

ACTIVITY

BOOK

ACTIVITIES

Chapters 1-11

Before you read

1 List all the animals and birds that you can think of that are commonly kept on a farm. (If you do not know the English word for an animal, look it up in a dictionary.) What is each animal used for?

After you read: Understanding

2 Which of these are not pigs? What are they?

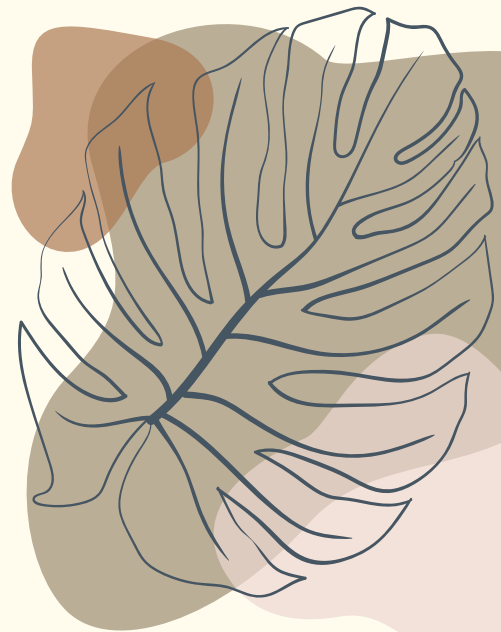
1. Napoleon
2. Mollie
3. Major
4. Squealer
5. Pincher
6. Boxer
7. Moses
8. Jones
9. Muriel
10. Clover
11. Snowball
12. Benjamin

3 Put these events in order.

- 1...A the Rebellion
- 2...B the renaming of the farm
- 3...D Mr Jones's failure to feed the animals
- 4...C Major's death
- 5...E the visit to the farmhouse
- 6...F the development of Animalism
- 7...G Major's speech
- 8...H the fire

After you read: Speaking

4 Summarise, in your own words, old Major's complaints about the conditions of farm animals.



5 Discuss why Moses tries to persuade the animals of the existence of Sugarcandy Mountain

Chapters III-IV

Before you read

6 How easily do you think the animals will be able to follow the Seven Commandments?

7 What do you think happened to the milk referred to at the end of Chapter II?

After you read: Understanding

8 What are:

- 1.the Rebellion?
- 2.the Meeting?
- 3.The Republic of Animals?
- 4.The Wild Comrades' Re-education Committee?
- 5.Foxwood and Pinchfield?
- 6.The Battle of the Cowshed?
- 7.Which tasks do the pigs take for themselves? What privileges do they have?

After you read: Speaking

10 Act out a conversation in a public bar between two farmers, one of them Mr Jones, who took part in the fighting at Animal Farm. Use your imagination to discuss how you feel and what you plan to do next.

Chapters V-VI

Before you read

11 To what extent are the Seven Commandments being obeyed? In what ways do you think the relationship between the animals is going to change?

After you read: Understanding

12 How and why do these animals leave the farm?

- 1.Mollie
- 2.Snowball

13 Why does Mr Whympers visit the farm?

14 What factors ensure that Napoleon remains the animals' leader?

After you read: Speaking

15 Discuss how decisions about the building of the windmill reveal the changing relationships between the animals.

Chapters III-IV

Before you read

16 According to Napoleon, why was the windmill destroyed? How true is this? Why do the other animals believe him?

After you read: Understanding

17 Whose comments are these? Who or what are the speakers talking about?

1. "He was Jones's secret agent all the time."
2. "The solution, as I see it, is to work harder."
3. "Serves you right."
4. "They could not knock it down in a week."

18 Explain why:

1. there is not enough food.
2. the murder of some of the animals is accepted by the others.
3. the windmill has become so important to Napoleon.
4. Squealer appears one day looking seriously ill.
5. Squealer is found lying at the bottom of a ladder.

After you read: Speaking

19 "All animals are equal." How true is this now?

20 Look again at the poem in Chapter VIII. Discuss the meaning of each line of the poem. What is its purpose? What kind of person (or pig!) has a poem about himself written on a wall in a public place?

Chapters IX-X

Before you read

21 How do you think this animal society will develop? How will life change for the pigs, the other animals and the neighbouring farmers?

After you read: Understanding

22 Are these statements about the story true or false? Give a reason for your

1. As time passes, living conditions improve for all the animals.
2. The pigs tolerate Moses's talk of Sugarcandy Mountain.
3. Boxer dies in hospital.
4. The society becomes a true democracy.
5. The pigs start walking on their two back legs.
6. All the original Commandments have been changed.

23 "The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which. What does this mean? What does it tell us about life on Animal Farm?"

After you read: Speaking

24 Imagine a conversation between Napoleon and the spirit of Old Major. What will Major accuse the younger pig of? How will Napoleon defend himself? Act out the conversation.

Writing

1 Which character in the story do you feel most sympathy towards? Explain why.

2 Describe the development of Napoleon's character and behaviour as the story progresses. How inevitable do you think it is?

3 Which of these animals leads a happier life, do you think? Choose one pair. 1 Mollie or Boxer 2 Snowball or Squealer

4 Do you feel the story is more or less powerful for its use of animals as the main characters? Give reasons for your answer.

5 "All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others." With reference to men and women rather than animals, how true is this of your society or another society that you are familiar with?

6 Is it possible for a society ever to be completely democratic? Justify your answer with reference to past and present social groups that you are familiar with.

GLOSSARY

aback (adv) taken aback surprised or shocked
abnormal (adj) not normal
abolish (v) to end something officially
bull (n) a male cow
bushel (n) a measure of grain or vegetables (about 36.4 litres)
butt (v) to hit something with your head, or with the horns of an animal
cabbage (n) a large round vegetable with thick green or purple leaves cable
calf (n) a young cow; the back of your leg between your knee and foot candle
canter (n) a fairly fast movement
drill (v) to make a hole
drip (v) to fall in small drops of liquid
duckling (n) a young duck dumb (adj) unable to speak
elaborate (v) to add more detail
elevator (n) a machine for lifting things
furious (adj) extremely angry
furnace (n) a large container for a very hot fire
gaiters (n pl) coverings for the lower part of a man's
gale (n) a very strong wind
gallon (n) a measure of liquid (about 4.54 litres)
gallop (v) to run very
hunter (n) a strong horse used in Britain for hunting foxes (see foxhound)
humble (adj) unimportant
hurl (v) to throw
hush (n) a silence
ignominious (adj) making yourself feel ashamed
ignorant (adj) without the information that you should have
impending (adj) something which is going to happen very soon
knuckle (n) a joint in your finger
laborious (adj) needing a lot of effort
lament (v) to express great sadness about something; called lamentation
lantern (n) a lamp that you carry or hang from something
lash (v) to hit someone hard
murmur (v) to speak in a soft, low voice
mute (v) to drop waste matter
muzzle (n) the mouth and nose of an animal
naked (adj) without clothes
namely (adv) a word used to introduce additional information which makes it clear exactly
who or what you are talking about
neglected (adj) not looked after properly
overstrain (n/v) too much worry or work
overwhelm (v) to be so strong that you cannot think clearly
paddock (n) a small field near a house where horses are kept
pail (n) a bucket
pampering (n) looking after someone very kindly, or too kindly panic (n) sudden fear

GLOSSARY

quack (v) to make the sound of a duck

quarry (n/v) a place where large amounts of stone or sand

rabbiting (n) hunting rabbits

rack (v) rack your memory to try hard to remember radish (n) a small red or white root

vegetable rafter (n) one of the long pieces of wood that form the structure of a roof ead leaves by

raging (adv) very strong rake (v) to make earth flat

swift (adj) very fast

swill-bucket (n) a container for carrying food for pigs

swirl (v) to move quickly in circles

tap room (n) a bar

tarred (adj) covered in a black, sticky substance

terrify (v) to frighten very much

unison (n) in unison everyone at the same time

unscathed (adj) unhurt

unsettling (adj) making you upset or nervous

vengeance (n) harm done to someone in return for harm done to you

veterinary surgeon (n) an animal doctor

vice (n) a bad habit

wits (n pl) frightened out of your wi

witticism (n) a clever, funny remark

wolf (n) a wild animal that looks like a large dog and hunts in groups wreath (n) a circle of leaves and flowers that you put on a grave

yoke (v) to join two animals together to pull heavy loads

yell (v) to shout loudly