



Activities Collection

Piglet, the deaf blind pink puppy



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PIGLET MINDSETSM

Educational Outreach

A Piglet Mindset is:

- Facing challenges with a positive attitude.
- Focusing on what you have and moving past what you don't.
- Accepting individuals for who they are and including them despite their differences.
- Having empathy and understanding towards others and following up with positive actions.
- Being kind to all people and animals.

Educational Outreach:

- Online lesson plans and curriculum for teachers, parents, scout leaders, camp directors, and others to teach and discuss growth mindset, acceptance, inclusion, empathy and kindness.
- Virtual and in-person school, fundraiser, and event visits are motivational and enhance the Piglet Mindset Educational experience.
- Big shout out to teacher Ms. Tricia Fregeau for bringing Piglets Positive Mindset in her Growth Mindset lessons for her 3rd graders.
- Thank you to Tricia for coining the phrase Piglet Mindset!!

PIGLET MINDSETSM

Activities

- Hands on activities that add a tangible aspect to learning about Piglet's abilities and how he faces his challenges with a positive attitude.
- Activities can be integrated into Piglet Mindset lessons or as part of a virtual or in-person Piglet visit.
- Please review our lesson plans on our *lesson plans and curriculum page* on the website for details on using Piglet activities as part of the full Piglet Mindset Program.
- There are key places to integrate activities within the curriculum.



Explanation of Piglet's Extraordinary Sense of Smell

- Dogs noses are 10,000-100,000 times as powerful as human noses.
- Dogs noses can detect odors in parts per trillion- one teaspoon of sugar in a million gallons of water (2 Olympic swimming pools).
- Dog- 300 million olfactory receptors, Human- 6 million.
- Airflow and scent detection are separate in the dog's nose due to folds in the front of the nose.
- A recessed area in back of dog's nose holds mucous membrane lined bony turbinates that filter out odors by weight and solubility for detection, and send electrical signals to the brain.
- Exhaled air exits through slits and helps push new odors in, allows continuous sniffing.
- Can wiggle nostrils independently of each other to tell direction of odors, including people and specific objects.
- A large proportion of the canine brain is dedicated to the canine's intricate sense of smell.
- Tracking, cancer detection, drug sniffing.



Identifying Scents

Activity:

Place scented items in small opaque containers. Have students identify the items by smelling the contents of each container.



Discussion:

- Piglet uses his sense of smell to recognize familiar places and events- eating dinner, visiting friends.
- He recognizes his friends by smelling their breath.
- His nose is so powerful that it can detect small changes in who is in the room with him, where they are, when they have moved, when they have left, and when a new person enters.
- Piglet uses his sense of smell, memory, and recognition to help him maneuver in his environment, be aware of who is nearby, and what is happening around him.

Piglet's Powerful Important Sense of Touch

When Piglet was a baby we held him and were in constant contact with him. We used his sense of touch to encourage him to bond with us. Piglets tiny pink paw pads are his direct connection with his environment. He uses his paw pads to recognize changes in ground covering textures to map his way around his house, yard, and places he visits like the vet hospital, classrooms, and hotels when he travels.



Puzzles by Touch

Activity: Children wear a blindfold while putting a simple puzzle together. The exercise is repeated with and without a partner coaching them to compare being deaf blind vs only blind.



Discussion:

- Piglet uses his sense of touch to guide him around familiar environments and learn new environments. He uses variations in ground cover to help him map floor plans so he can relax and rely on his sense of touch, and smell, to keep himself oriented and safe.
- Once he has learned about an object or place (experiences it), he remembers it for the next time.
- Piglet coordinates his sense of touch with his sense of smell to recognize objects, places he visits, and people he meets.
- Activity created by teacher Ms. Tricia Fregeau.

Mystery Grab Bag

Purpose: Connecting the sense of touch with memory and association of recognizable objects that are hidden inside a burlap bag.

Activity: Place objects into a bag. Wearing a blindfold, children put their hand into the bag, pick an object, and describe the way it feels to their touch. Then they take it out of the bag, remove the blindfold, and see how accurate they were in their description and identification.

Discussion: How does it feel to have to use the sense of touch in place of vision? What other "senses" and past information helped them identify the object? How does Piglet use his other senses to identify objects in his environment.

Activity created by teacher Ms. Tricia Fregeau.



Piglet's Mapping Skills

- Piglet uses his senses of touch and smell to guide him around his environment, to find his mom, dad, and his dog sibs within his house, his way to and from the car at the beach, and in and out of the vet hospital.
- He uses his sense of touch to recognize changes in ground coverings such as carpeting, wood floors, tiles, and pavement to help him recognize where he is as he moves about.
- He uses his sense of touch along with his sense of smell to optimize his awareness and efficiency in moving about safely.
- He uses ESP and memory along with his ability to think and put things together to find his way and stay oriented.



Mapping with Mazes

Activity: Create a paper worksheet maze or a plastic maze with a path that is lined with different textured stickers. Children wear a blindfold while using their fingers to follow the maze path from the start to finish. Use a stop watch to time each student's maze trips and compare the first with the later tries as they become familiar with the maze.

Discussion:

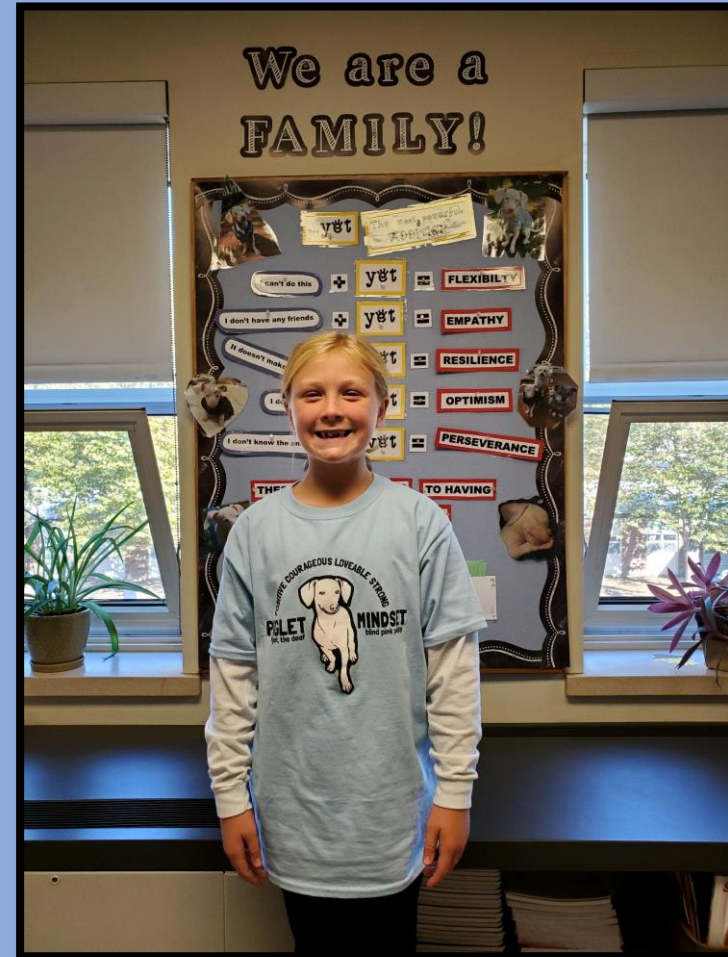
- Textured stickers under finger tips are an approximation of Piglet's paw pads touching the ground below them.
- How long did it take for the students to memorize the maze and get through quickly?
- How do Piglet's experiences mapping his environment differ from that of the children's using their fingertips and a blindfold for the maze? Piglet uses his sense of smell in addition to his sense of touch when he maps so he has an advantage over his human counterparts.



Piglet Mindset Ambassador of the Week

Activity:

- Students vote to choose the classmate who has shown a positive attitude, kindness towards their classmates, resilience, empathy, and leadership qualities, as the Piglet Mindset Ambassador of the week.
- The Mindset Ambassador can wear a Piglet Mindset T-shirt, or enjoy other designated honors on Friday to end their special week.
E-mail pinkpigletpuppy@gmail.com for info on purchasing/obtaining T-shirts, buttons, and stickers for students.
- Thank you to teacher Ms. Joanna Worch for creating the Piglet Mindset Ambassador of the Week activity.



Piglet Mindset Poster- group or individual

- Piglet Mindset posters are one of the initial Piglet Mindset activities listed in our lesson plans. The poster is created by the whole class. But it is also fun for the students to have their own desk size version of *A Piglet Mindset is:* poster.
- Copy or have students draw a picture of Piglet onto the center of a paper as shown here. Have the students write words and phrases that describe Piglet and his Piglet Mindset. This is a simple, thought-provoking, enjoyable exercise.
- Laminate the individual posters for durability. They can be stored inside desks and cubbies for the children to refer to when they are facing challenges and need Positive Piglet Mindset Encouragement.
- Piglet Mindset Poster activity created by Tricia Fregeau. 3rd grade teacher in Plainville, MA.



Treat Everyone with Kindness

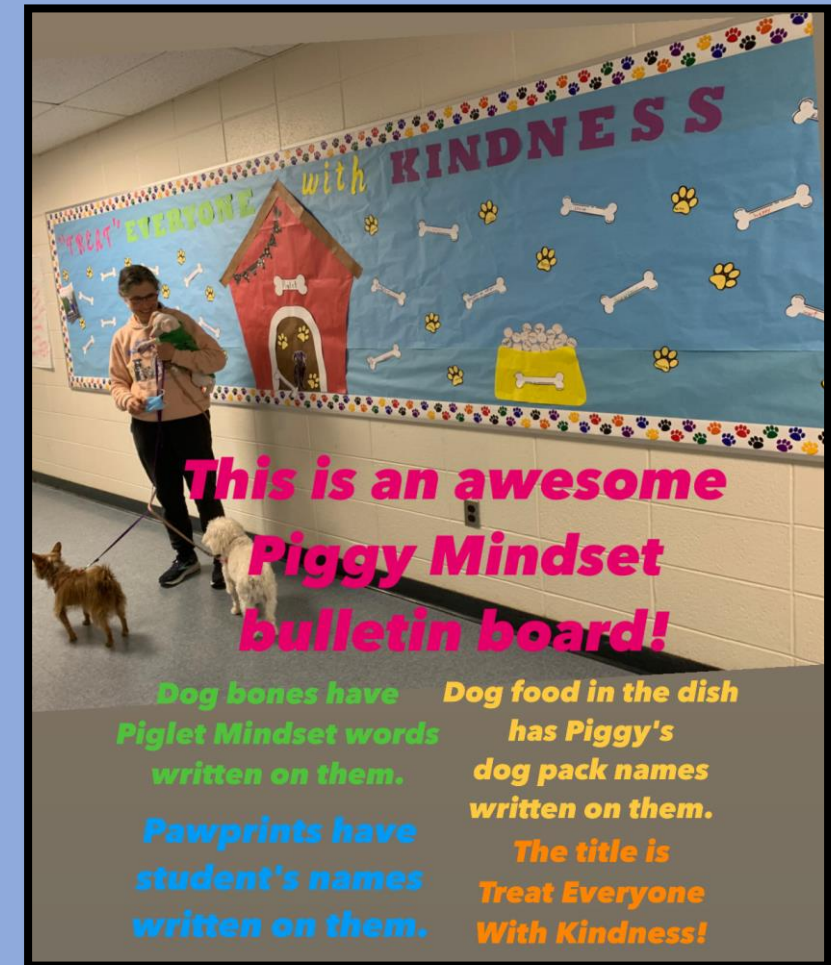
Piglet Mindset Bulletin Board

Bring Piglet Mindset Positivity to the whole school with a hallway (or classroom) bulletin board.

We'd love to see new variations and ideas! Send pics!



Bulletin board created by Jodie Monillos, 2nd grade teacher at Highland Elementary School in Cheshire, CT.



Piglet Mindset Classroom Decorations!

Classrooms can be decorated to include Piglet Mindset in many ways.

Adding a little Pink Piggy décor with motivational words, challenges, and plain old pink cuteness brings Piglet Mindset to life!

Instead of Class Teams, how about Packs led by Piglet's dog sibs? (idea contributed by Stephanie Weeks, 2nd/3rd gr teacher at Cielo Vista El in CA.)

Decorating coat racks, adding a Piglet Mindset station, or a designated classroom bulletin board are great ways to incorporate Piglet Mindset into the everyday class routines.



Piglet Ears Headband

- Kids can decorate and wear their Piglet ears headband during class activities, a Piglet visit, or a Piglet Pink Party.
- They can be worn during Piglet Mindset discussions!
- PDF of downloadable Piglet Ears Headband outline is located on this Lesson Plans and Curriculum page on Piglet's website.
- Activity created by Ms. Tricia Fregeau.



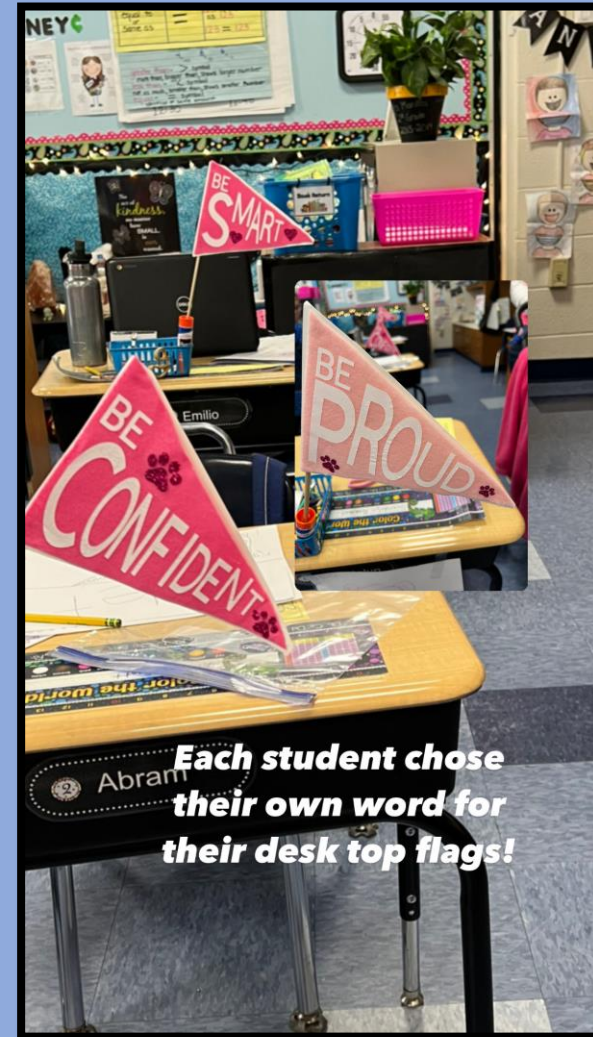
Piglet Mindset Desk Flags

Each student chooses a positive word that they hope to “be”.

Their motivational words are placed on desktop banner flags for students to keep on their own desks.

They can refer to them during tests, when they’re feeling frustrated, or when someone else needs a helping hand.

Flag activity
shared by
Jodie Monllos,
2nd grade teacher
at Highland El in
Cheshire, CT.



**Each student chose
their own word for
their desk top flags!**

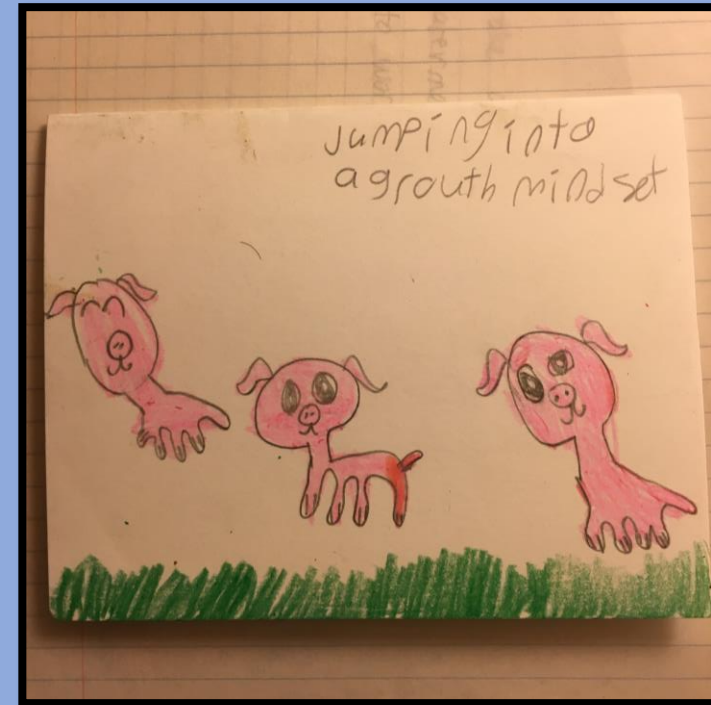
Piglet State of Mind Piglet Ears

- Wire head band with felt Piglet ears glued on.
- These Piglet ears help students get into a Piglet State of Mind!

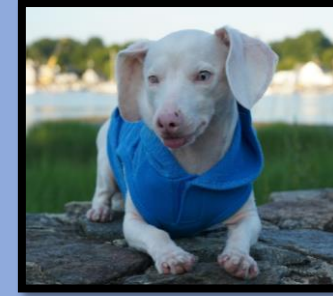


Pen Pals with Piglet, other pets, or other students

- Piglet loves to receive mail and he will respond to reasonable questions via mail, e-mail, or video.
- Pairing with classes in other schools and regions is also a fun and creative project teachers can arrange with other Piglet Mindset teachers.
E-mail pinkpigletpuppy@gmail.com for compatible contacts.



Point to a Familiar Object or Direction



Activity: Memory and Mapping

- Have children sit in a safe place in the room and ask them to close their eyes.
- Have them point to objects such as the smart board, the teacher's desk, and the door.
- Then have them open their eyes to see how accurate they are at finding these objects with their eyes closed.
- Thank you to Piglet's Favorite Dad Warren for suggesting this simple activity that very clearly answers the question- How does Piglet know where he is?

Discussion:

- Even without consciously trying to map an area in your mind, by repetition and being aware, experience with objects and activities in an area like a classroom or home, we are able to visualize the area in our minds. We subconsciously map environments in our minds.
- If we close our eyes and are asked to point to the door, or the smart board, or a piece of furniture, we are able to point accurately.
- Piglet might not be able to see his surroundings but Piglet learns his environment through his senses of touch and smell. This "mapping" helps Piglet maneuver deliberately, confidently, comfortably and safely.

Piglet Mindset Journaling

Activity: Keeping a Piglet Mindset Journal

- Reflecting on self, experiences, new thoughts, perspectives, and ideas.
- Listing acts of kindness and plans to be kind to others.
- More suggested topics- 5 stances of growth mindset, optimism, perseverance, resilience, flexibility, and empathy, acceptance, inclusion, and kindness, animal rescue, community service, fundraising for an important organization or cause.
- Improving writing skills.
- Thank you to teacher Ms. Elana Militzok for contributing the Piglet Journaling activity idea.



Book Activities:

Reading Piglet's adult book to the class, chapter by , chapter; allows teachers to tell the story of Piglet and his family, with editing as needed.

PIGLET COMES HOME is an adorable picture book for elementary school aged children.

Students can read it on their own, it can be used as a read aloud with follow-up discussion, and writing activity (both in educational materials) where children can create new adventures for Piglet and his pack!

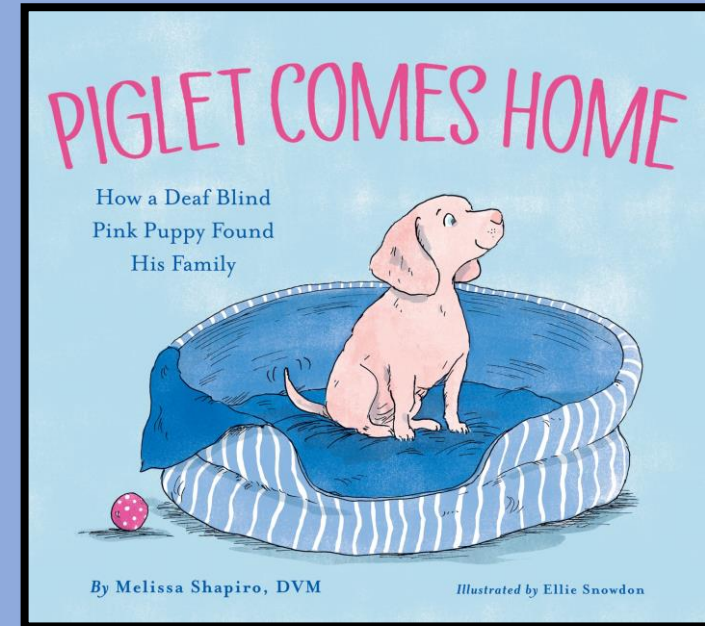
And it makes a great take-home at the end of the school year or as a holiday gift.

The PIGLET Book

Hardcover, E-book, Audiobook, Large Print, Paperback



A Picture Book for Children



Signed copies, and signed bookplates available.
Visit PigletMindset.org for details.

Children Donating Books to their Peers!



With the arrival of our new children's book, our nonprofit Piglet International Inc. has **established Piglet's Book Donation Fund** to donate our book to libraries, classrooms, and individual students in underserved community schools. This is a beautiful opportunity for students to fundraise and donate to bring Piglet Comes Home books to their peers.

- Visit PigletMindset.org to learn more about our new peer to peer fundraising that can be brought into the classroom. Students can have a birthday party, bake sale, or other fun event to celebrate a happy occasion and collect donations, instead of gifts, to donate to **Piglet's Book Donation Fund!**
- Organize a class fundraising party or event to raise awareness and money for Piglet's Rescue Fund.

Please let us know if your school qualifies to receive books from our book donation drive.

Our goal is to donate at least 1000 books to schools and children in underserved community school by the end of the 22-23 school year.

Use Piglet's Books as resources with the Piglet Mindset Learn About Animal Rescue PowerPoint.

- Both books are chock full of info about veterinary medicine, pet care, disabled pets, and animal rescue and animal welfare!
- They are helpful resources for teachers to use as part of lessons about animals, being inclusive, and being kind!
- Examples of Discussion Topics Include:
 - What is a rescue organization and how do you get to be a rescuer?
 - What's the difference between fostering and adopting a new pet?
 - Why is fostering dogs so important?
 - If Piglet was a foster puppy, why did his family adopt him?
 - What would it have been like for Piglet to move to another family if his foster family didn't adopt him?
 - Why do some people adopt rescued animals while some buy dogs from breeders or pet stores?
 - Other than fostering or adopting, how can students help animals?
 - What do veterinarians do? How can they help rescued animals?
 - Why are there so many homeless animals?
 - Why is Piglet deaf, blind, and pink? Are there other dogs just like him?
 - What is double dapple?
- Answers to these and so many other questions can be found in our two Piglet books!!



Support Animal Rescue!

Fundraise for Piglet's Rescue Fund!

- Piglet and his pack are all rescued dogs. They come from a number of rescue organizations in Georgia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and California.
- Children are very interested in learning about animal welfare and rescue.
- They are very willing to advocate for and fundraise for rescued dogs, cats, and other pets.
- Project suggestions:
 - Creating informative posters for school bulletin boards.
 - Running a pet food drive for a local animal shelter:
 - Fundraising for local shelters with bake sales and other campaigns such as birthday parties, school dances...
 - Fundraising to support Piglet's Rescue Fund. More info about Piglet's Rescue Fund is on PigletMindset.org/community-engagement (scroll down).



Bake Sale for
The Little Pink Shelter Dog Rescue

Piglet's Rescue Fund Info for Student Projects

- Piglet's Rescue Fund supports rescue organizations that care for disabled pets.
- Every week Piglet sends a donation to a dog rescue organization to help care for an individual or group of dogs that have disabilities.
- The rescue organization and some of their dogs are featured on Piglet's social media pages to raise awareness and support for that group, and hopefully help some of their dogs find their forever homes!



What can students do to help?

- Visit PigletMindset.org for details!
- Sign up for our Peer to Peer fundraising program (on website) where you can have a birthday party, bake sale, or other fun event to celebrate a happy occasion and collect donations, instead of gifts, to donate to Piglet's Rescue Fund!
- Organize a class fundraising party or event to raise awareness and money for Piglet's Rescue Fund.

Pink Party

- There's nothing like ending the year with a Piglet Mindset wrap up party- A Pink Party!
- Be creative- pink popcorn, pink streamers, pink Piglet t-shirts, pink lemonade...
- Set up a dog supplies collection box to donate to a local dog rescue or shelter:
- Piglet Mindset Activities!
- Consider a Piglet Mindset In-Person or Virtual Visit from the Pink Prince himself!!
- Thank you to teacher Ms. Tricia Fregeau for organizing the very first Pink Party in June, 2018!



Piglet Mindset In-Person or Virtual Visit from the Pink Prince himself!!



Visits Include

- Interactive PowerPoint Presentation
- Tap Signal Demo by Piglet and his sisters
- Q and A
- Piglet Stickers and Piglet's Inclusion Pack membership cards if you haven't already received them.

Topics for presentations include-

- Enhanced, Interactive Piglet Mindset
- Disabled Pets
- Pet Safety
- General Pet Care
- Veterinary Medicine for Kids
- We can also read our books!

Email pinkpigletpuppy@gmail.com for more info!!

Pink Christmas/Holiday Trees with Piglet sticker ornaments.

- For schools that have in-school Christmas holiday celebrations, children LOVE a PINK tree!
- And they will love decorating PINK trees with Piglet sticker ornaments.
- Of course, this idea can be used in a number of different decoration contexts and holidays!

Pink tree idea
contributed by
Grier Rivers, librarian
at Berea Elementary
School in Greenville, SC.



Sponsor a Buddy Bench

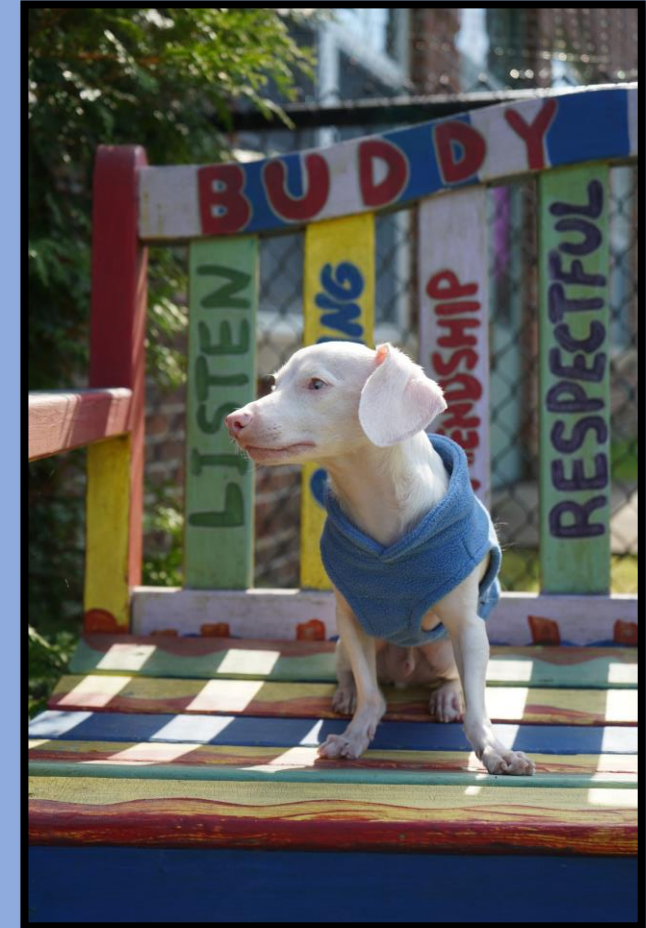
Buddy Benches are popping up all over school yard playgrounds!

Activity: Have a class fundraiser to provide a Buddy Bench to their or another school playground.

- **What Is The Buddy Bench?**

The buddy bench is a simple idea to eliminate loneliness and foster friendship on the playground. Let's spread the message of inclusion and kindness. Visit buddybench.org

- When a child feels lonely and is not able to break into a group on the playground, they go sit on the bench.
- When another child sees someone on the bench, they go over to keep them company and invite them to talk or play.
- Find out more about Buddy Benches [HERE](#).
- Find out about our friend Mario's Buddy Bench Project [HERE](#).



New PIGLET MINDSETSM Ideas??

We appreciate feedback!

Please share your experiences, ideas, and success stories with us so we can continue to expand and improve our Piglet Mindset Educational Outreach Program!

Contact Melissa Shapiro, Piggy's mom:

pinkpigletpuppy@gmail.com

Visit our website:

PigletMindset.org

Instagram:

[@pinkpigletpuppy](https://www.instagram.com/pinkpigletpuppy)

Facebook:

[Piglet, the deaf blind pink puppy](#)

