

The growth and development of pigs

How fast does a pig grow?

Make a prediction! How long does it take a pig to reach market weight? Watch the video **“What do pigs eat?”** (https://youtu.be/tGfIS_8Orgo) and answer the following questions:

1. What types of foods do pigs eat?
2. Why does this feed change as the pigs grow larger?
3. How large will a baby pig grow as it gets ready to go to market?

When the video is complete, check your answers with a partner. Was your prediction correct?

Plot the following coordinates on the graph below and draw a line connecting the points.

Birth

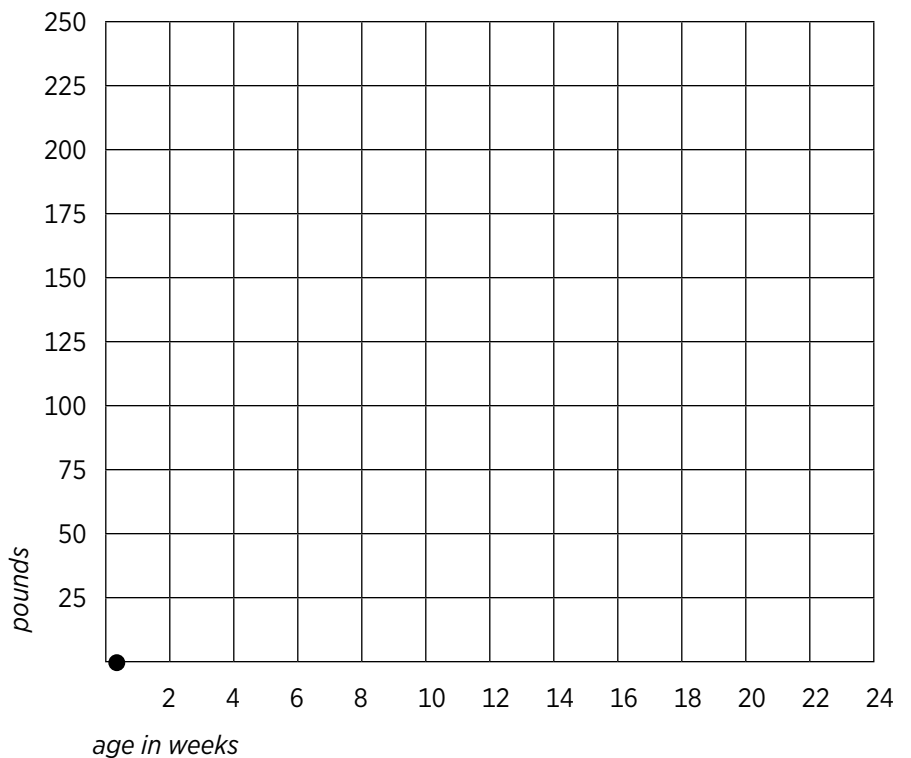
- 0 weeks, 3 pounds

Weanling to maturity

- 3 weeks, 15 pounds
- 8 weeks, 50 pounds
- 12 weeks, 90 pounds
- 16 weeks, 145 pounds
- 20 weeks, 210 pounds

Market

- 22 weeks, 250 pounds



What does the graph tell us?

1. In 6 weeks, how much should a pig weigh?
2. How old should a pig be when it weighs 125 pounds?
3. How fast does a pig grow? Write down your answer, then ask your neighbor a question about how a pig grows.
4. What is the life cycle of a pig? Can you explain a pig's growth from its birth to the time it is harvested?