

## Fetal Pig Anatomy Dissection

Sorry guys but you will not get the chance to examine the internal organs of a real human body. Instead, human anatomy can be studied by examining the systems of a pig, an animal similar to a human. The pigs we are dissecting are called fetal pigs. Fetal pigs have not been born. Evidence that they are fetal can be seen by examining the abdominal ventral area for the attached umbilical cord.

In this investigation, you will:

- a. Properly dissect a fetal pig's digestive, respiratory and circulatory systems to examine and identify its major organs and structures
- b. Label diagrams of a pig's systems

### Materials:

Scissors  
Scalpel  
Dissecting tray

Dissecting probe  
Dissecting pins  
Goggles

Lab aprons  
Metric ruler  
String

### Procedures:

#### External Anatomy

- Determine the sex of your pig. Both sexes have a double row of nipples along the ventral body surface therefore; these structures will not help you determine sex. A male pig has a small genital opening on the ventral surface below the area where the umbilical cord enters. A female pig has a vaginal opening next to the anus. These two openings are found under the pig's tail. A male pig has only the anal opening. If your pig is female, you should also note that urogenital papilla is present near the genital opening.

#### What is the sex of your pig? \_\_\_\_\_

- Gestation (length of internal development) for the fetal pig is 112-115 days. The length of the fetal pig can give you a rough estimate of its age.

11 mm - 21 days	4 cm - 56 days
17 mm - 35 days	22 cm - 100 days
2.8 cm - 49 days	30 cm - birth

#### How many days old was your pig? \_\_\_\_\_

- On the diagram below, label the following:

**Head**  
**Thorax**  
**Abdomen**

**Forelimb**  
**Hind limb**  
**Umbilical cord**

**Tail**  
**Neck**

