

THE PIG'S WEDDING

The Pig's Wedding
by Helme Heine (McElderry)

Themes: Friendship/Love

Grade Level: Pre-K-3

Running Time: 7 minutes, animated

Summary

The Pig's Wedding is a charming story describing the preparation and celebration of the marriage of two pigs, Porker and Curlytail. As the bride and groom, and the guests, are without proper attire, Porker comes up with the brilliant idea of painting clothing on each and every one of them.

Everyone has a wonderful time at the wedding celebration, until it begins to rain. The rain washes the painted clothing off of all them! Again, Porker has a brainstorm. He tells his guests to follow him as he runs toward a huge mud puddle. They all toss their pink pig bodies into the mud and have a glorious time!

Finally, with the wedding celebration over, Porker carries his bride into their new home--and paints the furnishings all over the stable walls! The ingenious pig and his wife live happily ever after.

Objectives

- Children will explore the meaning of friendship
- Children will investigate wedding celebrations
- Children will learn about creative thinking/problem solving

Before Viewing Activities

Share the book The Pig's Wedding, with children.

Then ask:

How did Porker solve the different problems that occurred in the story?

Talk with children about wedding celebrations they may have attended. Ask: Where did the wedding take place? How were the bride and groom dressed? How were the guests dressed? What happened after the bride and groom were married? What did you enjoy most about the wedding.

Discuss the different things children do with their friends. Ask: When do you enjoy your friends most? On what special occasions do you invite your friends to be with you? How would you feel if you did not have friends to share things with? Encourage children to watch closely to see just how the pigs in the story show their feelings for their friends.

After Viewing Activities

Give children the opportunity to dramatize the wedding between Porker and Curlytail. Have children plan the wedding and decorate the classroom for the wedding celebration. As children work, encourage them to think about what the pigs and their guests would like in terms of decorations and celebration activities. You might want to have children make curly pig tails that guests can wear to the celebration. Be sure to have children make choices regarding the appropriate music, food, invitations, etc. (Work with children to create these invitations which can be distributed to other classrooms.)!

Attach a long sheet of kraft paper to your classroom wall. (If possible, have the paper cover the entire length of the wall.) Talk with children about the kinds of things they like to see in a room that make them feel comfortable. Then supply paints and brushes that children can use to paint their ideal environment on the kraft paper. Later, label children's paintings by printing their names below their contributions along with brief explanations of why

they enjoy these things.

Remind children of the ways Porker solved the different problems that arose before and during the wedding. Ask: What would you have done if your friends came dressed to your birthday party in pajamas? What would you have done if your party was outdoors and it began to rain? What would you do if you invited your friends to a party and they did not seem to be enjoying themselves? As children discuss resolutions to each of these situations, stress the importance of keeping the feelings of others in mind.

Other book based films and videos about friendship and love are available from Weston Woods. These include: ANDY AND THE LION by James Daugherty APT. 3 by Ezra Jack Keats THE BEAST OF MONSIEUR RACINE by Tomi Ungerer THE CATERPILLAR AND THE POLLIWOG by Jack Kent DANNY AND THE DINOSAUR by Syd Hoff HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOON by Frank Asch THE HAPPY LION written by Louise Fatio and illustrated by Roger Duvoisin THE ISLAND OF THE SKOG by Steven Kellog MIKE MULLIGAN AND HIS STEAM SHOVEL by Virginia Lee Burton CORDUROY by Don Freeman GRANPA by John Burningham A LETTER TO AMY by Ezra Jack Keats THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT written by Edward Lear and illustrated by Barbara Cooney OWL MOON written by Jane Yolen and illustrated by John Schoenherr THE SELKIE GIRL written by Susan Cooper and illustrated by Warwick Hutton THE SWINEHERD written by Hans Christian Andersen and illustrated by Bjorn Wiinblad

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