

# Swine

## Instinctive Behaviors

- Often pigs will roll in mud to cool or rub against trees to keep skin in good condition
- Scream when threatened, provoked, or even hurt
- Generally social mammals
  - Hierarchy will be formed
  - Normally the heaviest animal will become the dominant one
  - Communal Nesting
  - Like physical contact
  - Form in groups

## Learned Behavior

- Swine are overall smart animals than most
- Yeah, that's basically it. So much for their intelligence.



## Handling and Restraining Pigs

- When moving pigs, using a suitable pig board is required
- If restraining older pigs for treatments, usage of a snare is highly recommended
- When restraining a piglet
  - Hold the pig horizontal to the ground
  - Lift the pig by the back legs
  - Place other hand on chest for support
  - Hold horizontal and firm to minimize resistance
- When moving a piglet
  - Lift the piglet by the back leg
    - Careful not to 'snatch' or 'swing' the piglet as you lift them
  - Support piglet by placing hand on chest when moving distances
  - Lower the pig onto the ground, front feet first
  - Gently and carefully lower back legs onto the ground
  - Only lift one pig at a time
  - This process can be mechanical but must be done in an ethical and humane manner
- Pigs being social mammal sometimes need space and must be comfortable
- Willful acts of abuse and neglect are intolerable

