BBC Learning English

The Teacher

Animal idioms



Animal idioms gap-fill

Instructions: This activity should be done **after viewing all 7 animal idioms videos**. Choose the correct idiom to complete each sentence.

- 1. My little boy is so excited about the party this afternoon that he just can't sit still for more than a second. He's jumping around as if he's ...
- a. got ants in his pants
- b. like a fish out of water
- c. in the dog house
- 2. I told him 3 times but he still forgot! He's ...
- a. put the cat among the pigeons
- b. like a fish out of water
- c. a bird-brain
- 3. I have 3 teenage sons. They have huge appetites and they are constantly hungry, especially the oldest one – he ...
- a. eats like a horse
- b. makes a dogs dinner out of it
- c. eats like a pig
- 4. I told her not to tell anyone my secret but she broke her promise and ...
- a. made a pig's ear of it
- b. flogged a dead horse
- c. let the cat out of the bag
- 5. James is definitely getting married this year he told me himself! I heard it ...
- a. from a little bird
- b. straight from the horse's mouth
- c. straight from the bird's mouth
- 6. Gosh, I really must tidy this room. It's beginning to look a lot like...
- a. a dog house
- b. a bird's nest
- c. a pig sty

- 7. I got home really late last night and I forgot to do the shopping. My parents were really angry with me and I'm still ... today.
- a. in the dog house
- b. a bit fishy
- c. in a pig sty
- 8. When I started my new job it was really difficult for me I didn't know anyone, I didn't know where anything was, and I didn't know what to do. I really felt ...
- a. like a fish out of water
- b. pigs might fly
- c. a bit fishy

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KEY

- 1.a. got ants in his pants
- 2.c. a bird-brain
- 3.a. eats like a horse
- 4.c. let the cat out of the bag
- 5.b. straight from the horse's mouth
- 6.c. a pig sty
- 7.a. in the dog house
- 8.a. like a fish out of water