

**TITLE:** The Sheep-Pig

**AUTHOR:** Dick King-Smith

**INTEREST AGE:** 7-12 Years

**BOOKBAND:** Grey and Black (G+T)

**OUR REVIEW:** Attractive new version of enduringly popular tale.

### CHAPTER 1

- Who do you think is on the telephone?
- What details do you know about this setting?
- What did the fair sound like?
- What do you know about the characters of Mr and Mrs Hoggett?
- Why do you think the piglet didn't squeal when Farmer Hoggett picked it up?



### CHAPTER 2

- Find the extract in chapter 2 where the stables are described. Draw a picture of this scene and label your detailed pictures with words that were mentioned in the chapter.



### CHAPTER 3

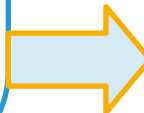
- Where can't Babe go?
- Where does Fly go with Farmer Hoggett and why?
- What do the young dogs say about sheep?
- Pretend you are a young dog. You work with sheep. Talk about Babe to your friend. Make it sound believable. What would you say about Babe? Can you use speech marks when you write this conversation?



### CHAPTER 4

Here's an example of alliteration: "... **g**rouching, **g**rouching, **g**rumbling, **g**ripping about something or other."  
Using your imagination, create your own examples of **alliteration** from the following topics. Each example must contain a minimum of three words.

- The sound of a pig.
- The sound of a dog.
- One from your own imagination.



### CHAPTER 5

Can you spot interesting openers the author used? Here's an example:

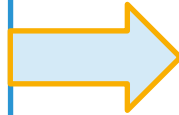
Towards the end of the very next week...  
Can you find more openers and write them?  
Can you think of your own fabulous openers?

## CHAPTER 6

Plural means more than one. Some words will not change, some just need an 's' and some have spelling changes. Make these words plural.

sheep pig puppy turkey  
chicken  
calf fish woman man mouse

Can you think of more?



## CHAPTER 7

Find these words in the text. How did you work out the meaning? What do they mean?

**hind leg , individual, crook, oblige**

2. Why did the farmer only give Babe simple tasks at first?
3. Why didn't Farmer Hoggett tell his wife that it was Babe he was taking to the sheep-dog trials?



## CHAPTER 8

Produce character maps for the emotions of Ma, Babe and Farmer Hogget. What are some emotion words you could use to describe their feelings?



## CHAPTER 9

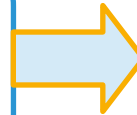
What are some examples of suspense (build up that makes you feel nervous or tense) in this story? How did you feel when you were reading this chapter?

- How does chapter 9 end?
- What do you think might happen next?



## CHAPTER 10

- Farmer H said 'never in his working life had he owned an animal good enough to compete' in the Grand Challenge Sheep Dog Trials. Find evidence in the book to support why Farmer H thinks Babe might be good enough.
- Do you think that Babe will win? How will he perform and what do you think will happen?
- How do you think the strange sheep will react to Babe? How will he get them to do what he wants?



## CHAPTER 11

Write a conversation between Babe and the sheep at the trials. What do you think he might say? Don't forget to use speech marks and a new line for a new speaker.



## CHAPTER 12

- Who do you think is happiest at the end of the story? Why do you think this?
- Do you think anyone might be sad? Why?
- What do you think Babe and the other animals will do in the future? Why?
- Do you think the author is trying to put across a message in this story? What is it?

**Other books by Dick King-Smith include...**

