

Pig Feed Sack - Go Hog Wild!



Pork producers rely on nutritionists, engineers, and other farmers to help build a healthy diet for their pigs. These diets are all scientifically formulated and measured out carefully so that each pig gets the appropriate amount of feed for its nutritional needs

Materials:

- 1 set of measuring cups (1/8 cup, 1/4 cup, 1/2 cup, 1 cup)
- Plastic resealable bag, small paper sack, or treat bag
- Assorted ingredients, see Pig Feed Sack Chart for suggested ingredients (see “Represented by:” column). Please be cautious of any food allergies.

Instructions:

1. Measure 1/3 cup of marshmallows or jellybeans OR 1/8 cup dried blueberries and put in snack bag. Pigs drink up to 6 gallons of water per day, depending on their growth stage. Nursery pigs drink much less than a sow (mother pig) nursing piglets.
2. Add 1 cup of chosen cereal ingredient to represent carbohydrates. A carbohydrate is a source of energy in the diet of animals that comes from sugars, starches, and celluloses.
3. Add 1/4 cup of nuts OR 1/2 cup cheese crackers to represent the protein in a pig’s diet. Protein is required in the diet for maintenance, muscle growth, and development of fetuses for pregnant sows and lactation.
4. Next add in the minerals and vitamins, represented by 1/4 cup of raisins or other dried fruit and 1/3 cup small candies or fruity cereal, respectively. Vitamins and minerals help support specific functions of the body.
5. Finally, add 1/4 cup of chocolate chips or candy to represent fat. Fat is used in a pig’s diet to add energy, calories, and boost average daily gain (ADG) and helps with feed conversion.

Pig Feed Sack Chart

Pigs Need:	Represented by:	Per student
Water	Blue/White/or Silver Candy (jellybeans), mini marshmallows, OR dried blueberries	1/3 cup mini marshmallows or jellybeans OR 1/8 cup dried blueberries
Carbohydrates	Cereals such as Cheerios®; Corn Chex®, Golden Grahams®, Corn Pops®, Bugles®, popped popcorn, pretzel sticks or twists	1 cup
Protein	Peanuts, almonds, roasted soybeans, OR cheese crackers (Cheez-Its®)	¼ cup (nuts) OR ½ cup cheese crackers
Minerals	Raisins or other dried fruit	1/4 cup
Vitamins	Candy-coated chocolate (M&Ms®), OR Fruit Loops®	1/3 cup
Fat	Peanut butter candy (Reese Pieces®), chocolate chips	1/4 cup