

Animal Farm - Key Questions

Corruption

- Are poor role models more powerful than good role models?
- Who is the worst role model in *Animal Farm* who is the best? Which of these role models has the most influence?
- Will corruption always triumph?

In thinking about an answer to this, consider: Napoleon, the young pigs Napoleon educates, the dogs Napoleon educates, Boxer, the new horses that come to the farm at the end of the book

Loyalty

- Is everyone driven by self interest? Does the instinct to survive and look after your own interests always triumph over selflessness?
- Does any animal do anything to truly stop another animal being harmed in *Animal Farm*?

In thinking about an answer to this, consider: Snowball never returns to the farm; apart from the hens, there are no protests against the pigs; After Boxer leaves the farm, the animals do nothing to help him.

Idealism

- Can we always rationalise how our behaviour is fair or right?
- Is it true that the stronger or "purer" our beliefs and ideals, the worse it is when we don't live up to them?
- Is it true that the more righteous our beliefs, the more likely we are to engage in behaviour which is destructive?

In thinking about an answer to this, consider: Benjamin's ethos of "this is how things are" is about saying you have no power or responsibility to change things; The seven commandments are important and just principles; Napoleon believed in a just society to begin with.