

Animal idioms

Don't be afraid of Rex. He looks fierce, but he *wouldn't hurt a* _____.

If we drive to town, we can *kill two* _____ *with one stone*. We can do the shopping and pick up the children on the way home.

Jill's party was supposed to be a surprise, but Will *let the* _____ *out of the bag* when he asked Jill what time he should come.

I think I should get paid more, after all I do *the* _____ *'s share* of the work around here.

You've cleaned the house, bought me flowers and now you're taking me out to dinner. Hmm, I think *I smell a* _____.

Nobody's talking about *the* _____ *in the room* which is that we will have to make job cuts if we want to go forward with this plan.

After six months in Barcelona, I decided to *take the* _____ *by the horns* and learn Spanish.

They're *dropping like* _____ around here. Kitty and Mary have gone home sick, and Martin's going to the dentist.

I don't want to ask Jean any favours at the moment, I'm still *in the* _____ *house* after breaking her favourite cup this morning.

<i>cat</i> <i>flies</i> <i>lion</i> <i>dog</i> <i>bull</i> <i>birds</i> <i>fly</i> <i>rat</i> <i>elephant</i>

Do you have any similar idioms in your own language?

Rearrange the sentences

1. wouldn't a He fly hurt
2. I with two one birds stone killed
3. of let the out cat the bag You've
4. lion's computer the does work the the share of
5. smell I think rat a I
6. in the talking about elephant room the Nobody's
7. mailroom dropping flies are staff like The
8. I'm the dog house in

Replace the underlined part of the sentence with a suitable idiom

1. Don't worry about Killer, he looks fierce, but he would never harm anyone.
2. We managed to get two things done in the same period by having lunch in the supermarket.
3. Someone must have given away the secret, Josh knows about the plan.
4. Project X will take up the majority of next year's budget.
5. I started to get suspicious when they asked for my credit card number.
6. The important issue that nobody wants to talk about is that her last album only sold 50,000 copies.
7. Another two insurance companies closed this week, they are disappearing frequently at the moment.
8. I'm not very popular at the moment because I forgot my wife's birthday.

Discussion questions

Have you ever given away an important secret?

What do you do the lion's share of?

Can you remember a time when you were in the dog house?