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### The Biggest Little Farm: Saving Emma the Pig

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## Book Review

# The Biggest Little Farm: Saving Emma the Pig



### Author

John Chester

### Illustrator

Jennifer L. Meyer

### Reviewer

Phyllis Rosen

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### Rating

Outstanding

### Level

Toddler, Preschool

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### Pages

36

### Year

2019

### ISBN

9781250187796

### Publisher

Feiwel & Friends

Emma is the new pig at Apricot Lane Farms. She arrives skinny and sick, but she is expecting babies. The farmer tries to get her healthy before they arrive, but unfortunately, the 17 babies are born sooner than they hoped. When Emma develops a fever and cannot care for the babies, the farmer takes them into the house. Meanwhile, Emma's fever has gone but she still won't eat. Realizing that Emma misses her babies, the farmer reunites them to many grunts and snorts of delight. Gradually, Emma begins eating, eventually growing to be a whopping 700 pounds.

This story pulls at the heartstrings. Readers will feel empathy for the piglets and will want the farmer to find a solution as he tries various options to help Emma. They will feel hopeful and triumphant as his efforts succeed. Throughout the story, readers will learn about kindness and finding solutions to problems, realizing that there is hope if one keeps working towards an answer. The illustrations are beautiful. They have a softened quality about them that feels cozy and loving. They help tell the story in the absence of detailed descriptions of events spelled out by the author. At the end of the book is a short synopsis of how the author came to be a farmer, his journey to make Apricot Lane Farms a success, and a picture of Emma.