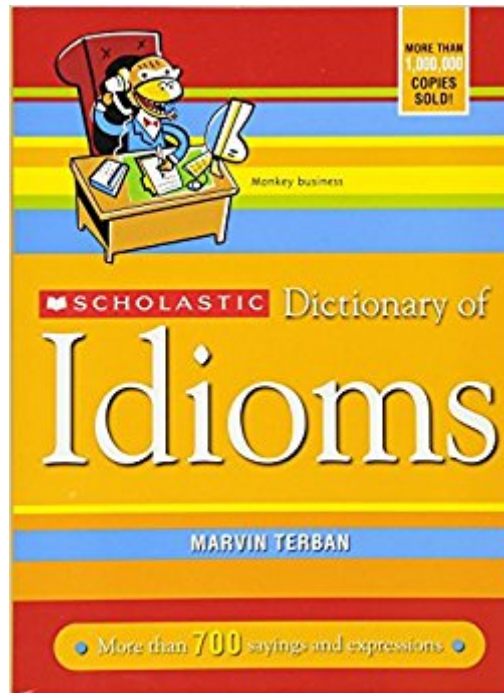




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# Scholastic Dictionary Of Idioms



## Synopsis

If you think idioms are a "tough nut to crack," pick up the revised SCHOLASTIC DICTIONARY OF IDIOMS. Fun new design and more than 700 common American phrases, sayings, and expressions. Cat got your tongue? Penny for your thoughts? Come again? Every day, idioms bring color to our speech. Since they don't really mean what they say, idioms can stump even the native English-speaker. Marvin Terban makes understanding idioms "as easy as pie" with the revised SCHOLASTIC DICTIONARY OF IDIOMS. Explanations for, and origins of, more than 700 everyday American idioms, complete with kid-friendly sample sentences. The entries are amusing as well as educational. Alphabetical listing and cross-referencing index makes finding idioms a "piece of cake."

## Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

"Terban explains the meanings and origins (if known) of more than 600 idioms and proverbs in this intriguing book." (Booklist, March 15, 1996) "Reference tools may be a dime a dozen in this dog-eat-dog world, but here's a soup-to-nuts dictionary of colloquialisms that doesn't beat around the bush...an appealing browse as well as useful (and perhaps unique) resource for kids baffled by the intricacies of the English language." (The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, July/August 1996) "From 'ace up your sleeve' to 'you can't teach an old dog new tricks,' this introduction to idiomatic phrases, sayings, and expressions is clear and easy to use." (School Library Journal, May 1996)

Marvin Terban is a bestselling, award-winning author of more than 30 books for children, most of them about the English language. Called a "master of wordplay" by the American Library Association's Booklist and "Mr. English for Kids" by the Children's Book-of-the-Month Club, Marvin is truly an expert on teaching the art of language. For over 40 years, Marvin has taught English, Latin, Public Speaking, Theater, and other subjects at Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School in New York City.

I really would LOVE to recommend this book for all of people who are learning English as a second language and hope to know English idioms. I am from Ukraine, but now I am staying in LA to learn English. I was looking for some books that could helps me to understand the meaning of idioms because sometimes it was too difficult for me to figure out what they mean. This book has more than 700 idioms with examples, meanings and origins. The origins help me to remember the idioms easier. After I read some, I finally understand why people use idioms in particular situations and I feel like I will never forget them. It may not really helpful for academic courses or daily conversation, but it is easy to read anytime and it is good for FUN! Unless I am older than twenty, this book is fun enough! And especially, this is cheaper than others. So, I'd like to say just buy and read. I am 99% sure that buying this book is going to be a good choice

I bought this book to help as I tutor a Mexican woman in English. Idioms can be the hardest thing to learn, since they don't always make sense. I wanted to be sure she understands them, even if she doesn't always have to come up with them herself. There are multiple ways to say things and she can get her message across without using idioms, but she will be at a disadvantage if she doesn't recognize them when someone else uses them. I like that the book includes 3 resources for each idiom - a definition, a use in a sentence, plus the derivation. Also, the idioms are listed in alphabetical order, so it is an easy reference. This book should make learning more fun.

I have been working with a student who has Asperger's. He has trouble with figurative language, especially idioms. This book has been a big help. There are a number of expressions that are relevant to the present-day culture and are used very often. The common sayings are listed in alphabetical order. For each selection, the idiom is presented in the context of a sentence. The meaning of the idiom is given in plain terms. Then, the origin of the idiom is given to give a historical explanation. My student is enjoying going through the book. We use this as an activity when a five

minute change of pace is needed for a transition between reading comprehension activities or writing assignments. We will go through several of the idioms together. I saw a review that said that the expressions are too child-like. I don't find this to be the case at all. The vast majority of the expressions are heard in adult conversation on a regular basis. I have discovered that many children don't often use the same idioms we are familiar with from an earlier generation. They have their own lingo, but it is essential for them to be familiar with the sayings in the book. It enables them to have a broader range of expression and an expanded frame of reference when communicating with adults and gathering meaning of reading passages. My student had a blank look on his face when I would relate some of the idioms in the past. I knew it was an issue I needed to address because he is sure to encounter it as he advances in our school's high school English curriculum. This book would help out ELL students as well. They struggle to grasp idioms that we take for granted, although they communicate with intricate idiomatic expressions in their native languages. The book will also benefit students who need to spice up writing samples. Teachers like to see students paint colorful pictures with their words in descriptive narratives and much prefer it to bland narratives that are often passed in. I think this is a great resource for any educator and I recommend it wholeheartedly.

Right off the bat, if you're autistic like me and have trouble understanding idioms, this product will surely knock your socks off. There are many idiom books out there, but I heard through the grapevine that this book was the cream of the crop. Now I usually take advice like that with a grain of salt, but I'm happy I went out on a limb and buried my head in the sand with this one, because it has truly made understanding idioms a piece of cake. It's a shot in the arm to know that no longer will I be stuck in a conversation with my autism as an albatross around my neck every time I open my mouth; I am now able to bury the hatchet with language. It's books like these that give you a leg up where genetics let you down. I highly recommend this book.

Lord knows I'm having trouble with my Deutsch, but a German kid that drops by every Friday is improving HIS "Englisch" with, this---old---Amerikaner. He loves this book, and I'm not pulling your leg! An old German idiom is "I felt it in my urine!" That's like, our, "I felt it in my bones."... neither of which is in this pocket-size book. DON'T be a pum'kin head! Buy this book!

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