

Animal Idioms

Meaning Cards



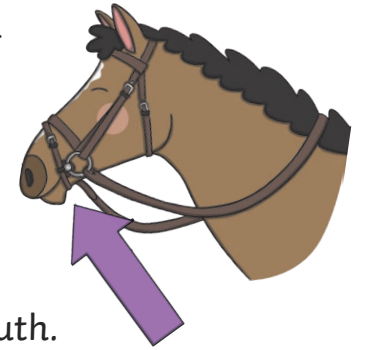
Animal Idioms Meaning Cards

Straight from the horse's mouth

Meaning: From a reliable source. You got the information from someone who knows all the facts.

Examples: There's definitely no school tomorrow. It's true because it came straight from the horse's mouth.

It's true - we can leave early. I got it straight from the horse's mouth.



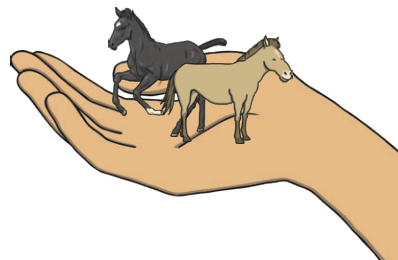
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Hold your horses

Meaning: Used to tell someone to stop or slow down and consider what they are doing.

Examples: Hold your horses Jen; we've got two weeks to finish the project.

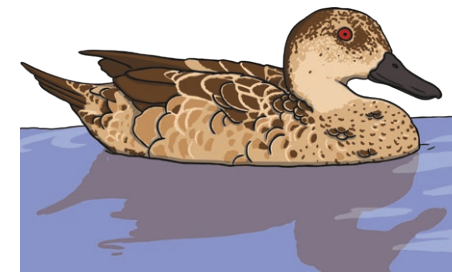
"Just hold your horses on this," said Mum "I think you're being too hasty in this decision."



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Like a duck to water

Meaning: To find you have a natural ability for something you have never done before.



Examples: Vicky took to playing clarinet like a duck to water.

Tyrone took to tennis like a duck to water.

For donkey's years

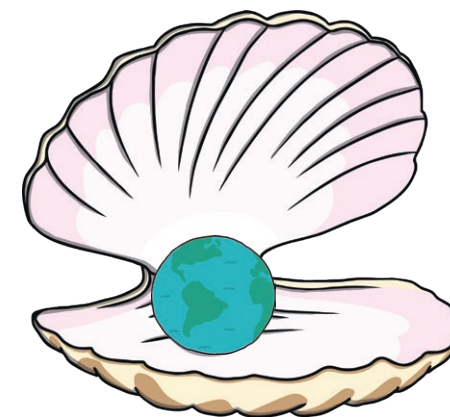


Meaning: A very long time.

Examples: David has known Anu for donkey's years.

Lyra has been part of the swimming club for donkey's years.

The world's your oyster



Meaning: You can go where you want / do what you want.

Examples: Why don't you go to Peru? The world's your oyster!

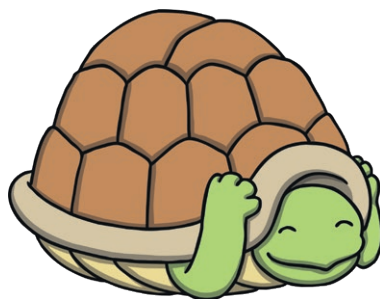
You're young and free - the world is your oyster!

Come out of your shell

Meaning: To become friendlier and feel less shy.

Examples: Deepal has really come out of her shell since starting at the new school. She's made loads of new friends.

It'll take time for Paul to come out of his shell. He'll soon settle in and feel less shy.

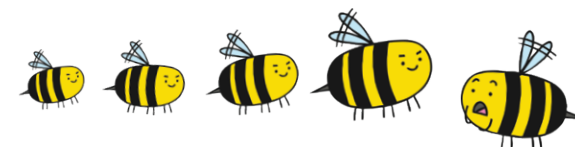


Make a beeline for

Meaning: To move quickly and directly towards a particular person or thing.

Examples: Joshua made a beeline for the jelly and ice cream.

Timmy made a beeline to talk to Rose at the party.



Dark horse

Meaning: Someone whose ideas / abilities are not well known to other people. Especially someone who has a surprising ability or skill.

Examples: I never knew Pete could play the trumpet so well! He's such a dark horse.

James is such a dark horse. I've no idea how well he'll do in the exam today.



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Set the cat among the pigeons

Meaning: To say / do something that causes trouble or makes people angry.

Examples: Rachel really set the cat amongst the pigeons when she told him his homework was due tomorrow.

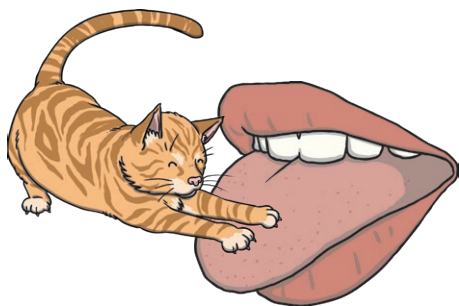


If we say everyone has to stay late tonight, it'll really set the cat amongst the pigeons.

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Cat got your tongue?

Meaning: Something that is said when you are annoyed because someone has not spoken.



Example: "Are you ok? You've not answered my question. Has the cat got your tongue?" said Granny.

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