

## A Bad/Rotten Apple



**Meaning:** A bad person, often someone who is dishonest or causes trouble.

**Examples:** In every group of people there are likely to be a few bad apples.

Be wary of Reece, he's a bit of a bad apple.

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## In a Pickle



**Meaning:** To be in trouble, in a mess.

**Examples:** "Mum, I'm in a pickle with this science homework. Can you help?" asked Maria.

Sheena's in a bit of a pickle about Saturday - she's supposed to be going to the cinema and the party!

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## Just My Cup of Tea



**Meaning:** Something/someone that you prefer.

**Examples:** This adventure story is just my cup of tea.

Opera is not really my cup of tea.

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## To Egg Someone On



**Meaning:** To encourage someone to do something. This is usually something that is unwise.

**Examples:** She wouldn't have played the joke on the teacher if her friend hadn't egged her on.

The two boys kept being silly because the other children were egging them on.

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## Chew the Fat



**Meaning:** To talk.

**Examples:** Let's chew the fat over dinner.

Hayley and Christy were chewing the fat while having a coffee.

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## Butter Up



**Meaning:** To treat someone nicely, in the hope of a favour.

**Examples:** "You should butter Mum up before you ask her for a new pair of jeans," suggested Claire.

Joe thought he would be more likely to get a lift to school if he buttered Steve up.

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## For Peanuts



**Meaning:** Cheap; inexpensive.

**Examples:** I bought this new laptop for peanuts!

The new toaster is great and it cost peanuts.

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## In a Nutshell



**Meaning:** Used when you are describing something in as few words as possible; simply.

**Examples:** So in a nutshell, let's go on Friday.

In a nutshell, we'll have to start again.

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## Cream of the Crop



**Meaning:** The best.

**Examples:** “This class really is the cream of the crop!” the teacher said proudly.

The orchestra only accepts the musicians who are cream of the crop.

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## Big Cheese



**Meaning:** An important person.

**Example:** Ricky is a big cheese around here - he's head of the whole company.

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