Mrs Pig has babies

Before reading

1. Some look more like their father, others look more like their mother, not everyone looks exactly like his or her parents. Look at the animals here, do the babies look like their parents?

2. What about this? Today we’ll read a picture book about it.

3. Look at the cover of the book, what do you know about the story?

S1: Mrs Pig is pregnant.

S2: Mrs Pig has babies.

S3: Mr and Mrs Pig are talking.

4. We can know something from the cover. What do you want to know about the story?

Do you have any questions?

S1: How many babies do they have?

S2: What colour are the babies?

S3: Do the babies look like their father or mother?

While reading

1. Good! You want to know something about the story. Let’s learn this story together.

2. First go over the story quickly and tell the general idea of the story by using 2-3 sentences.

3. Mrs Pig is pregnant, she and Mr Pig are very happy. They always talk about who the babies will look like. Listen!

Read in pairs. （板书）

4. One day, Mrs Pig feels labour pains. Mr Pig drives her to the hospital.

Do you know labour pains?

What are they saying?

5. Two hours later, the doctor congratulates Mr Pig on becoming a father.

What are they saying?

6. Mr pig goes in to see his wife. Listen!

7. Which are their babies?

S: A B D

You see, in a pram, a row of baby pigs are sleeping. There are three black pigs, four white pigs and five spotted pigs.

Do you have any questions?

So does Mr Pig. He’s confused. He said: Are those my babies? The white pigs look like their mother. The black ones look like me. But why are there spotted pigs?

8. Can you try to explain the reason to Mr Pig, now read from page 16-21 and try to tell us the reason.

S: Because of the gene.

Yes, this is the simple genetic map. It can show us clearly. Who can try to introduce it?

S: There is a magical thing in our cells. It is the gene. Genes control our looks, including fur colours.

T: 板书

Some of the babies are white because the white fur gene works.

Some of the babies are black because the black fur gene works.

Some of the babies are spotted because both white and black fur genes work.

Do you understand now?

9. Mr Pig says: How lovely my babies are! How magical the genes are!

He feels proud and excited.

After reading

1. What have you learned from the story?

2. How magical the genes are! Look at the photos here.

What about you? Do you look more like your father or mother?

Which part of you looks like your father/ mother?

3. Homework