

Metaphors in Everyday Speech

(Animals as metaphors for aspects of human personality and behavior.)

He's chicken.
He's crabby.
I will not be cowed.
He cowered in response to the threat.
He did it doggedly.
Something is fishy here.

(Colors as metaphors for emotions, feelings, and inclinations.)

I am blue.
He was green with envy.
Recycling is a green activity.

I am in the woods.
I am at sea.
I am in the dark.
I am up a creek without a paddle.
I am going out on a limb.
He is skating on thin ice.
She's a star.
His head is in the clouds.
His goose is cooked.
The situation is up in the air.
It is up for grabs.

Expressions, Sayings

Please do the necessary.
Please take your seat.
The spirit of cooperation.
I am going to do it sooner or later.
Please get to the point.
Please stop pulling my leg.
Don't jump to conclusions.
I can't read your mind.
I am going to get to the bottom of this.
Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
Money does not grow on trees.
The cat is out of the bag.
Do not open that can of worms.
I am turning over a new leaf.
I am leaving no stone left unturned.
He sent me on a wild goose chase.
Out of the frying pan, into the fire.
He is behaving like a bull in a china shop.
He is making a mountain out of a molehill.
It is a tempest in a teapot

Euphemisms

A great tree has fallen.
He is no longer with us.

Proverbs

A stitch in time saves nine.
A friend in need is a friend indeed.
A leopard cannot change its spots
A watched pot never boils.
A picture is worth a thousand words.
A dog is a man's best friend.
Some things are easier said than done.
Haste makes waste.