



Making Sense of Idioms

Dear Parents,

Idioms are phrases whose components don't match the meaning (e.g., "kicked the bucket" has nothing to do with its meaning which is, "to die"). Idioms can cause lots of confusion and misunderstanding for readers who are not familiar with their meaning. You can help your child become acquainted with some of the more popular idioms and their meanings by doing the activities on these pages.

Using the contexts below, define what each idiom means:

- Don't believe a word he says. He's "pulling your leg".

- Mary was already angry and then John "added fuel to the fire" by putting a dent in her new car.

- Don't spend your whole allowance. You need to "save it for a rainy day".

- He never went to college. He went to the "school of hard knocks".

- It "makes my head spin" to think about the homework I have to do.

Define these idioms together and use them in a sentence:

- One-track mind

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

- Play it by ear

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

- Sick and tired of...

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

- The cat's out of the bag



Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

- Time to call it a night



Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

- You are driving me up the wall

Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

- You scratch my back, I'll scratch yours.



Definition: _____

Sentence: _____

Age Range: Primary

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