

Model Finishing Barn Talking Points

To get people interested:

Have you visited an Nebraska pig farm? Would you like to see how we raise our pigs?

Facts about barns:

1. The barn is a replica of a real hog barn
2. Barns keep pigs cool in the summer and warm in the winter.
3. Most pigs in Nebraska are raised inside barns just like this.

What you'll notice about this barn:

1. The curtains:
 - *Rolling the curtain up and down.*
 - a. As you can see the sides of the barn are open to provide plenty of fresh air when the weather is nice. When the weather is cold, farmers use curtains that provide wind breaks and keep our pigs comfortable.
2. The fans:
 - *Pointing to the fans on the end of the barn.*
 - a. Another way to keep our pigs comfortable. These fans pull air through them to keep fresh air inside the barn. Smaller fans and misters are also placed in the barns for warmer months.
 - b. Note: Why do pigs need misters and fans during warm weather? Pigs cannot sweat and therefore our farmers need to help them stay cool. Instead of wallowing in mud like they would in the wild to stay cool, farmers mist them with fresh, clean water to keep them comfortable.
3. The waterers:
 - *Point to and feel the nipple waterer and encourage visitors to touch it. Show them the picture of the pig drinking inside the barn.*
 - a. This is a type of drinking fountain that provides fresh and clean water to pigs all day long.
4. The feed:
 - *Show the visitors the corn, soybean and feed dish along with the feed bins.*
 - a. Farmers feed their animals a balanced, nutritious diet of corn and soybeans. The feed is ground up and stored in feed bins then transported through pipes into feeders.

Key messages:

- Nebraska's pig farmers help feed you and your family.
- There are 3,000 pig farms in Nebraska.
- Nebraska is the number 6 state in pig production.
- Farmers care for their animals because it's the right thing to do.
- Barns protect pigs from extreme temperatures and predators.
- Pigs are raised in barns to protect their health and safety in a controlled environment.
- Farmers are concerned about air and water quality because they live here too.
- Modern barns of all sizes provide animals with an environment designed especially to keep pigs safe, healthy and comfortable.
- Farmers care about the well-being of their animals.
- Farmers follow strict guidelines at the farm to be responsible food producers.

Nomenclature at a Glance:

<u>The Animal</u>	Pig or Hog
<u>The Person</u>	Farmer or Pig Farmer
<u>The Farm</u>	Family Farm Small Farm Large Farm Modern Farm Pig Farm or Hog Farm
<u>Farm Animal Care</u>	Care Humane Treatment Well-Being
<u>Medicine</u>	Vaccines Medicine
<u>Farm Housing</u>	Barn Outdoor Access Outdoor Production Pasture Raised
<u>Transportation</u>	Hauling Moving Trucking