

## What is the thematic concept?

**Disillusionment-** to free from illusion (a mistaken idea or misunderstanding); this can mean “an awakening” – sometimes a rude awakening

## What is the evidence?

- 2 pigs with weak houses
- Wolf’s desire to blow down all three houses
- Wolf is tricked several times
  - Turnip field
  - Orchard
  - Fair
  - Pig’s house

THEREFORE, the pig was always prepared to evade the wolf in some way

## WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE IMPLY?

- It is easy to be tricked.
- Stay aware
- There is always someone smarter
- Don’t be gullible
- Greed can be blinding
- Don’t underestimate others
- Don’t allow personal pride to get in the way

DESIRES

Cloud Vision

## How can this be written as a theme statement?

In the folk tale, “The Three Little Pigs,” Elizabeth Ross acknowledges that strong desires allow pride to get in the way of goals potentially **making one more gullible.**

First Period

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### **Costly Pride**

In the folk tale, "The Three Little Pigs," Elizabeth Ross acknowledges that strong desires allow pride to get in the way of goals, potentially making one more gullible. The wolf sets out to eat the pigs, but lets his desire become a barrier to his success so he is easily tricked. Because the wolf was able to "huff" and "puff" and blow in the straw house and the stick house, he seems proud about being able to trick the first two pigs (5-8). Despite destroying the two pigs' houses, the wolf does not achieve a pork dinner, thus making the wolf overly emotional which clouds his judgement. The wolf continued to pursue the pigs who deceive him because they see his gullibility. When the third pig and the wolf agree to meet, "at eight o'clock at Mr. Smith's turnip field," at seven o'clock . . . [at] the big apple tree in Merry Garden," and at "the fair . . . at six o'clock" the pig shows up early each time in order to trick the wolf, ensuring the pig's safety (8, 11, 15). In turn the wolf becomes so frustrated that he seals his own fate—death. The wolf's frustration and anger make him more hasty with his decisions; he wants to capture the pigs so badly that he does not think logically, and never achieves his goal.

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### **Overcoming obstacles/adversity- (wolf- predator)**

pigs are the underdogs who defeated the wolf

- arrives early
- confronts the wolf
- outsmarts wolf and leaves him behind

pigs outsmart the wolf repeatedly

- @turnip field
- Orchard
- Fair
- Home

the wolf dies

## What does the evidence imply?

- People are motivated to “come out on top”
- Brains over brawn
- If you do not let your ego get in the way, you can accomplish most anything.

Based on the implications, can we say something about the motivation/ambition/condition of mankind?

Second period

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### Big Bad Wolf?

In the children's story, "The Three Little Pigs," Elizabeth Ross acknowledges that when faced with obstacles, it is not always physical strength that enables a person to overcome them. The eldest pig repeatedly outwits the wolf. He is smart to be patient enough to wait on the proper building materials and to build "a strong brick house" with a "sturdy door," enabling him to provide shelter to his brothers after the wolf blew their houses down (3). The wolf's strength was not enough to overcome the house, saving the three brothers for another day. Again, the third brother shows his superior intelligence by outsmarting the wolf on three different occasions. The wolf strategizes the time and place of his next attack, but the third pig bests the wolf each time by arriving early and plotting his escape. When the third pig and the wolf agree to meet, "at eight o'clock at Mr. Smith's turnip field," at seven o'clock . . . [at] the big apple tree in Merry Garden," and at "the fair . . . at six o'clock" the pig shows up early each time in order to trick the wolf, ensuring the pig's safety (8, 11, 15). In turn the wolf becomes so frustrated that he seals his own fate—death. Despite the fact that the wolf is bigger, stronger, and meaner, the pig's tactical thinking helps him to overcome the wolf's aggressive strategy. In the end, wit and intelligence win.

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### Coming of Age

- Moved out of Mom's house.
- They built their own homes. (materials)
- All independently living (for a short time)
- Gathered food and sustenance

What does our evidence imply?

- The "real" world is harsh.
- Independence is a necessity for being "grown up."
- You may have to work/labor in order to survive.

Based on the implications, can we say something about the motivation/ambition/condition of mankind?

Fifth Period

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Little No More

In the children's story, "The Three Little Pigs," Elizabeth Ross conveys that personal independence is a necessity for successfully transitioning into adulthood. The three pigs are growing up which necessitates that they move away from their mother's home and "into the world" (2). The brothers desired to become self-sufficient, thus *leaving the nest* and constructing individual homes. After building their own houses, they learn to fend for themselves which is evident when the third pig cooks "juicy turnips" and a homemade apple pie (11, 15). No longer are the pigs dependent upon their mother to take care of them. Overall moving out and learning to cook demonstrate how the little pigs are little no more.

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## Courage

- Third pig stands up to the wolf
- Pigs going out into the world
- Wolf does not give up despite being outsmarted
- Third pig takes bros into home despite the wolf following them
- Pig is willing to meet with the wolf, knowing that the wolf wants to eat him
- Rolled down the hill in the butter churn

What does this evidence imply?

- If you have the courage to take a risk, reward will follow.
- Make confident decisions. You just have to “do it.”
- Sometimes reward is delayed.
- Even the smallest, gracious acts can be courageous.
- Courage is necessary in life because life is not easy.
- The villain can be courageous.

Based on the evidence, can we say something about the motivation/ambition/condition of mankind?

Sixth Period

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Courage + Risk = Reward

In the children's fable, "The Three Little Pigs," Elizabeth Ross implies that if one has the courage to take a risk, reward will follow. Despite the fact that the pig knows the wolf intends to capture and eat the pig, he still steps out of the comfort of his mother's home. He "went out into the world . . . [remembering] that the wolf was always about" (1). The pig risks his own life in order to be independent. When he does meet the wolf, he is smart about it; each time the wolf plans to meet the pig and kill him, the pig arrives early in order to foil his plans. For example, when the wolf invited the pig to the turnip field, the pig "got up at seven o'clock," one hour earlier than the agreed upon time, and "hurried to the field and picked some turnips" (10). Despite the dangers of the wolf, the pig still went to the turnip field not knowing if the wolf had the same idea, and he survived not only with his life but also with turnips for dinner. Knowing there were risks, the third pig makes courageous choices in a short amount of time and is rewarded with a wolf-free future.