

# Idiom of the Month: THE LION'S SHARE

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Write five words that you can use to ask for a portion of food. For example  
a bowl.....of spaghetti

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ of cake
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ of bread
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ of soup
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ of ice-cream
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ of chips

2a. Read

You've got **the lion's share** of that cake!

That's because I'm very hungry.

But John hasn't got any and I've only got a small piece.

2b. Complete

My brother always gets the \_\_\_\_\_ of the cake after Sunday lunch. Mum says that's because he's bigger and needs the energy. It's not fair!

3. **Read these sentences. Match each animal idiom to the correct meaning.**

- a. Martin always gets **the lion's share** of the cake. Poor Suzy always gets the smallest piece.
- b. Lucy is so **pig-headed**. She never admits that she's wrong.
- c. I told James to **hold his horses** but he ran out of the class and didn't wait for me.
- d. Jenny was **like a fish out of water** at the rock music festival; she doesn't like rock music and didn't know any of the songs.
- e. Freddy really **gets my goat** - he always makes horrible comments about my friends.

- 1. ... stupid and stubborn...
- 2. ... the biggest portion...
- 3. ... not happy and relaxed...
- 4. ... wait a minute...
- 5. ... makes me angry...

4. **Write**

- a. Two things that really get your goat \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Two situations where you feel like a fish out of water \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Two occasions where you would like to get the lion's share \_\_\_\_\_

5. **Complete these rhymes with the correct idiom.**

- a. Baby Jim gets the \_\_\_\_\_  
of the big green juicy pear.
- b. Mary really \_\_\_\_\_  
She always hides my favourite coat.

- c. Mark is so \_\_\_\_\_  
He will never get wedded.
  
- d. Julie was like a \_\_\_\_\_  
At the party with her daughter
  
- e. Philip wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_  
He ran to his college courses.

6. *Do you know any more animal idioms? Write them here and work with a partner to make your own rhymes.*

# Teachers Notes

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1.

**Tell students that there is often more than one way to order a portion of food, depending on where you're eating it ( home/ bar / restaurant).**

- a. a slice/ piece of cake
- b. loaf/ slice/ piece/ chunk of bread
- c. bowl/ dish/ cup of soup
- d. scoop/ bowl/ dish of ice-cream
- e. plate/ bag of chips

Tell students about the British tradition of going to the chippy and ordering a bag of chips- the original street food! The chips used to be wrapped in old newspaper but for health and safety reasons they are now wrapped in special white paper.

2b

*My brother always gets the lion's share of the cake after Sunday lunch. Mum says that's because he's bigger and needs the energy. It's not fair!*

3.

- a. 2
- b. 1
- c. 4
- d. 3
- e. 5

5.

1. Baby Jim gets the lion's share  
of the big green juicy pear.

2. Mary really gets my goat  
She always hides my favourite coat.

3. Mark is so pig-headed  
He will never get wedded.

4. Julie was like a fish out of water  
At the party with her daughter

5. Philip wouldn't hold his horses  
He ran to his college courses.

6.

**Ask students to brainstorm in pairs any other animal idioms they know or if possible let them do some research online , in which case this task could be set for homework.**

**Other idioms include: wild goose chase, eagle-eye, like a pig in muck.**