

# Animal Idioms

## Meaning Cards



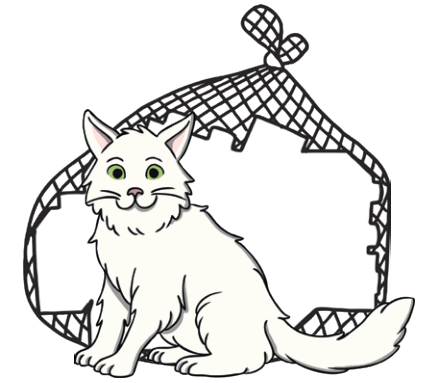
Animal Idioms Meaning Cards

### Let the cat out of the bag

**Meaning:** To reveal a secret, usually without meaning to.

**Examples:** Lilly let the cat out of the bag when she told Alan about the party.

I was trying to keep the present a secret but Norah let the cat out of the bag and told Dan.



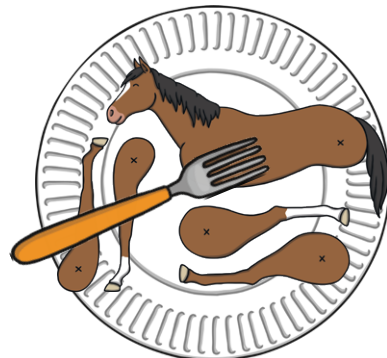
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### Could eat a horse

**Meaning:** Something you say when you are extremely hungry.

**Examples:** I'm glad dinner is ready; I could eat a horse.

Freddy said, "I could eat a horse! I've only had an apple today."



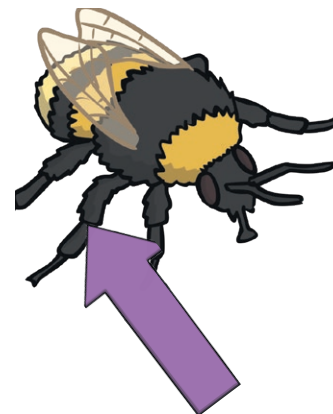
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### Bee's knees

**Meaning:** Something that is excellent / of the highest quality.

**Examples:** Phillip thinks his new phone is the bee's knees!

This new games console really is the bee's knees.



## A bee in your bonnet

**Meaning:** To be obsessed or preoccupied by something that you think is important, especially something that other people do not think is important.

**Examples:** Peter keeps talking and talking about the new shop. He's really got a bee in his bonnet about it.

Kathy really has a bee in her bonnet about the new swimming opening times.



## A dog's dinner

**Meaning:** A mess or a muddle.

**Examples:** Sophie's really made a dog's dinner of painting the wall.

He's really made a dog's dinner of baking that birthday cake!



## To work like a dog

**Meaning:** To work very hard.

**Examples:** "You've been working like a dog all day; you really deserve a break," said Mum.

Leila has really been working like a dog on her science project.



## To smell a rat

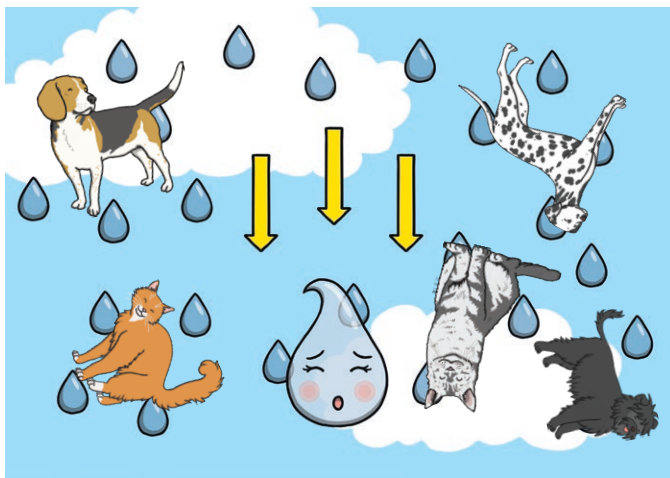
**Meaning:** To think something is wrong/ someone is being dishonest.

**Examples:** "I don't think Gary is telling the truth. I smell a rat," said the teacher.

"You've finished all your homework?! Hmm... I smell a rat here," said Mum.



## It's raining cats and dogs



**Meaning:**  
Heavy rain.

**Example:** Look at the rain! It's raining cats and dogs.

## Ants in your pants

**Meaning:** Not to be able to keep still because you are feeling very excited or worried about something.

**Examples:** "Harry's got ants in his pants about his birthday tomorrow. He's not sat still all day!" said Mum.  
He's got ants in his pants about going to the cinema later.



## A bull in a china shop

**Meaning:** To drop or break things due to moving carelessly or roughly/to behave in a careless manner.

**Examples:** Frankie is like a bull in a china shop; be careful of your display.

He was like a bull in a china shop when he ignored her feelings.

