

Name: _____ Date: _____

Key Vocabulary	
banned	forbidden, especially by law or social pressure
slaughterhouse	a place where animals are killed and their bodies are turned into food
vigil	an act or period of attentive watching

Jasmine Speaks Out for Pigs

This picture was taken on a busy street corner in Toronto. Many trucks pass by each day carrying pigs to a local **slaughterhouse**. I take part in these **vigils** so I can help educate people about what happens to the animals used for food and to ask one very important question. “Why do we love one but eat the other?”

These animals feel pain and fear. All you have to do is look into their eyes when they are in the trucks or waiting to be killed at a **slaughterhouse**. They know what is going on.

If you think kids can’t make a difference, try telling that to Jordan Star who, at 15, got devocalization (removing animals’ ability to make sounds) **banned** in Massachusetts or Monica Plumb who, at age 10, began petmask.com to provide animals with oxygen masks and has saved many lives. There are heroes all around us. You can be one yourself. Never think your voice doesn’t matter, because many our age are making a big difference all around the world.

—Jasmine

Young Jasmine works to save all species of animals, including wildlife and factory-farmed animals. She creates YouTube videos to let people know about ways to be heroes to animals.

“Jasmine Speaks Out for Pigs” images and story adapted from *Animal Hero Kids: Voices for the Voiceless* by permission of the author, Susan Hargreaves. Photos: Agnes Cseke, Brenda Bronfman, and Kelli Polsinelli



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Comprehension Questions: Jasmine Speaks Out for Pigs

1. Why does Jasmine participate in **vigils**?

2. What does Jasmine mean by “Why do we love one but eat the other?”?

3. Did you know that pigs can feel pain and fear? What helped Jasmine learn this?

4. What can you do in your own life to be a hero to animals?

Answer Sheet:

Jasmine Speaks Out for Pigs

1. Why does Jasmine participate in vigils?

Answer: Jasmine participates in vigils because she wants to teach people what happens to the animals used for food and to ask one very important question: “Why do we love one but eat the other?” (Literal)

2. What does Jasmine mean by “Why do we love one but eat the other?”?

Possible answer: I think that when Jasmine asks, “Why do we love one but eat the other?” she wants people to ask themselves why people treat companion animals like family members but pigs, cows, and other farmed animals like food—when they all feel pain and fear. (Inferential)

3. Did you know that pigs can feel pain and fear? What helped Jasmine learn this?

Answer: I knew/didn’t know that pigs feel pain and fear. Jasmine learned this by looking into their eyes when they were in trucks on the way to the slaughterhouse or waiting to be killed. (Literal)

4. What can you do in your own life to be a hero to animals?

Possible answer: I can be a hero to animals in my own life by speaking up for animals who need help. (Evaluative)