

IRONWOOD

ISSUE
NO 107

JULY
2022



CORY

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

Dear Supporter,

July 2022

The months fly by and always, before I am ready to think about it, the time is here to send you another newsletter. Time again to bring you into the sanctuary for a glimpse of what life has brought us in the past couple of months. Seasonal changes always bring a flurry of activity from winter to summer or summer to winter. This huge mountain of blankets is only a part of what we have to sort through to see what can be saved, bundled, and stored for next season. Sheets and light blankets replace the heavy blankets in the more than 450 shelters in the fields and carpet doors have all been removed from the shelters and sorted for next season as well. Shade cloths throughout have been put back up, replaced, or repaired. New wallows have been dug and hundreds of pools returned to the fields. New staff have been hired to begin the months of putting cold towels on our many disabled and old pigs who need extra help to get through the brutally hot months ahead.



And through all of that the pigs keep coming. These three ladies who recently joined us had all been abandoned. Little emaciated Avon was found at an Arizona Flood Control location. She had been there two weeks and was nearly starved to death. We were able to catch her and bring her home. On the far



Avon

side of starving is Milady who was found lying under a tree. The man who took her in said his neighbor moved out and left her behind. And Margo was found wandering in the street. The man who found her could not take her in since he had dogs, but his neighbors agreed to take her and they called us for help. Poor old, skinny girl has had a rough life it seems, but she walked right into her pen and started digging in her wallow as if to say, "This will do, thank you." I might have even seen, in my mind's eye, a sigh of relief.



Milady

So these past two months at the Sanctuary were not uneventful and they never are. These are but three of the precious lives who were saved during those two months. Also, seasonal changes at the entire sanctuary were made to make the lives of our very large population more bearable for the terribly hot Arizona summer ahead.

Sincerely,

Mary Schanz

Mary Schanz
President & CoFounder

Lastly, but certainly not least, we have said goodbye to Taryn. After over 13 years, the time had come for her to make a career change. She has spent her young adult life working very long hours caring for and loving our pigs at Ironwood through all kinds of conditions. Not only has Taryn worked so hard to care for our pigs, but she also managed our Facebook and Instagram sites and made our yearly Calendar. So it is farewell, Taryn but not goodbye. Come back to see us.



Margo

Fancy Foot Work

Pigs are heavy, stocky animals who put a lot of weight and stress on their joints and feet. Keeping their hooves and feet in good condition is important in order to reduce injuries as well as to keep them comfortable. There are a number of things we do for the pigs at the sanctuary to accomplish that goal



including regular hoof trims, individualized care plans, and supplements.

The basic plan to keep hooves in good shape is to provide regular hoof trims. The majority of the pigs do well with a 6-8 month interval for their trims. Each herd is assessed every 6 months and a



list is made of who is in need of a trim in that particular field. The trim team works off that list doing maintenance level hoof work. Not all of the pigs fit into the



norm, though, so we keep a list of what we refer to as the "Frequent Fliers." These pigs are on specifically planned intervals that fit their particular needs. Bart has issues with the pads of his feet growing in odd directions that can cause difficulty in walking. He gets work done on his feet every 4 weeks. Mona has "elf shoes" on the outer toes of both back feet. Those hooves grow up in a pointy curve and never wear down naturally from walking around. She is on a 6-week schedule because those grow rather rapidly. Shakey has severe stability issues that affect his mobility. Since he is not as active as most pigs and his hooves don't wear down evenly due to the way he walks,



he gets a trim every 4 months. Rain has extra toes that are abnormally large and thick, requiring more frequent trims. These are just a few examples of the 35 or so pigs that have an individualized schedule for their hoof trims. The intervals vary according to their issues. The plan can change as the hooves and pads improve over time.

If a pig is light enough to be picked up, it will be placed on its back on a bed or blanket. Agnes is relaxed and cooperative lying on a comfy bed during her trims. Larger pigs like Onyx pictured here, are rolled onto their back then straddled to keep in position. Then there are the jumbo-sized pigs that would be difficult to roll



over and hard to keep in place, like Faline, a Kunekune breed that is bigger than the average potbellied pig. Faline and her family members have been worked with frequently since they were young to train them to allow trims to be done while they lie on their side. This always involves a belly rub, a pleasurable activity for the pig

that helps them relax. Big Charlotte, a hog mix, isn't always cooperative for a belly rub trim. She is usually given a light sedative to get her calm enough to either relax for a trim while lying down or to be able to roll over and straddle without a struggle. Kendall has two fused vertebrae and cannot be rolled onto her back. She is wary of people and won't allow touching or belly rubs, so she must have her hooves trimmed while under anesthesia. We try to avoid the use of anesthesia strictly for trims, but in her case it's a necessity.



Kendall

Some pigs are prone to have cracked, brittle hooves and take a daily dose of a B-Complex vitamin along with Biotin to promote healthy hoof growth. These two supplements are rolled into half a peanut butter sandwich and handed out with the morning meal. The pigs consider that a



Cracked Hoof



Supplements & Ointments

tasty treat! During the hot, dry summers we notice an increase in hooves cracking or splitting. On top of the oral supplements, we sometimes need to do ointments or lotions until the cracked portion of the hoof grows out. The easiest time to accomplish this with most pigs is while they are distracted when eating. Gizmo and Slater get a conditioning ointment applied while they eat from the troughs. Slater doesn't always cooperate and may only get one or two feet done before hopping away. We just hope that he will be in a better frame of mind the following day. Chucho is fed in an individual pen for dieting purposes, so it's much easier to get his ointment on. Batman, Robin and a few of their family



Gizmo

members get the liquid conditioner put on their hooves. They started out with bad cracks and were getting treated 3 days a

week. Once the cracks grew out, they dropped to a once weekly maintenance application. These pigs are easy to work with and will stand still or even lie down for their treatment. Robin makes it super easy by holding up each of his back feet while having the conditioner brushed on. Good boy!



Slater

Thumper has chronic problems with hoof cracks as well as deformed pads on her back feet



Robin

that sometimes split and bleed. Her feet get alternate treatments of the liquid conditioner and a moisturizing lotion with the pads trimmed down as needed. Most days she enjoys getting her "spa treatment", but if her feet are hurting it's not easy to accomplish. Last year, Thumper

got an infection on a front foot. Her foot was soaked daily in a warm water solution with Epsom salt followed by a healing ointment. The photos show the progression of healthy growth after a 7-week interval. Once the infection healed, daily applications of ointment continued until the toe had been entirely replaced with healthy

growth. Thumper continues to get maintenance work five days a week as a preventative measure.

As you can imagine, keeping over 650 pigs' feet in healthy condition is a daunting task. It requires the sanctuary staff to be on their toes to observe and report problems as they crop up, to be diligent with the application of the various



Thumper

conditioners and to be physically strong to perform the hard job of trimming. Your support is important in providing the tools, supplements and ointments used in hoof care. The fancy footwork fitness program is definitely a team effort!

—Donna



Planned Giving

Thank you for considering the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary in your estate plans.



Creating a will is an essential part of securing your legacy and your family's future. Without a will or trust, state laws will determine how your estate is distributed and your wishes may not be fulfilled as you intend. By thoughtfully constructing an estate plan, you can ensure that your family and your legacy are protected as you desire.

A gift by will, also known as a bequest, is an easy and flexible way to make a meaningful contribution to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. Let your legacy reflect your heart. If your heart is in the animal rescue and care

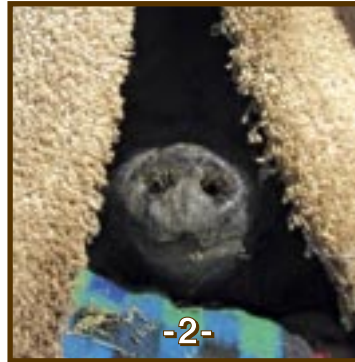


Kelli

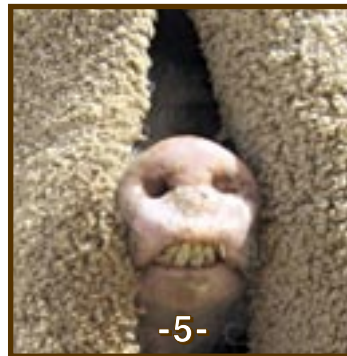
I feel secure knowing there are bequests in my future.

work of the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, a bequest will ensure that future generations of needy pigs will receive vital support.

Guess Who?



Who does that snout belong to? Match the noses peeking out of shelters to their owners. See page 15 for the answers as well as some other games. The Pig Puzzles page will be a regular feature in the bimonthly editions. Let us know what you think and have fun!



Donation Drop-Offs

Currently needed items can be found on our Wish List then dropped off at any of the following locations. (No monetary donations can be accepted here.)

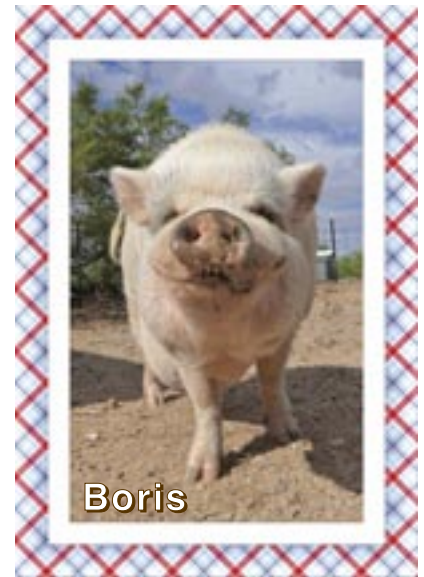
East Phoenix: Carolyn's in East Mesa near Superstition Springs Mall. Call 480-981-8069.

Fountain Hills: Geri's in Fountain Hills. Call 480-229-8318.

Tempe: Anne's near McClintock and US-60. Call 480-720-5168.

Northwest Tucson: Ben and Mary's near N Oracle Rd and W Hardy Rd. Call 520-631-6015.

East Tucson: Sandra's in the Civano neighborhood. Call 804-840-5296.



Boris

Our Wish List

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

****Used Blankets are needed year round.****

***First Class Forever Stamps**

*Famotidine Acid Reducer, 20mg -
High Priority

*Animal Crackers - *High Priority*

*Fig Cookies - *High Priority*
(NOT individually wrapped)

Miralax

Canned Pumpkin

Stool Softener

Fiber Powder (Non-flavored)

Peanut Butter (Creamy Only)



Rain

GIFT CARDS

Master Card
Discover Card
Fry's
Home Depot
Lowes
Office Max
Staples
Walmart
Amazon
Walgreen's
Tractor Supply

When shipping donations through USPS, please ONLY ship to POB 35490, Tucson, AZ 85740-5490. Do NOT use the physical address.

Sponsor a S



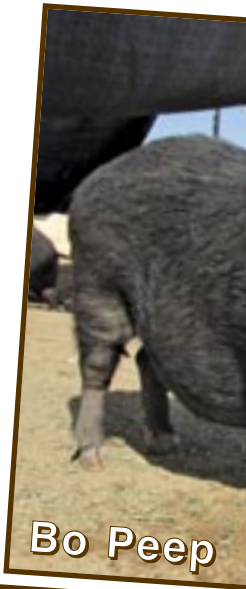
Ginger

I'm a special needs girl because the signals from my brain get confused and don't make it to my back legs. I'm a bit wobbly and tire easily but am lucky to live in an area safe for me.



Pablo

I've been living at the sanctuary for a while but lost my sponsor last year. I sure hope somebody picks me to be their boy! I promise to be good and to be a faithful friend.



Bo Peep

I am so lucky to have my big family. I'm so much at our other pig. I struggled without water. No worries.



These pigs are a few among many that would love to celebrate Independence Day with you. You can do that by sponsoring one for a \$30 monthly donation. You will receive a background letter and photos with an update later to keep you connected to your pig.



Lando & Donna

** Go Green! When signing up as a Sponsor, you may request to receive your letters and photos by email. Better for the environment!*

sponsors@ironwoodpigs.org



Pepito

My human was 80 and gave me away for free on Craigslist. A person came away to "save me" and to keep me. I ended up in a place here, though.

Special Pig!



to be living here with
We didn't have
er home and always
t enough food or
es about that here!



6 years old and
r free on
son got me right
" but didn't want
ded up in a good
h!



Nellie

I had weight problems causing
poor mobility then got beat up by
a dog. I've been dieting but still
have some physical challenges. I
keep getting better, though, as
time goes by. Yay!



Bernie

I came here with my
companion and our 4 children
after our human decided he had
too many animals. You might
ask, "Then why did he let us
breed?" A good question with
no good answer!



Meadow

I was part of a big rescue from an
abuse case. First the Sheriff's Dept.
took us, then the county shelter, next
a short stay at a horse rescue and
finally to Ironwood. Whew!



Pooah

I was an "only child" living in a
rental home where pigs weren't
allowed. Here at Ironwood, I
have lots of piggy friends to hang
out with and no worries about
getting kicked out.

The Phase V Herd

Occasionally I like to “walk” you through a particular field and introduce you to the herd members. Today we’re visiting Assisted Living Phase V, one of the smaller fields that is home to a herd of nine pigs. This group consists of some senior citizens who are capable of independent life within a quiet community, one that is blind, another who was very shy upon arrival and one that was bullied when living with a larger herd. They have all found their sanctuary in Phase V.



Neil

Neil, named after Neil Diamond, has lived here the longest. He formerly lived in the Peoria Field next door but “retired” many years ago due to arthritic challenges. He is a calm, peaceful soul that never causes any sort of trouble. Neil became good friends with Gracie



Gracie Gets Zinc

who was placed in Phase V because of her shyness. Over the years she has become more confident and comfortable around other pigs and people. Bandit is



Bandit

another of the quiet piggies. He enjoys the company of other pigs but can also be perfectly happy spending a lot of time on his own. Both Bandit and Gracie deal with the effects of the desert sun. Skin cancer is a problem for many of the white pigs living here. They have undergone cryosurgery multiple times to freeze the spots, but it’s a constant battle. While they are eating in individual pens, the person feeding the herd can rub zinc oxide on the areas that are most affected. During fly season, they also get an application of Swat, a fly repellent ointment, since the flies are attracted to the open sores.

Minnie Pearl and Joan Jett are best friends that came to Ironwood together. Both ladies have arthritis which led to them being placed in Phase V. Minnie Pearl is sweet with people and loves getting attention, but she can be very feisty and bossy with

the pigs. Don’t let her adorable looks fool you! Sarge is another of the herd with a strong personality and those two clashed for a while when first introduced. Sarge had been bullied in another field, ending up with injuries requiring a smaller area to live in. After moving into Phase V after his recovery, he decided it was his turn to be the bully. Thank goodness, he mellowed a lot over time and now lives peacefully with his herd members. He took



Sarge Leads the Pack

the responsibility of guarding the gate in the mornings. The feeding team arrives early to feed surrounding fields first, then move on to Phase V. Sarge will lie down at the entrance and stay there to keep his eye on the feeders as they bustle about their duties. Once the focus is on his herd, he is up on his feet to be in front of the rest of the pigs as they gather in anticipation of eating. Even Minnie Pearl knows to back off and let Sarge lead the charge!

Frodo and Poppin are the newest additions to the herd, having joined them earlier this year. The

back portion of the field is fenced off and had been their home along with their elderly friend Agnes for several years. After Agnes' mobility declined and she moved to one of the special care facilities, the gate between the two areas was opened up permanently. Poppin has loved having all the extra space to explore and has little



Frodo



Frodo & Poppin



Poppin

station in bowls that have the pigs' names on them. There are soft mashes for a couple, some have medications

hesitation in mixing with the rest of the herd. She has had some challenges from...you guessed it, Minnie Pearl, but the girls are tolerant of one another at this point. Frodo is older and shyer, preferring to stay in the back section. He does meander around in the "new" part but never far from his comfort zone. Ralphie, the blind pig, also lays claim to the back as his home territory. He is always fine just doing his own thing and pays little attention to the others. Frodo, Poppin and Ralphie are doing a great job of sharing that area.

added in, others have specific amounts for their weight issues. The bowls are stacked in the order that the pens are



Meal Prep

Most of the pigs eat their meals in individual pens for various reasons. Minnie Pearl eats quickly and steals other pigs' food, so having her in a pen controls the amount she gets. Neil is older and needs extra time, plus he needs a bit more to keep his weight up. The individual meals are prepared at the feed



First Stop, Minnie Pearl

approached to make distribution easier. The first stop is Minnie Pearl who knows exactly where she needs to go. Then it's off to the row of pens, each labeled with a name, set with a placemat and water bowl, and well shaded to

protect the pigs from the sun as they eat. Bandit and Gracie get diluted juice with their meal. Ralphie is also served juice but

eats out in the field. The pigs are put in the pens and then the bowls are passed out. During that process, Ralphie stays right on the heels of the person feeding. Since he can't see, that's his way of keeping track of the feeder and ensuring that he doesn't miss out on a meal. As if that would happen! It's sort of cute and



Feed Pens

funny how he does that but can also be annoying when he trips you up. Poppin, who is very people shy, is not totally comfortable with going in a pen but she eats super quick then bugs everyone, so we keep trying.

Some days she goes right in and some days she doesn't.



Ralphie Keeps Track

Once the pigs are finished eating, they are let out of their pens to enjoy some alfalfa hay that is spread throughout the field. This



Out For Hay

provides roughage as well as a grazing opportunity for the pigs. They love hay time! Ralphie always grabs a piece and trots off to his favorite corner to munch on it. While the pigs enjoy their hay, the feeder gathers and rinses the bowls, closes the pen gates and sets the water bowls on top of the shade cloth for the watering team to refill later. The feed bowls are



Joan Jett

placed in the holders, each with a name matching those on the bowls. This method gives the feeder the chance to check that all bowls have been picked up which also means all pigs were let out of their pens.



Bowl Check

After the morning feeding routine is completed, the piggies head off for naps. Neil and Gracie often sleep in a shelter together, as do Minnie Pearl and Joan Jett. The rest of the day involves a lot of sleeping with occasional visits to the pool or mud wallow on hot days. In the late afternoon, five of



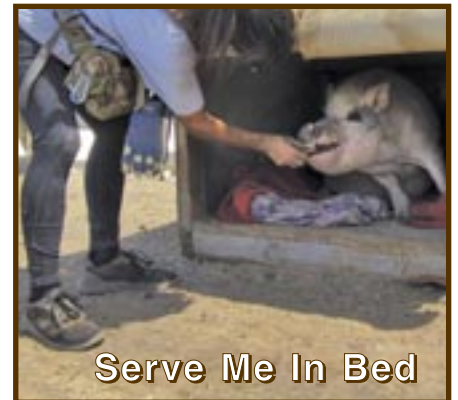
Gracie & Neil

the herd members get half a peanut butter sandwich with their evening medications tucked inside. Sarge and Minnie Pearl rush out to meet "The Sandwich Lady", eager to get their treat. Bandit prefers having his served to him in bed. Then you have to hunt for Ralphie who can't hear very well and wake him up for his sandwich. The others know they

don't get anything so don't even bother getting up. Pigs don't like to waste energy unnecessarily. Soon all the pigs are settled back down ready to sleep comfortably until it starts all over again tomorrow.



Ready For Meds



Serve Me In Bed



So Sleepy

Thank you for giving the Phase V herd a place to call home where they can be loved and cared for while having their individual needs met. We couldn't do this without you!

—Donna

The Luxury of Beds

Pigs like to lie in, on and under nesting materials like blankets in the winter and sheets for the summer. Some of our pigs were blessed with donated beds this year. We received a variety of mats, rugs, dog beds and pillow type beds that the piggies have thoroughly enjoyed. Elsa's babies at just a few weeks old, love bouncing in and out of their piggy pillow.



Elsa's Babies

In particular, the pigs of Camelot, one of the special care areas, have become quite spoiled with their cushy beds. Sirocco, Rosie, Agnes and Rain are like Goldilocks trying out each bed in

loves them all and goes from one to another.

Oreo, a young pig crippled due to severe obesity, has difficulty stepping up onto the dog beds and prefers the rugs and thick mats that are much easier for him to handle. Penny G with her joint problems also needs the flat rugs. They live in the same area and are happy to share their magic carpets.



Rosie



Oreo



Agnes



Rain

The beds are fun and cozy for the pigs. Thanks for sending them to keep these piggies comfortable!

—Donna



Sirocco

order to find which is the most comfortable. Agnes found a dog bed that is just her size (barely!). Sirocco and Rain, both large pigs, like the bigger mattress type. Rosie



Penny G

Front & Back Cover



Cory and his sibling Topanga

arrived at Ironwood on January 9, 2021 after a lengthy delay before we were able to take them. The owner said the neighbor had abandoned them on his property the year before and he never wanted pigs and did not want them now.

He traveled for work and never made arrangements for their care while he was gone. They were like two big slugs that could hardly move, so he must have dumped large amounts of food for them when he was home. I have to wonder how they got through the summers without water unless a neighbor helped.

We were finally able to arrange transport for them and they became part of our family. After a time of adjustment, they were moved to the Galaxy Field with so many other of the “extra larges” to begin their journey to become a pig with a personality and the ability to move around quickly and even challenge others in their herd. Cory has learned that skill all too well. It has taken over a year, and although it may not seem like it when you look at their pictures, they really have made a lot of progress with their weight loss and will continue to do so. They are no longer immobile. They are two healthy, happy pigs now enjoying their life at Ironwood in a small herd that suits their abilities. —Mary



Cory & Topanga



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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

Issue 107

Sirocco

Sirocco loves his big comfy cushion. When he came to us in November of 2016, he was yet another of our very overweight pigs with severe foot problems. The excess weight had taken its toll on his feet. He was an indoor pig and when we picked him up, his owner literally moved ahead of him and put pieces of carpet in front of him so he could walk on the tile floor. So he started his life at Ironwood with great difficulty getting around. Slowly, very slowly, we began to see progress as he began to shed weight, his feet were trimmed and reshaped, he was fed food that made him regular and his life began to change. It was a slow metamorphosis, but Sirocco enjoys life now and has made friends. He is king of his small area and resists newcomers, but in time they settle in together and all is well again in his little kingdom, Camelot. He and Rosie are especially cozy together and have become good friends. This small group of disabled pigs are not shy about enjoying the comforts of donated cushions and beds that have been provided for them. It brings a smile to my face when I see them lying there so contented. —Mary

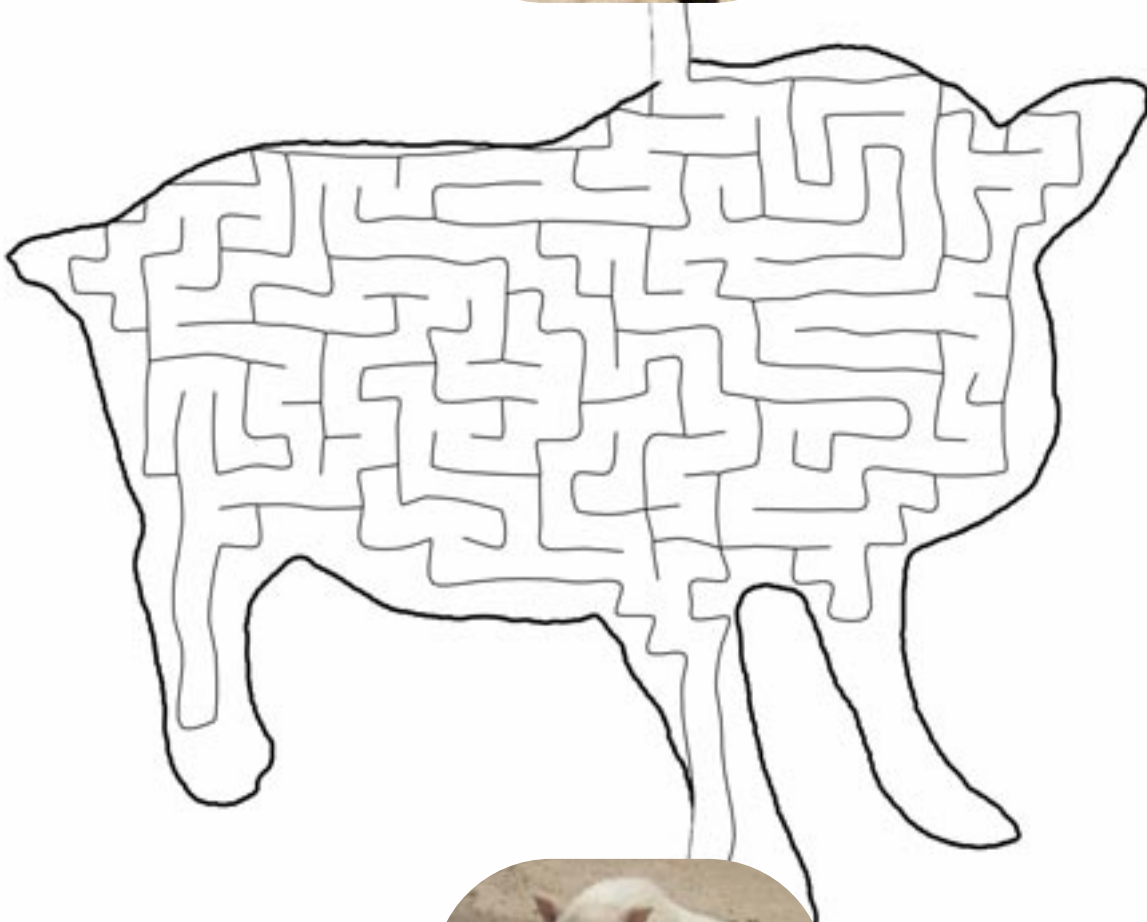


Sirocco & Rosie

Help Doyle find a wallow -



Pig Puzzles



- so he can cool off.



Guess Who Answers

- 1D- Arlo
- 2C- Ellen
- 3A- Charlie Brown
- 4G- Sunflower
- 5F- Tamale
- 6E- Cory
- 7B- Piggy Spears.

Thanks for playing!

Unscramble these letters to make "pig words".

EOLBLTYP _____
 TAUNCSYRA _____
 IEIGPGS _____

WOALLW _____
 NGMRTMII _____
 URESCE _____

Answers:

rescue piggles trimming sanctuary wallow potbelly

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Sirocco