Idioms for Kids

List of 25 most common idioms for teachers to teach kids with meaning and example by theidioms.com

1. a hot potato
   Meaning: a hot potato is something that is difficult or dangerous to handle
   Example: I tried to learn German language but it’s a hot potato.

2. kill two birds with one stone
   Meaning: get double results with one attempt
   Example: My Mom is killing two birds with one stone by singing rhymes to teach me and to please my toddler brother.

3. warn someone off
   Meaning: strictly alert somebody from a danger or inform to stay away
   Example: The teacher warns off every student to be careful while swimming in the pool.

4. piece of cake
   Meaning: it is used to say when something is very easy to do
   Example: I love to draw the scenery for you, it will be a piece of cake.

5. spin a yarn
   Meaning: tell a long and far-fetched story
   Example: My friend spins a yarn about his trip for all time.

6. call names
   Meaning: to tease or mock one with bad-mannered or unpleasant names
   Example: My daughter is sad because the kids at his new school call her names.

7. when pig fly
   Meaning: idiomatic expression used to say just impossible
   Example: Definitely, Matt is going to be decent and quiet when pigs fly.

8. build castle in air
   Meaning: to create ideas that are impractical, unlikely and impossible
   Example: You should just stop building castles in the air and take your study seriously.

9. tongue in cheek
   Meaning: statement in a mocking or two-faced way with disdain
Example: Finn told me that he has done his homework, but I am sure it was **tongue in cheek**.

10. **queer the pitch**  
**Meaning:** spoil somebody’s chance of doing something  
**Example:** He **queered my pitch** by asking coach to take rest before I did.

11. **hive of activity**  
**Meaning:** a place full of activity; very busy place  
**Examples:** From the next week our classroom is going to be a **hive of activities** for the preparation of annual function of art.

12. **bug eyed**  
**Meaning:** with bulging eyes, as from astonish or amazement; amazed  
**Example:** I was **bug eyed** looking at her wedding dress and jewelry.

13. **stir up a hornet’s nest**  
**Meaning:** to create a big trouble  
**Example:** Richard always comes home and **stirs up a Hornet’s nest** when his school day has not gone well.

14. **not hurt a fly**  
**Meaning:** not cause harm to anyone, be kind and gentle  
**Example:** My younger sister is a very kind and warm-hearted girl who **wouldn’t hurt a fly** that’s why I love to spend time with her.

15. **class clown**  
**Meaning:** a student who tries to make other students laugh  
**Example:** Today I met my school teacher and I am surprised to know that she still remembers me as the **class clown**.

16. **tall story**  
**Meaning:** a long story that is hard to believe  
**Example:** Don’t tell me **tall stories** just show me the homework.

17. **mumbo jumbo**  
**Meaning:** confusing language or pointless speech  
**Example:** Alicia is just a kid, most of what she says is **mumbo jumbo**.

18. **night owl**  
**Meaning:** someone who is active late at night  
**Example:** My exams will be starting from next week and for me it’s the time to be a **night owl** to study and to score.
19. **a slap on the wrist**  
**Meaning:** a mild warning or penalty  
**Example:** He punched me and only after warning the teacher let him go. It’s merely **a slap on his wrist**.

20. **as keen as mustard**  
**Meaning:** very excited and keen  
**Example:** My little sister is always **as keen as mustard** to learn new things around her.

21. **paddle own canoe**  
**Meaning:** to be able to do something without help  
**Example:** Students of kindergarten always need their teachers around they can’t just **paddle their own canoe**.

22. **Bob’s your uncle**  
**Meaning:** the idiom used to highlight how simply or quickly something can be done  
**Example:** Bob’s your uncle, just open it and then boil it to make a tasty soup.

23. **born with a silver spoon in mouth**  
**Meaning:** used to say for someone who born into a wealthy family  
**Example:** Jack was not **born with a silver spoon in mouth** rather he worked hard to be rich.

24. **be up on**  
**Meaning:** be well informed about  
**Example:** Cassie you should **be up on** what you are learning in the class, so concentrate.

25. **all ears**  
**Meaning:** very excited to hear; paying special attention to hear something  
**Example:** The students were **all ears** when teacher started telling a horror story.