

Figurative Language: Idioms

An **idiom** is a saying or expression that has a different meaning than the literal meaning of the words. Idioms have a non-literal, or **figurative**, meaning.

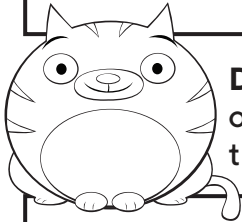
Example: It is raining cats and dogs!

What it means:

It is raining very hard.

What it does *not* mean:

Cats and dogs are falling from the sky.



Directions: Read the sentences below and determine the meaning of the underlined idiom. Write your answer in the box. Then, highlight the clues that helped you determine the meaning of the idiom.

1. The field trip permission slip is due today, and I completely forgot. It slipped my mind!

2. At the sleepover, my friends and I will eat cake, cookies, chips, and candy. I plan to pig out!

3. There is a snowstorm coming over the weekend, which is exciting. However, I have a birthday party to attend that I'm also excited about. I would be bummed if it was canceled. I have mixed feelings about the snowstorm.

4. Basketball tryouts are in December. He has been practicing every day after school so he has a shot at making the team this season.

5. The builders worked from sunrise to sunset on the hot, summer day to build the house. At 6:00 p.m., they were hungry and exhausted, and they decided to call it a day.

6. After I overheard my best friend talking about me, my feelings were hurt. In P.E. class, he asked to be my partner, but I gave him the cold shoulder. I walked away without saying a word.

Challenge! Choose an idiom from above. Draw the literal meaning of the words in the box to the left. Draw the figurative meaning of the words in the box to the right.

Idiom:

Literal Meaning:

Figurative Meaning: