

**Reading:** Read the book Charlotte's Web. Every student is to complete the comprehension questions below. Also, **choose one or more** of the following activities to bring to class the first day of school.

1. Make a large grid on poster board with 24 boxes. Write a letter of the alphabet in each box in ABC order. (Put XYZ in one box). Try to think of a word or phrase that begins with each letter. You might name characters, events, objects, or any word related to the story. See if you can get a word for all of the letters. Illustrate each box.
2. Create a barnyard setting of all the animals in the book. Use a variety of materials such as cardboard, wood pieces, boxes, construction paper, etc. Don't forget Wilbur's trough! Make the animals from modeling clay or add some plastic farm animals.
3. Weave a web. You can design a web using straws, craft sticks, or any other kind of sticks. Cross them so there are six spokes. Use yarn to spin a web in and out and around the sticks. The longer the spokes, the bigger the web will be. Make a spider out of pipe cleaners or any other material and add a few bugs to the web. If you feel really clever, try putting a word in your web.
4. This story is full of facts about spiders. You could create a learning log where you will record different "spider facts" that you learn. You can also add pictures and any other data that you discover. Some of the things that you could research might include: how a spider spins a web, the parts of a spider, different webs made by different kinds of spiders, how a spider catches its prey (warning: this may be somewhat gory), correct terminology (spiderling, spinneret, etc.) In addition, there are many facts about farm life. You could compile information on how a farm operates and write a short report on it.

### **Charlotte's Web Comprehension Questions**

Answer all of the following questions on loose-leaf paper. Make sure you write in cursive and use complete sentences.

1. How is Templeton funny in this story? Give at least two examples.
2. What happened in the barn that cheered Wilbur up after Charlotte died?
3. Why doesn't Fern visit Wilbur in the barn as often at the end of the story?
4. Why does Templeton call the Fair a rat's paradise?
5. Describe Charlotte's masterpiece.
6. What did Avery do when Lurvy splashed water all over him at the fair?
7. How did Wilbur convince Templeton to get Charlotte's egg sac and put it in the crate?
8. Name one word that Charlotte wrote in her web to describe Wilbur. Explain why she chose that word.
9. Charlotte saved Wilbur's life. Why did she do that?
10. What lesson could be learned from reading this book?