

Animal idioms about Dogs

Instructions:

1. An **idiom** is a phrase or expression whose meaning can't be understood from the ordinary meanings of the words in it.
 2. Tell the participants you will giving them various idioms related to dogs.
 3. Provide the idiom.
 4. Have the participants give the meaning of the idiom.
 5. As always, ask questions to facilitate discussions
 6. Progression: Say the first part of the phrase and have the participants complete the idiom.
 7. Progression: Replace the word(s) in bold by saying the word "blank" and have the participants complete the last part of the phrase.
- "**as clean** as a hound's tooth"- very clean
 - "**as crooked** as a dog's hind leg"- dishonest
 - "**as sick** as a dog"- being very ill
 - "**one's bark** is worse than one's bite"- when one's actions don't follow their words
 - "**to bark** up the wrong tree"- to choose the wrong course of action or to ask the wrong person
 - "**better** to be a live dog than a dead lion"- it is better to be a live coward than a dead hero (this is from Ecclesiastes in the Bible)
 - "**call** the dogs off or **call** off the dogs"- to stop threatening, chasing or hounding someone
 - "**dog** and pony show"- something that you disapprove of because you think that it has only been organized to impress you
 - "**dog-eat-dog**"- ready or willing to fight and hurt others to get what one wants
 - "**every** dog has his day"- everyone will have his chance or turn, everyone will get what he deserves
 - "**fighting** like cats and dogs"- to argue and fight with someone
 - "**gone** to the dogs" - to deteriorate, to become bad
 - "**the hair** of the dog that bit ya"- a drink of alcohol that one takes when recovering from a hangover
 - "**to hound** someone" - to pursue or chase someone, to harass someone

- “in the **doghouse**”- in disgrace, disfavor or in trouble, where you go when you’ve done something wrong
- “to **lead** a dog`s life”- to lead a miserable life
- “let **sleeping dogs lie**”- do not make trouble if you don’t have to
- “to **put** on the dog” - to dress or entertain in a luxurious and extravagant manner
- “it’s **raining cats and dogs**”- to rain very hard
- “to **rub** someone's fur” the wrong way”- to irritate someone
- “a **shaggy** dog story”- a long and often pointless story that is told as a joke and often ends in a very silly or unexpected way
- “one's **tail** between one`s legs”- feeling beaten or humiliated
- “the **tail** wagging the dog”- a situation where a small part of something controls the whole thing
- “**top dog**”- the most important person in an organization
- a “**Hot Dog**”- someone who deliberately behaves in such a way as to attract attention
- “to **turn tail**”- to run away from trouble or danger
- “to **work** like a dog”- to work very hard
- “you **can't teach** an old dog new tricks”- the thought that it is difficult for older adults to learn new things
- “like a **dog** with two tails”- A VERY happy dog
- “it’s **dog-eared**”- to describe a book or piece of paper that’s gotten a bit tatty