

Idioms

Many children with autism interpret language literally and have difficulties understanding figurative speech. It is often necessary to teach the meaning of idioms (figures of speech) and then work on generalizing these idioms to everyday situations. In order for a child to comprehend idioms, it is necessary to have an understanding of complex speech and abstract concepts.

Idioms

Scaredy-cat - Someone who's afraid.

Hanging out = Relaxing/spending time with someone.

Chill out. = Relax.

Pipe down. = Be quiet.

Butt out. = Mind your own business.

Buzz off. = Leave me alone.

Reach for the stars. = Try very hard./Expect the best.

He/She is growing like a weed. = He/She is growing quickly.

Keep an eye out. = Watch carefully for someone/something.

He/She is dancing around the questions = He/She is not answering the question.

You can't tell a book by its cover. = You can't tell what a person is like from how he/she looks.

I'm like a fish out of water. = I'm uncomfortable/don't fit in.

His/Her eyes were popping out of her head. = He/She was surprised.

I'm so hungry I could eat a horse = I'm very hungry.

Break a leg = Good luck/Do a good job.

Running around like a chicken with its head cut off = Running around with many things to do and not enough time to do it.

Laughing his/her head off = Laughing very hard/for a long time.

To have ants in your pants = To be restless, not able to sit still.

You're pulling my leg. = You're teasing me.

Redwood Learning Center

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