

**Early Start**  
**Ger and Bernie**

Hello parents and children,

I hope you are all keeping well and have been enjoying the lovely weather.

This week we're going to work on the theme of the farm.

Your child might like the story '**The Pig in the Pond**'  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQOaQ3xVuyQ>

We worked on the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' in school, you could ask your child to retell you the story in their own words.

Here are some art ideas that you could try. There are lots more ideas on Pinterest



Here is an action/counting poem about pigs.

**5 Little Pigs : Counting Song and Farm Song**

**5 little piggies rolling in the mud,** (hold up 5 fingers )

**Squishy, squashy, squishy squashy, it felt good** (roll hands around each other)

**The farmer took one piggy out,** (wave one thumb over your shoulder)

**Oink, oink, oink! that piggy did shout!** (open and close fingers and thumbs on oinks)

**(repeat the verse counting down from 4 – 1)**

**No little piggies rolling in the mud,** (hold out hands to gesture none)

**They all just looked so clean and good,** (frame face with hands and smile virtuously)

**The farmer turned his back and then,** (wag finger in warning)

**Those piggies were rolling in the mud again!** (wave arms around madly!!)

Below are links to some farm songs that your child could sing along or dance to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXEg-QO3xTg> The animals on the farm song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lWhqORImND0> Old MacDonald song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWwWpOxAvu0> A Counting Farm Storybook

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UWoHMuHSxE> Farmyard Counting Book

Click on the link below for an animal sound game

[http://www.literactive.com/Download/live.asp?swf=story\\_files/match\\_the\\_sounds\\_US.swf](http://www.literactive.com/Download/live.asp?swf=story_files/match_the_sounds_US.swf)

### **Early Maths Activity**

Have fun with everyday activities in your home and make them part of learning. For instance, play laundry basketball.

First, have a game sorting the clean socks into pairs - sorting is an early maths skill. Spread out all the clean single socks on the bed. Have a race to see who can match and roll up the most pairs. Count to see who won.

Then put the laundry basket on the floor and aim the rolled up socks at the basket, one pair at a time. Let your child stand quite near the basket, and step back yourself to throw from a distance. Count how many times out of ten you can get a pair of socks in. Talk about how far away the basket is for each throw - one step, two steps, three steps?

This activity improves hand-eye co-ordination skills, and is good sorting and counting practice. It will also help your child understand the idea of distance and teach them how to take turns. Most importantly it's an enjoyable way to spend time together and laundry time will never be the same.

Other ideas for sorting at home might include sorting the cutlery after wash up, sorting building blocks/toys by colour, sorting toys by size.

Take care, Mind yourselves.

Have fun, play outside, and keep washing your hands!

Ger and Bernie