Goals:

Students will learn why it is important to ear notch.

Students will learn how to read an ear that is ear notched.

Objectives:

Students will design their own pig head and ear notch the pig according to the numbers they receive.

Materials:

Construction paper

Scissors or ear notcher

Jar with pig and litter numbers

Pre Lab Questions

1. What ear does the litter number go on? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What ear does the pig number go on? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. What are the different quadrants for each ear? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Procedure:

1. Each student will be given a piece of construction paper to draw and cut out their pig head.
2. Each student will then draw an individual pig number and litter number at random from a jar.
3. Using scissors or an ear notcher, the students should ear notch their pigs according to the numbers they drew.
4. Once everyone has ear notched their pig, they should present them to the class and see if the other students can read what the pigs individual number and litter number is.

Assessment Questions:

1. What advantage do ear notches have over other methods of pig identification? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do you think it is recommended to ear notch the pigs shortly after birth?

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3. It is recommended that the ear notching tool be disinfected before using on each pig. Why do you think this is a good practice?

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4. Is it wrong to have a pig that is ear notched 10-81? If so, why

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