



# THE **Real Deal** ABOUT **PIGS**



**WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT PIGS?**  
MANY PEOPLE THINK PIGS ARE DIRTY ANIMALS.  
NOT TRUE! PIGS ARE VERY CLEAN AND SMART.  
THEY MAY EVEN BE SMARTER THAN DOGS!

People may think pigs are dirty because of their habit of rolling in mud. But pigs aren't trying to get dirty. They just want to cool off. Pigs don't sweat, so rolling in mud helps keep them cool. The mud also protects their skin from biting bugs and sunburn.

**PIG TALK**  
Pigs are social animals. That means they like to be around other pigs. They greet each other by touching snouts. And they use more than 20 different sounds to "talk" to other pigs. The sounds they make include

grunting, squealing, and even growling.

Piglets can tell their mom's voice from all others. The little guys can even tell what kind of mood mom is in from the sound of her voice! Sound familiar?



How might these pigs be feeling?

THIS SPREAD: FROM TOP: KATHY MILANI/THE HSUS; MARIJI BEACH/ANIMAL PLACE; JULIE BUSCH BRANAMAN/FOR THE HSUS

## Did you know?

- Male pigs are called **boars**. Females are called **sows**. Their babies are called **piglets**.
- Thinking pink? Not so! Pigs vary in color from black and brown to white and pink—or a combination of a few colors.
- Pigs are tidy! They choose one spot to use as a toilet. It is a place far from where they eat and sleep.

Moments after they are born, piglets are up and walking around. Within two weeks, they are chasing and playing with other piglets.

Wild pigs and those who roam free on a farm spend their day with their nose to the ground. They have a very strong sense of smell. It helps them sniff out tasty roots deep underground. Then they dig them up with help from their tough snout. Pigs also eat plants and small animals like worms, insects, and snakes.