### About the Tale

Although we’ll never know who invented the story of “The Three Little Pigs,” historians credit James Orchard Halliwell with being the first person to publish it. In 1849, he included the tale in his tome *Popular Rhymes and Nursery Tales*. Since then, the classic has been retold—and interpreted—by everyone from the Brothers Grimm to fractured-fairy-tale specialist John Scieszka. Today, this engaging story of three house-building pigs and the huffing, puffing big bad wolf is probably the most widely told children’s story in the English-speaking world.

### Discussion Questions

1. Why did the big bad wolf want to blow down the pigs’ homes?
2. The pigs put a pot of hot stew at the bottom of the chimney. Do you think that was fair? Why or why not?
3. There are three pigs in this story. Can you think of some other stories that have three characters?

### Notable Retellings

  > Via funny dialogue and exuberant cartoons, Marshall breathes new life into this favorite.

- **The Three Pigs** by David Wiesner (Clarion Books, 2001).
  > Don’t miss this Caldecott Award–winning retelling stocked with incredible pictures and a super-zany plotline.

- **The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!** by John Scieszka (Puffin Books, 1996). Get kids giggling and teach point of view with this fractured classic told from the wolf’s perspective.

### Companion Reproducible

**Focus Skills:** Critical and Creative Thinking, Making Personal Connections, Writing

Distribute copies of the reproducible on page 38. Then invite each child to complete the poem and add an illustration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>F</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Word Count</strong></td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vocabulary</strong></td>
<td>chimney, cozy, dashed, stew, straw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supportive Features</strong></td>
<td>repetitive, patterned text; familiar story</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Challenging Features</strong></td>
<td>long sentences, use of commas, phrases such as “Quick as a wink”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Comprehension</strong></td>
<td>Use this book with the Problem/Solution Chart on page 24.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Phonics</strong></td>
<td>short vowels (a: bad, and, as, ran, at, back, that; e: yelled, then, them, when; i: pig, big, quick, sticks, bricks, in; o: upon, not, pot, hot, bottom; u: huffed, puffed, lunch, jumped, up)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing</strong></td>
<td>Invite children to pretend they are the big bad wolf and write a letter to the pigs explaining his point of view.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fluency</strong></td>
<td>Have partners reread the story, alternating each page. Circulate and listen in. Model how to read dialogue that is in all caps, such as “OUCH!”</td>
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</table>
The three little pigs used straw, sticks, and bricks to build their homes. What would you use? Fill in the poem. Then draw a picture of yourself inside your house!

To keep the Big Bad Wolf away,
I would not build a house of hay.

Instead, I’d build a house of ______________________ .

Then in my happy home I’d stay!

Name _______________________________________________
The Three Little Pigs
A retelling by Violet Findley • Illustrated by Keiko Motoyama

When the wolf came down the chimney, he landed right in the pot. “OUCH! OUCH! OUCH!” he yelled.

After that, the three little pigs lived safe and sound in their cozy house of bricks. And the big bad wolf never bothered them again.

One day, each pig decided to build a house to keep safe from the big bad wolf. You see, the wolf loved to eat little pigs.
Once upon a time, there lived three little pigs.

The first pig built a cozy house of straw.

"Please do!" said the pigs sweetly.
You see, they had put a pot of very hot stew at the bottom of the chimney.

Then, quick as a wink, he dashed out the door and ran far, far away.
The third little pig built a cozy house of bricks. He invited the two other pigs to live with him.

"I’m coming down the chimney to eat you for dinner!" said the wolf.

The second little pig built a cozy house of sticks.

But the big bad wolf huffed and puffed and blew the house down.
But the big bad wolf huffed and puffed and blew the house down.

Quick as a wink, the first little pig ran away before he became breakfast.

The big bad wolf huffed and puffed and huffed and puffed. But he just could not blow the brick house down.

Quick as a wink, the second little pig ran away before he became lunch.
Making the Mini-Books

1. Make double-sided copies of the mini-book pages. (You should have two double-sided copies for each one.)

2. Cut the pages in half along the dashed line.

3. Position the pages so that the lettered spreads (A, B, C, D) are face up. Place the B spread on top of the A spread. Then, place the C and D spreads on top of those in sequence.

4. Fold the pages in half along the solid line. Make sure all the pages are in the proper order. Staple them together along the book’s spine.

Book Badge Reproducibles

Let me read __________________________ to you!

Let’s read __________________________ together!