

The Colors of Idioms

Stacy was *seeing red* because her brother Stan called her this evening *out of the blue*. He should have been the *black sheep* of the family, but he was such a *brown noser* that their parents, wearing *rose-colored glasses*, believed he was the *golden boy* and always *gave him the green light*. Now her *green-eyed monster* was raising its head as Stan once again showed his *true colors*. Even though he had received a *pink slip* last week, Stan had been out *painting the town red* and needed some *greenbacks* so he wouldn't be taken by the *boys in blue*. Cursing a *blue streak*, she called him a *yellow red neck* and then she told a *white lie*. As a *blue-collar worker*, she didn't have *one red cent* to give him. Stan turned *white as a sheet*. He was, in fact, *green around the gills*, having been caught *red handed*. *In a blue funk*, he put up the *white flag* and apologized. Stacy *tickled pink* and knowing this *golden opportunity* would only occur *once in a blue moon*, she drove down to the bar to give her brother the *folding green*. While it was a *red letter day* for Stacy, Stan was *singing the blues*.

- To see red means to be angry.
- Something out of the blue occurs unexpectedly.
- A black sheep is a family member with bad behavior.
- A brown noser flatters other people for selfish motives.
- Wearing rose-colored glasses is believing good things regardless of their truth.

- A golden boy can do nothing wrong.
- Giving the green light is giving permission for activities.
- The green-eyed monster is jealousy.
- Showing true colors is demonstrating one's true character.
- A pink slip is given when one is laid off from the job.
- Painting the town red is going out and spending money on entertainment.
- Greenbacks are money.
- Cursing a blue streak is to swearing extensively.
- To be yellow means to be a coward.
- A red neck is one who is considered uneducated or ignorant.
- A white lie is an insignificant lie.
- A blue-collar worker is someone who does manual labor.
- Not having one red cent means not having any money at all.
- Being white as a sheet is to being very pale or scared.
- Being green around the gills is looking sick.
- Being caught red handed is being caught in the action of doing something.
- Being in a blue funk is being depressed.
- Raising the white flag is admitting defeat.
- The boys in blue are the police force.
- Being tickled pink is being very happy.
- To have a golden opportunity means to have a very good opportunity.

- Once in a blue moon means that something does not occur very often.
- The folding green is money.
- A red letter day is a great day.
- Singing the blues means to be depressed.