This story is a fairytale from England. It reflects the process of building up the physical body of the young child, in this case, building a “house” (the body). Playing the game of making houses for the young child is a recapitulation of the individuality incarnating into the body. Children love to play “building houses,” covering various objects with materials that they can fit into and make a “home.” Playstands, tents, material over chairs, pieces of wood and whatever objects are available are used over and over again to build, take down and rebuild “houses.”

I think of the wolf in this case as being the childhood illness or fever that tries to “blow the house in.” Each time children go through a fever process, they come out of it gaining more of their own individuality and are a little bit different after each illness. An illness that has been taken in and then overcome, especially if a child has had the opportunity to work through the fever without much intervention, but also with caution and sensitivity, is of great benefit to the young child.

It makes sense that there would be three different characters, pigs in this case, that one after the other build a sturdier house than the one before. This happens three times and each time the “house” (the body) is more resilient after it is rebuilt (overcoming the illness) again from a stronger material: from straw to sticks and finally heavy, sturdy bricks.

It is interesting that the third time the wolf comes, he goes down the chimney over the fireplace into the pot of boiling water (the heat of the fever) and the little pig finally moves into his sturdy brick “house” that cannot be blown in through overcoming and outwitting the wolf. Perhaps the end, when the little pig eats the wolf instead of the wolf eating him, can be thought of as the ultimate digestion and re-configuration of the inherited body weaving itself into its own individuality.

Children delight in this story and love the repetitions in the storyline. There are also several opportunities for integrative, health-giving movement, including crawling, the log roll, large and small motor movements, vestibular movement (rocking backward and forward, jumping off chairs, etc.) and proprioceptive movement (jumping, clapping, slapping, and so on).

The Three Little Pigs
_A Circle Adventure Based on the Traditional Fairy Tale_

There was an old sow that had three little pigs she could no longer keep. She sent them out into the world, their fortunes to seek.
The first little pig sang a song as he made his way.
What would he find to make his house this day?

Here I Go

_Sylvia Nordoff_

| Here I go, to and fro, walk - ing fast, walk - ing slow. |

*You can substitute running, hopping, tiptoeing, skipping, jumping*
He met a man with a bundle of straw and said
“Please, man, give me that bundle
to build me a house so fine.
It shall be a house of a most wonderful design.”

Gesture of arms around ‘bundle’
Arms in front, palms up
Make a triangle roof shape above head

He built his house of straw the best he could.
Just like a little piggy should.

There came a wolf. He heard the pig’s song,
He came and this is what he said as he crept along,
“Little pig, little pig, let me in.”
“No, no, no, not by the hair of my chinny chin chin.”

“Then I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house in.”
Blow with hands around mouth on “huff” and “puff”

Sit together in circle holding hands, rocking upper body forward and backward a few times

So he huffed and he puffed, and he blew the house in.
Repeat “huffed and puffed” a few times

When the wolf comes creeping along, that
is the end of the little pig’s song.

The second little pig sang a song as he made his way,
What would he find to make his house this day?

Song: Here I Go

He met a man with a bundle of sticks and said,
“Please, man, give me that bundle
to build me a house so fine.
It shall be a house of a most wonderful design.”

Gesture of arms around bundle,
arms in front, palms up
Make a triangle roof shape above head

Song: I Will Build A House

After singing “I Will Build A House,” start from floor level, slowly moving up. Place palms of hands alternately on top of one another as if building a house. End the movement by making a roof/triangle shape above head.

Glockenspiel can be played from low to high tones to accompany the movements.
After singing song, fingers (representing sticks) of left and right hand criss-cross alternately starting at floor level slowly going up until reaching above head for a roof in a triangle shape—glockenspiel can be played from low to high tones or hum tones.

He built his house of straw the best he could. Just like a little piggy should.

There came a wolf. He heard the pig’s song, He came and this is what he said as he crept along,
Crawling and sniffing
Repeat a few times

“Little pig, little pig, let me in.”
“No, no, not by the hair of my chinny chin chin.”
“Then I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house in.”
Crawling and sniffing
Right then left hand alternately touch chin
Hands around mouth, blow on “huff” and “puff”

So he huffed and he puffed, and he blew the house in.

When the wolf comes creeping along, that is the end of the little pig’s song.

The third little pig sang a song as he made his way. What would he find to make his house this day?

He met a man with a load of bricks and said, “Please, man, give me the bricks to build a house so fine. It shall be a most wonderful design.”
Arms up in gesture of carrying a heavy load
Make a triangle shape above head

He built his house of bricks the best he could. Just like a little piggy should.

There came a wolf. He heard the pig’s song. He came and this is what he said as he crept along.
Crawling and sniffing, repeat a few times

“Little pig, little pig, let me in.”
“No, no, not by the hair of my chinny chin chin.”
“There I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house in.”

So he huffed and he puffed, and he huffed and he puffed
But he could not blow the house in.

Hands around mouth
Right then left hand alternately touch chin
Hands around mouth, blow on “huff” and “puff”
Shake head in “no” gesture
The wolf said, “Mr. Smith’s field has turnips,
Be ready by six.”
But the pig went at five and
Pulled the turnips,
He knew the old wolf’s tricks.

The wolf said, “Down at Merry Garden there are
fine apples to pick on a tree, be ready at five.”
The little pig knew what he had to do to stay alive.

The pig went at four and climbed and climbed the tree to get the apples as fine as could be.

Along came the wolf and asked the pig if the apples were good.
The pig threw the apple so far and then jumped down and ran home as fast as he could.

The wolf said, “I will take you to the fair at Shanklin. Be ready at three.”

The pig went to the fair and bought a butter churn when the wolf came looking hungry as could be.
The pig got inside the churn and rolled and rolled down the hill, rolled and rolled...

It frightened the wolf and he ran home and when he went to the pig’s house, this is what he told.
“A great round thing came down the hill and frightened me.”
The pig answered, “Ha, it was me inside the churn you see.”
The wolf was angry and climbed up the roof, And down the chimney. The pig he would now eat.
But the pig put boiling water on the fire and in fell the wolf. The lid went on, the pig is the one that had the treat!
The little pig lay down to take a rest
In his house of brick, which was the very best.

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