10 Big Question: How can we feed the World sustainably?

Build your own pig pen

Now that you’ve read all about the different styles of housing farrowing pigs that are currently around, it’s your turn to come up with a new solution. Use the knowledge you have gained to design and construct a pig pen that satisfies the following criteria:

- Prevents the sow from crushing her piglets
- Gives the sow room to stand and lay down safely and comfortably
- Allows the piglets to feed from the sow
- Allows the sow to feed herself
- Provides warmth and comfort for the piglets
- Is easy to keep clean
- Keeps farmers safe when they come in to check the health of both sow and piglets

You may like to start by sketching up some plans. Once your design is refined to a point you are happy with it, the next stage is construction. For this part of the activity, you will need the various construction materials required to build your model pig pen. This could be as simple or as complex as you wish to make it. You could use anything you have to hand including straws, pipe cleaners, plasticine, glue, tape, paper or card, empty cardboard boxes, craft wood etc.