










# Animal Idioms

Name the animals

 <p>.....</p>	 <p>.....</p>	 <p>.....</p>	 <p>.....</p>
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## Animal Idioms/Expressions

Do you know any expressions/idioms related to these animals?

Brainstorm with a partner:

Complete the sentences with an animal from the first exercise, you will have to use some animals more than once.

1. He did half the amount of work as the rest but took **the .....’s share of** the credit.
2. If we give the old TV to grandad, it’ll keep him happy and free up space in the house, we’d be **killing two ..... with one stone**.
3. He took a job teaching English in Thailand to **escape the ..... race** of the banking sector.
4. I could talk about comic book movies **until the ..... come home**, I love them!
5. When it came to foreign policy, Trump was **like a ..... in a china shop**, he did so much damage!
6. That boy has **..... in his pants**, he can never sit still in class.
7. Sandra is always such **an eager .....**, she’s so enthusiastic about everything we do!
8. I’m going to go home and **take a ..... nap** before we go out tonight.
9. I was going to ask the boss for Friday off work but I got scared and **..... out**.
10. Ever since he got that promotion Brian has **looked like the ..... that got the cream**.
11. Politicians are arguing over pointless things while no one is doing anything about the **..... in the room**, climate change!
12. It’s time to **take the ..... by the horns** and tell him how you really feel, otherwise it’s not fair.
13. There’s a stomach **..... going around** and so many of the workers have caught it, they’re **dropping like .....!**
14. The negotiations are going **at a ..... pace**, it’ll take them ages to reach an agreement.
15. The teacher **watched** the two naughty boys **like a .....** while they were in the playground to make sure they didn’t get up to anything bad.
16. **Hold your .....**! We don’t have to eat all the popcorn before the film even starts.
17. Don’t worry, this job is like **shooting ..... in a barrel**, you’ll pick it up in no time.

Match the expressions to the definitions:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Wait a moment/slow down</li> <li>b. The majority of</li> <li>c. Be very clumsy &amp; destructive</li> <li>d. Look very pleased/self-satisfied</li> <li>e. Very easy</li> <li>f. Die or collapse in large numbers</li> <li>g. Sleep for a short time</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>h. An obvious issue/problem that everyone sees but chooses to ignore.</li> <li>i. An illness</li> <li>j. Keep an eye on very intently</li> <li>k. For a very long time</li> <li>l. Solve two problems with one action</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>m. Very slowly</li> <li>n. To decide not to do something because of fear</li> <li>o. Get away from difficult &amp; competitive routine/lifestyle</li> <li>p. Be fidgety or restless</li> <li>q. Be extremely keen</li> <li>r. Take decisive action to solve a difficult problem</li> </ol>
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Study the expressions for 1 minute, then look back at the pictures from exercise 1 and try to recall the expressions.

## Discussion - FOLD PAGE HERE - DON'T LOOK UNTIL AFTER EX.2

1. If something is bothering you or you have something important to say to someone, do you tend to **..... the bull by the horns** or **chicken .....** and not say anything? How can shy people become more assertive?
2. Have you ever worked on a group project and had someone take **the lion’s ..... of** the credit when they didn’t deserve it? What happened? Did you say anything?
3. Are there any **bugs going .....** at the moment? Are people **..... like flies**?
4. What were you like at primary school? Did you have **ants in your .....**? Were you **an ..... beaver**? How much have you changed as you’ve grown up?
5. If people are walking **at a snail’s .....** in front of you in the street, what do you do?
6. Do you **..... cat naps**? Why/why not? Do you think they help your productivity or hinder it?
7. Are you generally a clumsy person? Are you **like a bull in a ..... shop**? What about in social situations? Do you tend to **put your foot in it** sometimes?
8. Why do you think so many people are choosing to **escape the rat .....** after the pandemic? Would you like to work in a very ruthless and competitive environment? Why? Why not?
9. Apart from climate change, are there any other problems that are **the elephant in the .....** at the moment in your country?
10. Tell your partner two small problems/issues you have at the moment. They have to think of a way **to kill two birds with one .....**
11. Did your parents used to **..... you like hawks** when you were children or were they more lenient?
12. Do you **get popcorn** when you go to the cinema? How long does it normally take you to finish the box? Do you **..... your horses** during the trailers?
13. Is there a topic you could talk about until the cows come home? What is it? How did you get into it?

# Article - Animal Encounters

## Task

An online wildlife magazine is looking for articles on the topic of encounters with wild animals. Your article should describe a close encounter you've had with an animal and explain the effect the experience had on you. You should also give advice and recommendations about ways in which other people can have similar experiences.

## Paragraph Plan

1. Set the scene - establish the place where the encounter took place, lots of descriptive language, animal noises etc.
2. Describe the encounter - what happened? How long was it? What did it involve? Describe the animal.
3. The effect it had - how did it make you feel? Did it change your perspective? Did it inspire you to do anything?
4. Recommend - how can other people have a similar experience? Would you change anything?  
Generally advice for doing the same thing.

<p><b><u>“As soon as” Inversions:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No sooner had... than....</li> </ul> <p><b>No sooner had we</b> got out of the car <b>than</b> it started raining.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hardly/barely/scarcely had..... when</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardly had I</b> got in the shower <b>when</b> the phone rang.  <b>Scarcely had I</b> got in the shower <b>when</b> the phone rang.  <b>Barely had I</b> got in the shower <b>when</b> the phone rang.</p>	<p><b><u>Adverb of frequency Inversions:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hardly ever....</li> </ul> <p><b>Hardly ever do I</b> go out for dinner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rarely/seldom.....</li> </ul> <p><b>Rarely does he</b> do the washing-up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Never before....</li> </ul> <p><b>Never before have I</b> eaten such lovely food.</p>
<p><b><u>Extras</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• So + adjective + that + consequence</li> </ul> <p><b>So cold was the water</b> that we couldn't go swimming.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not only... but also</li> </ul> <p><b>Not only can you</b> take photos with the phone, but also videos.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Little did I know...</li> </ul> <p><b>Little did I know</b> that he had planned a surprise.</p>	<p><b><u>Time adverbial Inversions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only when....</li> </ul> <p><b>Only when</b> I got home <b>did I realise</b> someone had stolen my wallet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not since....</li> </ul> <p><b>Not since</b> my 10th birthday party <b>have I eaten</b> marshmallows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not until....</li> </ul> <p><b>Not until</b> the end of the book <b>do you find out</b> who the murderer is.</p>
<p><b><u>Prohibition Inversions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under no circumstances....</li> </ul> <p><b>Under no circumstances should/must you</b> open this door.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On no account....</li> </ul> <p><b>On no account should/must you</b> feed the animals.</p>	<p><b><u>Place Adverbial Inversions</u></b></p> <p><b>The bus came down the street.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Down the street came the bus.</b></li> <li>• <b>Around the corner walked a lion.</b></li> <li>• <b>Into the river jumped the boys.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Cleft Sentences:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>What</b> clefts:</li> </ul> <p><b>What</b> had the biggest impact on me was....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>It</b> clefts:</li> </ul> <p><b>It</b> was the ..... the had the biggest impact on me</p>	<p><b><u>Inverted Conditionals</u></b></p> <p><b>Were .... to</b> - 2nd conditionals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Were</b> I <b>to change</b> one thing about ....., it would be...</li> </ul> <p><b>Had ....</b> - 3rd conditionals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Had</b> I <b>known</b> that before, I would have....</li> <li>• <b>Had</b> we <b>not seen</b> the sign, we would have....</li> </ul>