the quality of natural resources. Manure is a large output of pig farms. However, it is a very effective, organic nutrient source for sustainable crop production. This means that farmers spread their manure on the fields as fertilizer, which grow many different crops. The crops are fed to the pigs and the cycle will continue.

SUSTAINABILITY ON THE FARM



Word Bank

Crops Output
Fertilizer Pigs Field
Sustainability Manure
Population Growth

Across

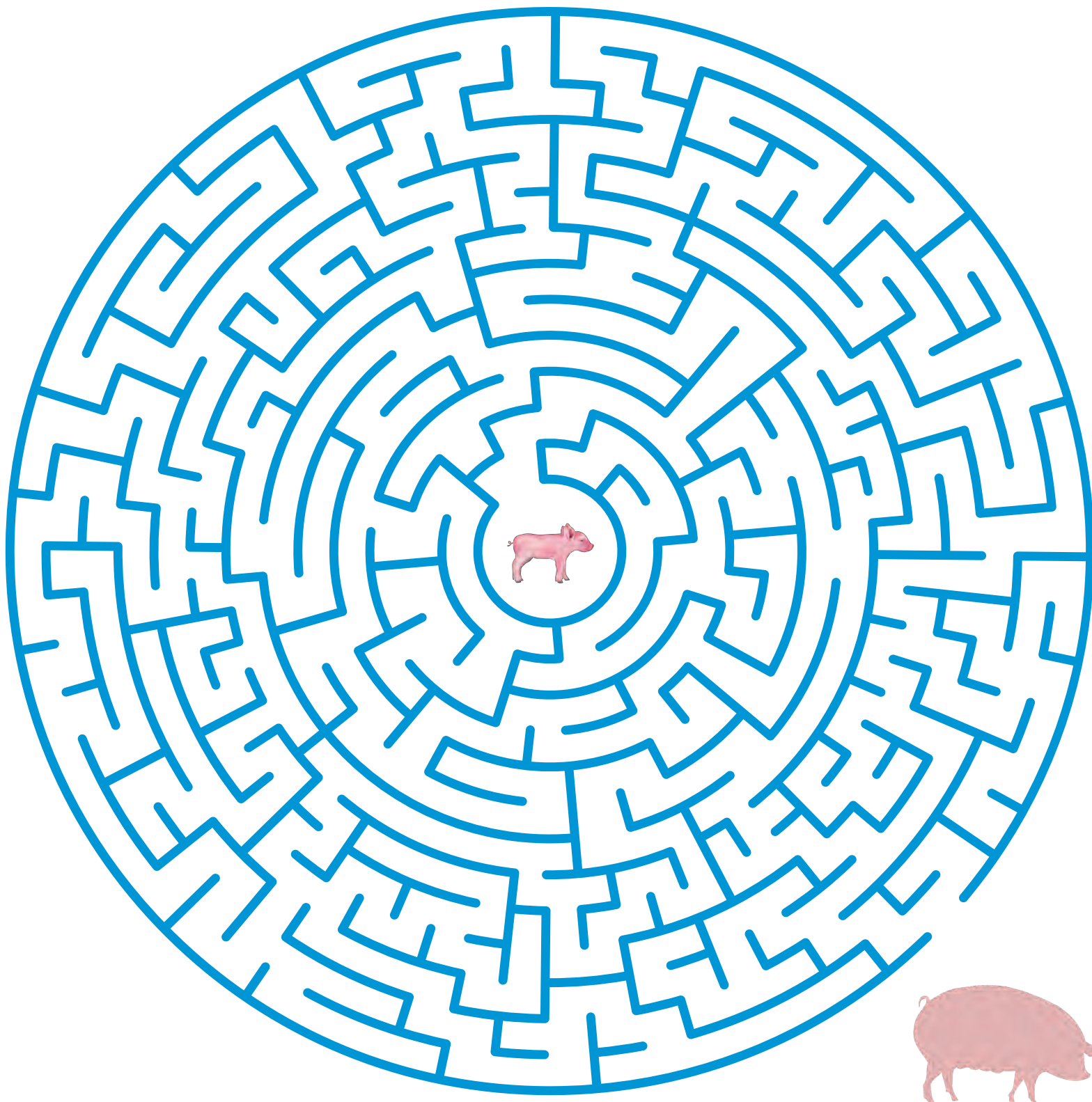
2. farmers need to increase this in order to feed the world's growing population
4. manure is used as this on crop fields, increasing production
5. a valuable output of farms, used as fertilizer, and produced by every pig
6. where manure is spread to fertilize the ground before crops are grown
7. these are grown in the fertilized fields and eventually fed to pigs

Down

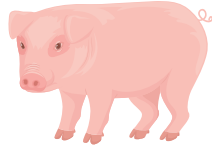
1. the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance
3. this word describes the type of fertilizer that manure is
8. the animal discussed that produces manure and eats the processed and mixed crops

MAZE

Help the piglet find its way back to his mommy!



Pigs Recap



Finish the sentences using the correct words below.

Yorkshire

Nutritionists

manure

pork

barrow

nursery

A male pig that cannot get a sow pregnant is a

A breed of pigs found in almost every state is the

The place a pig will live for about six weeks is the

..... make the diets that the pigs eat.



Meat from pigs is called

A valuable resource that comes from pig farms is

SOURCES

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Farm to Fork is committed to positively promoting and advocating for production agriculture by educating America's youth on the proper practices and knowledge of animal husbandry and agricultural land management.

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The Minnesota Pork Board and Farm to Fork Education are proud to partner and bring you Pork Fun for Everyone. It is a 10 page activity book that will entertain your child while educating them about everything they need to know about the swine industry.