



Science



Literacy

APPLE IDIOMS

Grade Level

3-6

Length of Lesson

45 minutes

Objective

By the end of this lesson, students will have a better understanding of idioms.

Materials Needed

- White paper
- Colored Pencils
- Copies of student worksheet
- “Bad Apple: A Tale of Friendship” by Edward Hemingway

Standards

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.6; L.4.3; L.4.4; L.4.5

NGSS

2-LS4-1; MS-LS2-1

Lesson Summary

This lesson is designed to help students learn about idioms as a literary device. Students will use apple-themed idioms to better understand that some phrases have both literal and figurative meanings.

Suggested Sequence of Events:

1. Read through the AITC Apple Ag Mag to allow students to gain background knowledge of apples! Interactive online versions can be found on our website.
2. Complete the activity following the procedures:
 - Read “[Bad Apple: A Tale of Friendship](#)” by Edward Hemingway aloud.
 - Go back to the story and discuss the phrase, “one bad apple spoils the whole bunch.” How does the author use the phrase in the book? Does the author’s use of the phrase match the typical meaning?
 - Introduce or review idioms and figurative language.
 - Have students complete the student worksheet.
 - Discuss how each apple idiom has a literal and a figurative meaning.
 - Have the students fold a piece of paper in half width-wise (hamburger style).
 - Then, have students choose their favorite apple idiom from their worksheet.
 - On the left side of their paper, they should draw the literal meaning of the phrase. On the right side, they should draw the figurative meaning of the same phrase.
3. Whole class discussion and reflection of activity.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Extension Ideas:

- Have students act out their interpretations of the literal and/or figurative meanings of their favorite apple idioms.
- Use the book and have students draw a comic strip or write the story from Will the worm's perspective.
- Have students go back to the book and think about and discuss how the other apples' comments and actions affected Mac, the main character.
- Have students write another apple-themed story using more of the apple idioms.
- Have students re-write a part of the story using other types of figurative language.
- Have students find other idioms related to agriculture.
- Show a labeled diagram of an apple and/or apple tree.
- Invite an apple farmer into the classroom.
- Learn about the interactions of living organisms in ecosystems.
- Read about worms and other insects.
- Go to agintheclassroom.org to contact your County Literacy Coordinator for free classroom sets of our Ag Mags!

Student Worksheet Answers:

- 1: B
- 2: E
- 3: A
- 4: C
- 5: G
- 6: F
- 7: D



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APPLE IDIOMS

STUDENT WORKSHEET

Idioms are phrases and sayings that are used to mean something different from what is *literally* being said. This special meaning is *figurative*. Many popular English idioms involve apples!

Directions:

Below, match the apple idiom with its literal meaning. Either draw a line to match the pairs OR write the letter of the literal meaning in the blank line of the matching idiom.

1. _____ An apple a day keeps the doctor away

A. New York City

2. _____ Upset the apple cart

B. Do something small regularly to prevent a big problem in the future

3. _____ The Big Apple

C. An example of something that represents the United States

4. _____ As American as apple pie

D. It only takes one person to ruin things for a group

5. _____ The apple of my eye

E. To mess up or ruin something

6. _____ Comparing apples and oranges

F. There is no way to compare two subjects

7. _____ One bad apple spoils the whole bunch

G. A very special person