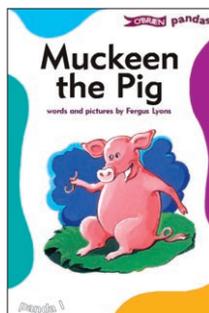


MUCKEEN THE PIG – PANDA 1



by Fergus Lyons, illustrations by Fergus Lyons

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Muckeen is not a clean pig. In fact, he's a dirty and untidy little pig who spends his days happily making mud pies, digging for worms in the farmyard and looking forward to dinnertime, when Mrs Farmer brings him a bucket of delicious sloppy stuff. But the summer passes, and one day he overhears the Farmers saying that he should be brought to market. When he eventually realises that a trip to market involves more than an ice cream treat and a new hat, he squeals and squirms and wriggles and shoves until finally he is free. Racing all the way home, he meets a man stealing his bucket of sloppy stuff and knocks him over. His bravery is rewarded and Muckeen is even more contented than before.

LANGUAGE – ENGLISH

- ◆ Discuss favourite foods: Muckeen loved 'sloppy stuff', children love ...
- ◆ Discuss favourite treats: Muckeen wanted ice cream and a hat ...
- ◆ Discuss expectations: When reality doesn't meet expectations.
- ◆ Discuss treasured belongings: Muckeen rescued his 'sloppy stuff'.
- ◆ Language of movement: Squeal and squirm, wriggle and shove.
- ◆ Language of pig: Fat, pink, snout, digs, floppy, curly, meal, mash, boar, sow, piglets, bonhams (banbh), litter, intelligent, clean.
- ◆ Creative: Name the ingredients for Muckeen's favourite meal.
- ◆ Listing: 'This little piggie went to market to buy ...'; 'To market, to market to buy a fat pig/to buy a fat ...'

SESE – SCIENCE

- ◆ Living things: The pig rooting in the soil for food, rolling in mud, but extremely clean, lives in pigsty or on farm; sow can produce as many as twelve piglets at a time.
- ◆ Provides humans with food: Pork chops, roast pork, kidneys, bacon, rashers, sausages.
- ◆ Characteristics of pigs: Intelligence, foods they eat, grunting/snuffling noises when looking for food.

SPHE

- ◆ Myself: Taking care of my body. Personal hygiene, importance of cleanliness and of being tidy/untidy, taking some responsibility for self-care.

- ◆ Feelings and emotions: Exploring different feelings in different situations. Happiness: 'I feel happy when I...'; taking control: 'I take control when I...'

- ◆ Treatment of other people: Treating people with dignity and respect, respecting the belongings of others, tackling those who are doing wrong.

MATHEMATICS

- ◆ Counting: Mr Farmer counting his gold.
- ◆ Observation: Finding the hidden panda; naming the other farm animals/birds/insects from illustrations.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- ◆ Warm-up: Pig-in-the-Middle.
- ◆ Movement activities: Skipping, hopping, leaping, dancing with joy.
- ◆ Drama: Dramatise the story of Muckeen rescuing his bucket.
- ◆ Cool-down: Relaxing on the farm, dreaming of ice cream.

VISUAL ARTS

- ◆ Clay: Pink pig holder. Roll modelling clay into ball, attach small pieces for nose, tail and ears; make pen-hole 3cm deep. When dry, paint pink and varnish with PVA glue.
- ◆ Construction: Linked border pig. Using pig templates, trace onto card, cut out and paint brightly. Hang one by tail with pin and hook the rest by tails and snouts to make colourful border for notice-board.

- ◆ **Read also:** *The Pig in the Pond* by Martin Waddell.