

THREE LITTLE PIGS EXERCISE



Use this brief exercise to help your team talk about what where your organization needs to strengthen its impact, financial resiliency, and/or internal processes.

STEP 1

Read together the story of the Three Little Pigs

“Once upon a time there were three little pigs and the time came for them to leave home and make their own way in the world. Before they left, their mother told them “Whatever you do, do it the best that you can because that’s the way to get along in the world.”

The first little pig built his house out of straw. He was able to put the house up quickly but it wasn’t very strong. The second little pig built his house out of sticks. This was a little bit stronger than a straw house. The third little pig took longer than the other three but ultimately built his house out of bricks.

One night the big bad wolf, who dearly loved to eat little piggies, came along and saw the first little pig in his house of straw. He said “Let me in, Let me in, little pig or I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house in!” “Not by the hair of my chinny chin chin”, said the little pig. But of course the wolf did blow the house in and ate the first little pig.

The wolf then came to the house of sticks. “Let me in, let me in little pig or I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house in!” “Not by the hair of my chinny chin chin”, said the little pig. But the wolf blew that house in too, and ate the second little pig.

The wolf then came to the house of bricks. “Let me in, let me in” cried the wolf “Or I’ll huff and I’ll puff till I blow your house in!” “Not by the hair of my chinny chin chin” said the pigs. Well, the wolf huffed and puffed but no matter how hard he tried he could not blow down that brick house.

“But the wolf was a sly old wolf and he climbed up on the roof to look for a way into the brick house.

The little pig saw the wolf climb up on the roof and lit a roaring fire in the fireplace and placed on it a large kettle of water.

When the wolf finally found the hole in the chimney he crawled down and KERSPLASH right into that kettle of water and that was the end of his troubles with the big bad wolf.

The next day the little pig invited his mother over . She said “You see it is just as I told you. The way to get along in the world is to do things as well as you can.” Fortunately for that little pig, he learned that lesson. And he just lived happily ever after!”

STEP 2

Answer the following three questions for your organization.

You may want to focus your conversation in one of three areas:

1. The impact your organization is having in fulfilling your core mission;
2. Your financial resilience as an organization;
3. The strength of your internal process, team, procedures etc. that gives your organization lasting effectiveness.

Or you may want to allow your team to touch on all three of these areas.

HOUSE OF STRAW



What do we do that just about hangs together,
but could topple over at any minute?

A large rectangular area defined by a dotted orange border, intended for a drawing or response.

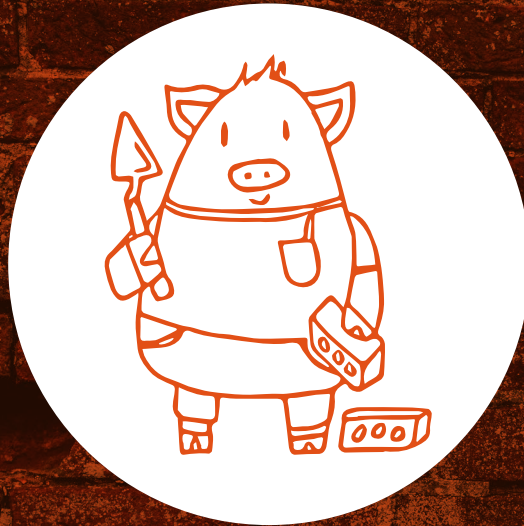
HOUSE OF STICKS



What do we do that is pretty solid, but could be improved?

A large rectangular area with a dotted border, intended for a drawing or response.

HOUSE OF BRICKS



What do we do that is rock solid?

A large rectangular area with a dotted orange border, intended for a drawing or response.