

Identifying the Meaning of Common Idioms, Adages, & Other Sayings

1/5 – 1/23

3 weeks

TEKS 5.2D/Fig 19D

Lesson	Time Frame	Focus
Lesson 18	1/5 – 1/9	Understanding Common Idioms and Adages
Lesson 19	1/12 - 1/16	Understanding Common Idioms and Adages Independent Practice
Lesson 20	1/20 – 1/23	Understanding Common Idioms and Adages Independent Practice

Lesson 18

Lesson Overview: 5.2D/Fig. 19D : Understanding Common Idioms and Adages

1. For lessons on Idioms, use the Idioms PowerPoint. The slides feature common idioms and adages and strategies you can use to figure out the meanings.
2. Create the Common Idioms and Adages Anchor Chart with your students and distribute a copy of the Common Idioms List AND the Common Adages List for students to paste in their Word Study Notebook. Students may add in the blanks.

Common Idioms and Adages	
Idioms – a common expression that does NOT mean what it literally says	
Adages – statement of practical wisdom expressed in a simple way that has been used for a long time	
Idiom	Meaning
piece of cake	easy
cost an arm and a leg	expensive
hit the books	study
all eyes on me	look at me
a frog in my throat	sore or scratchy throat
give me a hand	can you help me
broke my heart	made me sad
all ears	listening
Adage	Meaning
The early bird gets the worm.	If you get up early, you are more productive and can get a lot of things done.
An apple a day keeps the doctor away.	Eating healthy can keep you well.
Don't cry over spilled milk.	Don't stress about things that have already happened or are insignificant; move forward and do better!

3. Independent Practice:

Tuesday	Idioms Practice Page <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • print a copy for each student
Wednesday	Literal and Figurative Illustrations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create the example as an Anchor Chart. <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity will be repeated in subsequent lessons.
Thursday	Idiom Quadrant Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See example attached; you may make copies for students or have them create the activity in their Word Study notebooks.
Friday	Literal and Figurative Illustrations (USING ADAGES) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See example attached; you may make copies for students or have them create the activity in their notebooks.

Common Idioms and Adages

Idioms – a common expression that does NOT mean what it literally says

Adages – statement of practical wisdom expressed in a simple way that has been used for a long time

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give me a hand	can you help me
broke my heart	made me sad
all ears	listening
break a leg	good luck
on cloud nin	really happy
zip your lips	be quiet and close your mouth
shake a leg	dance
green thumb	good at gardening and keeping plants alive
made my mouth water	tastes delicious
hit the road	let's go
under the weather	sick and not feeling well
ants in my pants	very excited
raining cats and dogs	raining very hard
heart of gold	considerate, kind, and thoughtful
cat's got your tongue	forgot what you were going to say
time flies	time goes by quickly
driving me up the wall	making me crazy
cut it out	stop doing that
pulling my leg	playing a joke on me
don't rain on my parade	don't ruin my happy moments
couch potato	lazy and watches a lot of tv
keep your shirt on	stay calm
butterflies in your stomach	nervous

Common Adages

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Birds of a feather flock together.• Opposites attract.
• Don't judge a book by its cover.• The clothes make the man.
• The early bird gets the worm.• Better late than never.
• Nothing ventured, nothing gained.• Better safe than sorry.
• Curiosity killed the cat.• What you don't know can't hurt you.• Seek and ye shall find.
• Beware of Greeks bearing gifts.• Never look a gift horse in the mouth.
• There's no such thing as a free lunch.• The best things in life are free.
• Two wrongs don't make a right.
• Practice makes perfect. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You are never too old to learn.• You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
• A rolling stone gathers no moss.• Stop and smell the roses.
• He who hesitates is lost.• Strike while the iron is hot.• Look before you leap.
• Many hands make light work.• Two heads are better than one.• Too many cooks spoil the broth.
• Measure twice, cut once.
• You can't have your cake and eat it too.
• A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
• Pride cometh before a fall.
• Don't count your chickens before they're hatched. |
|--|---|

Name _____

Idioms Practice

Write the meaning of each idiom on the line.

1. walking on air _____
2. beat around the bush _____
3. apple of my eye _____
4. land on one's feet _____
5. couch potato _____
6. heart of gold _____
7. in the limelight _____

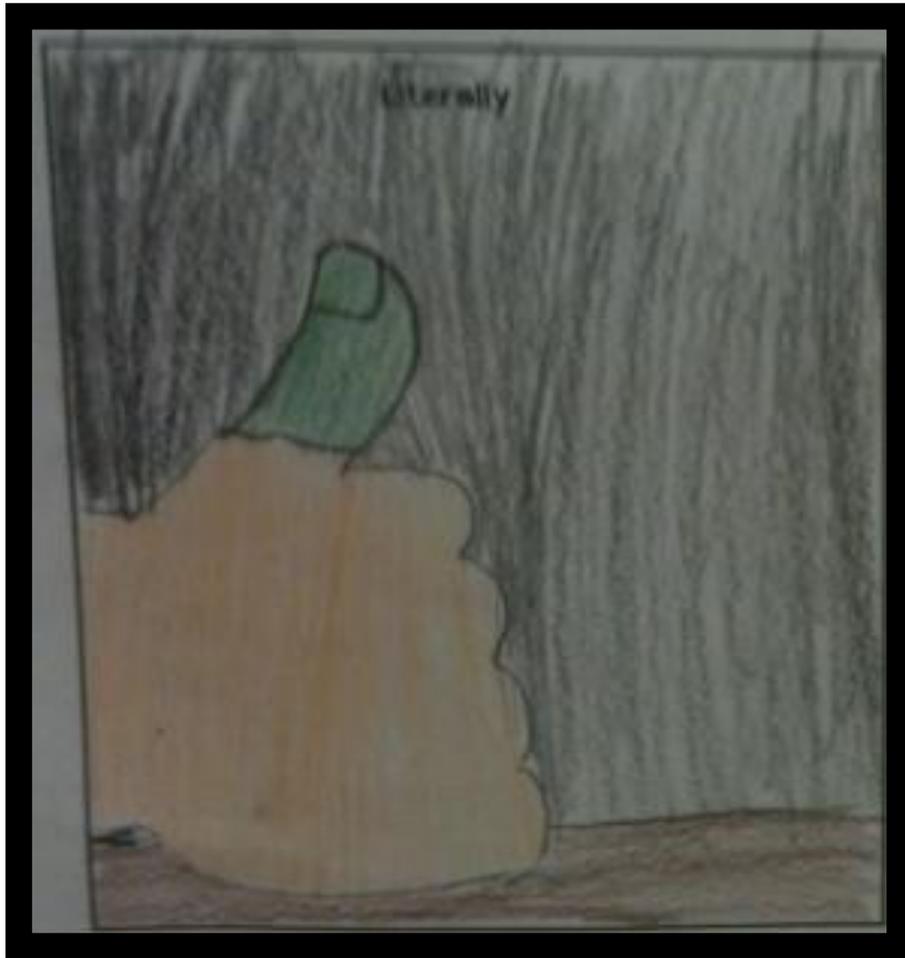
Circle the meaning of the underlined idiom.

8. We have to tighten our belts and follow our budgets if we want to take a trip this year.
a. be more careful with money b. move the buckles over a notch
9. Looking for something in Brent's messy room is like searching for a needle in a haystack.
a. something sharp and pointy b. something hard to find
10. I was worried we wouldn't get to the game on time, but we arrived at the eleventh hour.
a. at eleven o'clock b. at the last minute

Idiom: a green thumb

Meaning: able grow plants

Literal Meaning



Meaning: Jack's thumb turned green after planting all those seeds in his garden.

Figurative Meaning



Meaning: Jack must have a green thumb because his garden is always beautiful and thriving!

Idiom Quadrant Activity

Idiom:

Illustration (literal or figurative):

Meaning:

Sentence:

Lesson 19

Lesson Overview: 5.2D/Fig. 19D : Understanding Common Idioms and Adages Independent Practice

1. Being exposed to common idioms and adages their meanings is the best way for students to begin to understand them. This week will provide students with further independent practice.

2. Independent Practice:

Monday	Adages Practice Page <ul style="list-style-type: none">• print a copy for each student
Tuesday	• Students will choose an idiom/adage from the Common Idioms List or another teacher-approved idiom/adage. • Students will complete either the Literal and Figurative Illustration activity or the Idiom Quadrant Activity.
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	Sticky Note on Back Game <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use sticky notes and write an idiom on the note for every student• Place the sticky note on the back of each student without them seeing their idiom• Give students a set time or play music to walk around and find a partner• The partners take turns acting out and/or giving word clues for each other's idiom without using any of the words until they guess the idiom correctly• Repeat as time allows

Lesson 20

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Adages Practice

Underline the adage or proverb in each sentence, and then circle the correct meaning.

1. Although I was still mad at my cousin for losing my book, I decided to let sleeping dogs lie and not mention it again.

- a. It is better not to restart an old argument.
- b. It is better to let your relatives' pets sleep on the floor.

2. When I pack my lunch, I always tell myself that an apple a day keeps the doctor away.

- a. Telling doctors you eat an apple every day keeps them from scolding you.
- b. Eating an apple every day keeps you in good health.

3. Dad said that while the rest of us are out grocery shopping, he's going to make hay while the sun shines and take a nap.

- a. The best place to take a nap is outside in the sun.
- b. Take advantage of an opportunity while you have chance to do so.

4. When Danny asked his grandmother why she saved used wrapping paper, she replied, "Waste not, want not."

- a. If you carefully save things, you will not find yourself in need of things.
- b. If you don't want anything, you are not a wasteful person.

5. I didn't want to move to a different town, but every cloud has a silver lining; I made lots of friends at my new school.

- a. You can find interesting shapes in every cloud in the sky.
- b. You can find something good in every bad situation.