## Animal Idioms - KEY

### Name the animals

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Cat" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Chicken" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Cow" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Ants" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Lion" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bull" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bird/Robin" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Hawk" /></td>
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<td><img src="image" alt="Beaver" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Rat" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Elephant" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Snail" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>BEAVER</td>
<td>RAT</td>
<td>ELEPHANT</td>
<td>SNAIL</td>
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<td><img src="image" alt="Bug" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Fly" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Horse" /></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Fish" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUG</td>
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<td>HORSE</td>
<td>FISH</td>
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</tbody>
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### Animal Idioms/Expressions

Do you know any expressions/idioms related to these animals?

Brainstorm with a partner:
1. He did half the amount of work as the rest but took the LION’s share of the credit. B
2. If we give the old TV to grandad, it’ll keep him happy and free up space in the house, we’d be killing two BIRDS with one stone. K
3. He took a job teaching English in Thailand to escape the RAT race of the banking sector. N
4. I could talk about comic book movies until the COWS come home, I love them! J
5. When it came to foreign policy, Trump was like a BULL in a china shop, he did so much damage! C
6. That boy has ANTS in his pants, he can never sit still in class. O
7. Sandra is always such an eager BEAVER, she’s so enthusiastic about everything we do! P
8. I’m going to go home and take a CAT nap before we go out tonight. R
9. I was going to ask the boss for Friday off work but I got scared and CHICKENED out. M
10. Ever since he got that promotion Brian has looked like the CAT that got the cream. D
11. Politicians are arguing over pointless things while no one is doing anything about the ELEPHANT in the room, climate change! G
12. It’s time to take the BULL by the horns and tell him how you really feel, otherwise it’s not fair. Q
13. There’s a stomach BUG going around and so many of the workers have caught it, they’re dropping like FLIES! H, F
14. The negotiations are going at a SNAIL’S pace, it’ll take them ages to reach an agreement. L
15. The teacher watched the two naughty boys like a HAWK while they were in the playground to make sure they didn’t get up to anything bad. I
16. Hold your HORSES! We don’t have to eat all the popcorn before the film even starts. A
17. Don’t worry, this job is like shooting FISH in a barrel, you’ll pick it up in no time. E

Match the expressions to the definitions:

| a. Wait a moment/slow down | g. An obvious issue/problem that everyone sees but chooses to ignore. |
| b. The majority of | h. An illness |
| c. Be very clumsy & destructive | i. Keep an eye on very intently |
| d. Look very pleased/self-satisfied | j. For a very long time |
| e. Very easy | k. Solve two problems with one action |
| f. Die or collapse in large numbers | l. Very slowly |
| | m. To decide not to do something because of fear |
| | n. Get away from difficult & competitive routine/lifestyle |
| | o. Be fidgety or restless |
| | p. Be extremely keen |
| | q. Take decisive action to solve a difficult problem |
| | r. Sleep for a short time |

Study the expressions for 1 minute, then look back at the pictures from exercise 1 and try to recall the expressions.

Discussion

1. If something is bothering you or you have something important to say to someone, do you tend to take the bull by the horns or chicken out and not say anything? How can shy people become more assertive?
2. Have you ever worked on a group project and had someone take the lion’s share of the credit when they didn’t deserve it? What happened? Did you say anything?
3. Are there any bugs going around at the moment? Are people dropping like flies?
4. What were you like at primary school? Did you have ants in your pants? Were you an eager beaver? How much have you changed as you’ve grown up?
5. If people are walking at a snail’s pace in front of you in the street, what do you do?
6. Do you take cat naps? Why/why not? Do you think they help your productivity or hinder it?
7. Are you generally a clumsy person? Are you like a bull in a china shop? What about in social situations? Do you tend to put your foot in it sometimes?
8. Why do you think so many people are choosing to escape the rat race after the pandemic? Would you like to work in a very ruthless and competitive environment? Why? Why not?
9. Apart from climate change, are there any other problems that are the elephant in the room at the moment in your country?
10. Tell your partner two small problems/issues you have at the moment. They have to think of a way to kill two birds with one stone.
11. Did your parents used to watch you like hawks when you were children or were they more lenient?
12. Do you get popcorn when you go to the cinema? How long does it normally take you to finish the box? Do you hold your horses during the trailers?
13. Is there a topic you could talk about until the cows come home? What is it? How did you get into it?
Article - Animal Encounters

Task
An online wildlife magazine is looking for articles on the topic of encounters with wild animals. Your article should describe a close encounter you’ve had with an animal and explain the effect the experience had on you. You should also give advice and recommendations about ways in which other people can have similar experiences.

Paragraph Plan
1. Set the scene - establish the place where the encounter took place, lots of descriptive language, animal noises etc.
2. Describe the encounter - what happened? How long was it? What did it involve? Describe the animal.
3. The effect it had - how did it make you feel? Did it change your perspective? Did it inspire you to do anything?
4. Recommend - how can other people have a similar experience? Would you change anything? Generally advice for doing the same thing.

"As soon as" Inversions:
- No sooner had… than….
- Hardly had I got in the shower when the phone rang.
- Scarcely had I got in the shower when the phone rang.
- Barely had I got in the shower when the phone rang.

Adverb of frequency Inversions:
- Hardly ever do I go out for dinner.
- Rarely does he do the washing-up.
- Never before have I eaten such lovely food.

Extras
- So + adjective + that + consequence
  - So cold was the water that we couldn’t go swimming.
  - Not only… but also
  - Not only can you take photos with the phone, but also videos.
  - Little did I know…

Time adverbial Inversions
- Only when…
  - Only when I got home did I realise someone had stolen my wallet.
  - Not since…
  - Not since my 10th birthday party have I eaten marshmallows.
  - Not until…
  - Not until the end of the book do you find out who the murderer is.

Prohibition Inversions
- Under no circumstances….
  - Under no circumstances should/must you open this door.
  - On no account….
  - On no account should/must you feed the animals.

Place Adverbial Inversions
- The bus came down the street.
  - Down the street came the bus.
  - Around the corner walked a lion.
  - Into the river jumped the boys.

Cleft Sentences:
- What clefts:
  - What had the biggest impact on me was….
  - It was the ….. the had the biggest impact on me

Inverted Conditionals
- Were … to - 2nd conditionals
  - Were I to change one thing about …., it would be...

- Had … - 3rd conditionals
  - Had I known that before, I would have….
  - Had we not seen the sign, we would have….