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The Pig Adventure at Fair Oaks Farm Assessment 9/30/2016

Before Students read and discussed the Pork Ag Magazine. Some highlights were pork in our diet along with pigs and their diet. Students were introduced to vocabulary in the farmer talk section. Student were also introduces to the development of the pigs. Student's created Pig books that reviewed the vocabulary and growth process. Student's engaged in discussions of how farmers care for the pigs. Touch briefly on veterinary services needed when the pigs get sick. Read On the Farm book to students and had discussions reviewing new vocabulary and facts. On our way to the farm student's watched the Pork Video highlighting the processes of the pork industry.

Day at the Farm Students were engaged in the Pork Barn where they had hands-on activities. They participated in the Pig Club house and the simulated kitchen-grocery store. Arriving at the pig barn was exciting! Student saw a visually aesthetic timeline of pork farming and how it changed over time. Who knew all farmers had to take a bathe before entering the barn and again leaving the barn. The student's proceeded to the growing barn. They were amazed to see the growing process as they traveled farther down the stalls. That visual experience was perfect because at the end they had the visual explanation of the growing pigs during each stage with reference to an item students could relate back to the real world. Next, students learned about the breeding and gestation portion of the industry. The presentation was very informative and students asked great questions. Some students used the virtual sonogram that confirmed the number of piglets the sow would give birth too. In the farrowing barn students were excited to see the birth of piglets. Behind a window a farmer came out to show the students a 5 minute old piglet. The farmer was very informative and allowed students to ask more questions. Time went by very fast. Student were asking about jobs. They were interested in working on the farm.

Back from Trip Student were able to use the new vocabulary in the proper context. I had students make questions with answers for their partners. They did a Think, Pair, and Share at the end of the day. The next week student viewed Farm to Table and All about Agriculture in Safari Montage which CPS has a subscription. Students were able to read their created Pig Books to the kindergarten students and share their knowledge. Kindergarten students are going to the pumpkin farm in a couple of weeks. I felt this was a great way for the students to apply what they learned. Later in health class we will be learning about the life cycle and I will refer back to the Pig Farm adventure again. Also when we study nutrition we will revisit the pigs diet as we compare a good diet for us.