

# The Pig Model

One thing, many views – a quick guide for facilitators.

## WHAT IT IS

The Pig Model is a quick systems-thinking warm-up. It makes one point: the same thing means completely different things depending on who is looking at it. A pig is *food* to a wolf, *income* to a farmer, *inspiration* to a poet, and *a patient* to a vet – same pig, four realities. Use it to surface how different people might see the same thing.

**The idea to hold onto: one thing is many things at once; your frame of reference shapes what you see.**

## SET-UP

This is a group activity.

- Print **one worksheet per person**, or work **in pairs** and talk it through together.
- Print as many card sets as you need (one set = the 3 observer sheets and the 1 thing sheet).
- Every worksheet uses **1 centre item and 4 view cards**.

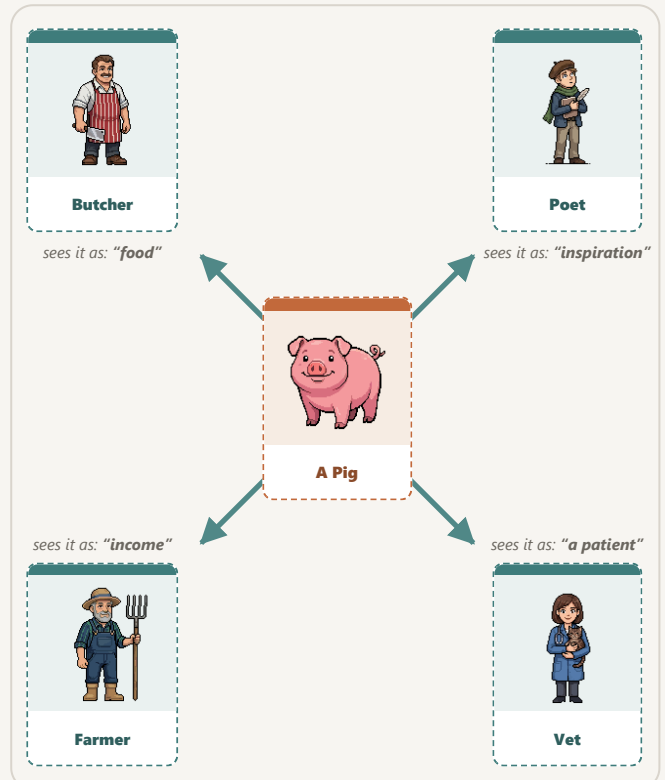
## THE FIVE STEPS

1. Place one **centre item** card in the middle.
2. Choose **4 observer** cards for the four slots.
3. For each observer, write what they would **see it as** on the line.
4. Share and compare around the table.
5. **Swap and repeat.** Change the centre item, or mix up the four views, and run it again.

## SHARING WHAT YOU SAW

Go through each of your perspectives and share them. For each one, say why you saw it that way, and then what surprised you about how you saw it.

## WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE



### About First Person Consulting

We're a Melbourne-based evaluation and systems thinking consulting firm. We work with government, not-for-profits, philanthropy, and change-makers to explore how to make change happen, and whether it's making a difference. Tools like the Pig Model are a part of how we help groups strategise and plan. If that's useful to you, we'd be glad to talk: [www.fpconsulting.com.au](http://www.fpconsulting.com.au)

# The Pig Model

Place 1 **THING** card in the centre, and 4 **OBSERVER** cards around it. What does each one see?

