

POT-BELLIED PIG

Sus scrofa domestica · also called Vietnamese potbelly

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Fast facts

ANIMAL GROUP	Mammal; domestic pig
BREED ORIGIN	Vietnam (Red River Delta)
LOOK	Swayed back; round belly
DIET	Omnivore
SIZE	Zoo guide: 14-20 in at shoulder
WEIGHT	Zoo guide: 100-250 lb; adults vary
LIFESPAN	Zoo guide: 15-20 years
STATUS	Domesticated



Photo: Plumpton Park Zoo

Did you know?

- The first pot-bellied pigs were sold in the U.S. in 1986.
- They first came to North America to supply zoos.
- Pot-bellied pigs can be trained and even housebroken.
- They reach full size at about five years old.
- Mud cools pigs and protects skin from sunburn and flies.

Words to know

Domestic: Kept and bred by people.

Wallow: To roll or lie in mud or water.

Root: To dig in the soil with the snout.

Omnivore: An animal that eats plants and animals.

Think about it

1. What country do pot-bellied pigs come from?
2. Use page evidence to explain how the snout and skin help a pig survive.
3. Why do pigs wallow in mud?
4. Why are some pet pigs given up by their owners?
5. What do pot-bellied pigs eat?

Draw it

Draw a pig rooting. Label its snout, round belly, swayed back and ears. Then design a digging tool inspired by its snout; explain how it solves a gardening problem.

Draw here