

Kill two birds with  
one stone

To do two things at the  
same time.

Costs an arm and a  
leg

Something is very  
expensive.

Barking up the  
wrong tree

To have the wrong idea

Set the cat among  
the pigeons

Say or do something  
that causes trouble.

In a pickle

To be in a mess.

To walk on eggshells

To try not to upset  
someone.

Once in a blue moon

Happens very rarely.

Green around the  
gills

Someone looks ill.

On the double

To do something  
immediately.

Storm in a teacup

A lot of fuss over  
nothing.

Raining cats and  
dogs

Heavy rain

To sell like hot cakes

To sell something  
quickly.

Pretty penny

Costs a lot.

Caught red handed

To be found in the act  
of doing something  
wrong.

Like clockwork

Happens on a regular  
basis or without a  
problem.

At the drop of a hat

To do something  
suddenly.

Out of the blue

Something happened  
unexpectedly.

Buckle down

To work very hard.

Green fingered

To be good at  
gardening.

Foot the bill

Pay the bill

Costs the earth

Costs a lot.

The big cheese

An important person.

Egg on your face

To be humiliated.

Itchy feet

To want to travel or to  
feel restless.

Every cloud has a  
silver lining

Something good in a  
bad situation

Take 40 winks

To take a quick nap.

Put it on ice

To postpone  
something.

Money to burn

To have money to  
spend.

Chew the fat

To talk.

Bad egg

A bad person.

The cat's whiskers

When someone thinks  
they are better than  
you.

To smell a rat

To think something is  
wrong.



Could eat a horse

Very hungry.

Straight from the  
horse's mouth

From a reliable source.

Frog in my throat

To have a dry throat  
and have difficulty  
talking.

Third degree

A long intensive line of  
questioning.

Snowed under

Too much to do.

To have your head in  
the clouds

To be daydreaming.

Dark horse

Someone's abilities are  
a surprise and not well  
known.

Apple of my eye

Someone or something  
that is cherished above  
all others.

Like a duck to water

To have a natural  
ability.

A penny for your  
thoughts

To ask someone what  
they are thinking.

Hit the nail on the  
head

To do something that  
is exactly right.

Turn over a new leaf

To change for the  
better.

On the house

When something is for  
free.

Heard it through the  
grapevine

To hear a rumour.

Hot potato

A topic/issue people  
are talking about.

Pull the wool over  
someone's eyes

To trick or deceive  
someone.

