



All Pigs are Beautiful - January 2008

Author: Dick King Smith © 1993 Foxbusters Ltd
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This delightful first person account of keeping pigs, in all their variety, captures the understanding and affection of a farmer towards his animals. The story provides a wealth of knowledge about pigs, their life cycle, habitats and habits, from an expert on the subject who is also a well-loved writer of stories for children.

Activities

- Make a chart**

In a chart, list all the ways pigs are similar to humans and how they are different. This can begin as a shared writing activity, for example:

Similar

Different

People	Pigs	People	Pigs
Mammal – feed their young milk	Mammal – feed their young milk	People usually have 1-4 young	Pigs have 8-12 young at the same time
Like chatting	Like chatting	Babies are born after 9 months	Piglets born after 3-4 months
Intelligent	Intelligent	People have feet and toes	Cloven hooves or trotters
Skin, hair, eyelashes	Skin, hair, eyelashes	No tails	Tails

- Design a poster**

Draw and write a poster to convince the audience that pigs are beautiful. Children can draw pictures of pigs, note all the reasons why the author likes them and add in their own.

- Research**

Virtually the whole of a pig can be used for food. Research all the different names for food made from pigs. Are there other things we use from pigs?

- Visit a farm**

Visit a farm. Take sketch-pads to describe and draw the pigs that you see.

- Write a shared poem**

Write a shared poem about pigs. Start by making a list of ideas, then select favourite ones to develop into one or more lines of the poem, and decide on the best order. You may need to elaborate or redraft the poem together to "polish" it.

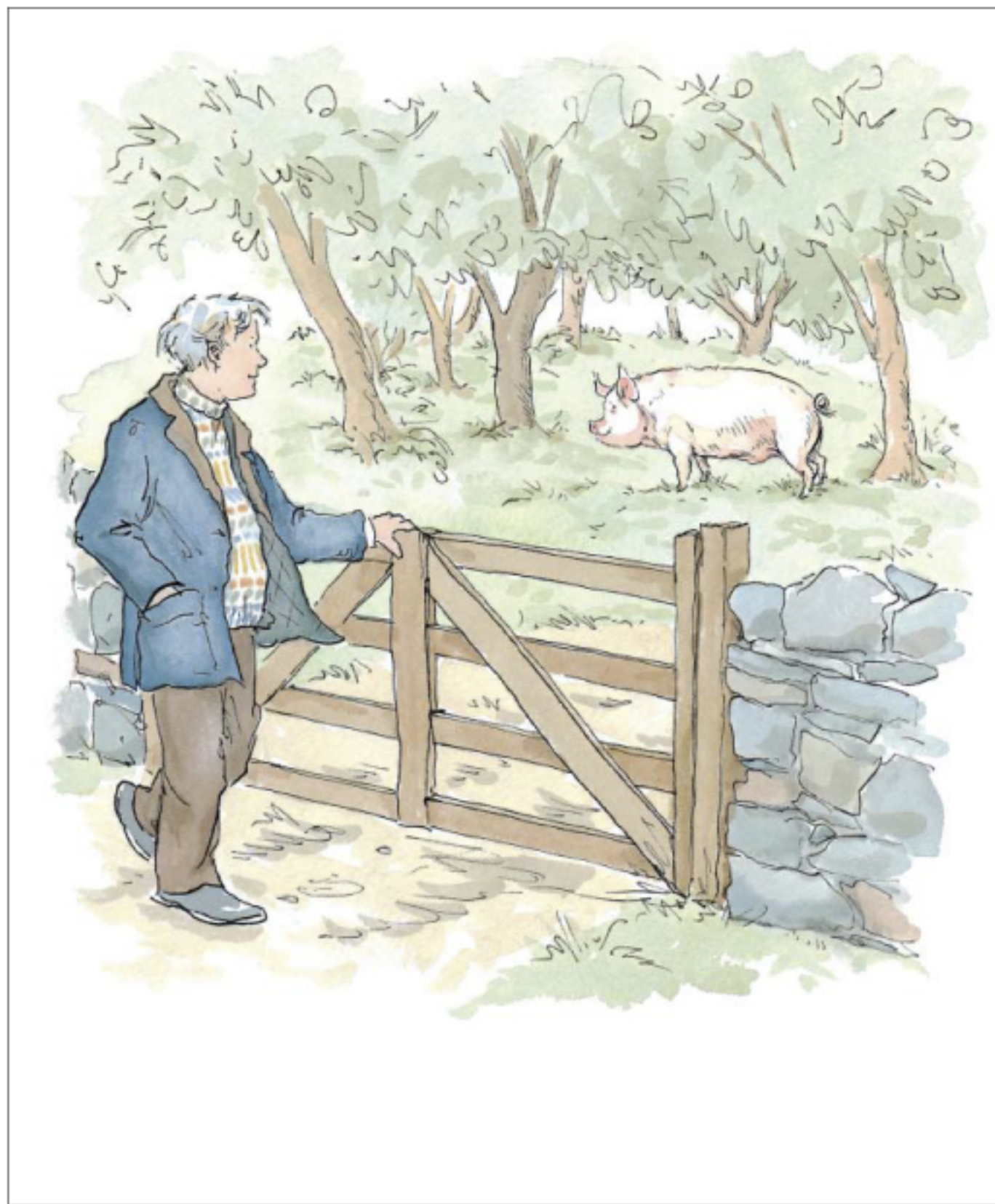


Image H. *All Pigs are Beautiful* • © 1993 Anitta Jeram