

You don't have to print out this puzzle to do it.



Fernie the Fish puzzle pages

Idioms

In the United States of America we use little phrases called idioms. Idioms are a way of comparing things to help someone understand what we are saying. For example "cool as a cucumber" means something is cool to the touch OR someone is under stress but they don't seem to be bothered by the stress. "Mad as a hornet" is another one. A hornet is like a bee or a wasp but bigger, if you mess with a hornets nest they will try to protect their nest and will attack you and can give you a very painful sting. When someone is "mad as a hornet," you might avoid them until they cool down. Can you think of some idioms you use? What about your grandparents?

Instructions

Put a check mark beside the idioms you think are real, the ones that we use in the United States. See if you can guess which are real and which are made up. If you live in another country, these might not be familiar to you.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> quiet as a mouse | <input type="checkbox"/> light as air |
| <input type="checkbox"/> as hairy as a cucumber | <input type="checkbox"/> mean as a junkyard dog |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mad as a hornet | <input type="checkbox"/> phoney as a three dollar bill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> so mad, steam came out of his ears | <input type="checkbox"/> cool as a cucumber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> blind as a bat | <input type="checkbox"/> slow as molasses in January |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cute as butter | <input type="checkbox"/> Big as a atom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Like two peas in a pod | <input type="checkbox"/> Snug as a bug in a Rug |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clear as a bell | <input type="checkbox"/> Ugly as a mud fence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> like a rubberband with no wheels | <input type="checkbox"/> Fast as a lamp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a list as long as your arm | <input type="checkbox"/> Tough as nails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> busy as a bee | <input type="checkbox"/> White as snow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Older than a baby | <input type="checkbox"/> Big as a atom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> as crooked as a dog's hind leg | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry as a bone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clear as mud | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry as a fish in water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> as good as gold | <input type="checkbox"/> Sick as a dog |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flat as a pancake | <input type="checkbox"/> Fit as a fiddle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sly as a fox | <input type="checkbox"/> As gentle as a nuclear bomb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cute as a bug's ear | <input type="checkbox"/> Stiff as a board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fast as lightning | <input type="checkbox"/> so hungry, I could eat a horse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> full as a tick | <input type="checkbox"/> tigh as a kite |

Go to the answer page to see if you are right.