# When Pigs Fly

### a sample from All About® Reading Level 3



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Your student will frequently encounter idioms in everyday speech and while reading, so it's beneficial to expand his vocabulary to include them. In this activity, students will learn twelve common idioms such as *hold your horses* and *in a pickle*.

#### **Instructions**

- 1. Print pages 3-4 of this activity back-to-back.
- 2. Cut out the flying pig cards and place them on the table with the illustrations facing up.
- 3. "If something costs *an arm and a leg*, it costs a lot. It doesn't really mean that you have to pay with an arm and a leg. Sayings like these are called *idioms*. Idioms are sayings that you don't take literally."
- 4. Have your student select a pig card and read the phrase on the back. If possible, your student should use the idiom in a sentence or explain what it means. If he doesn't know what the idiom means, explain it to him. Continue until all the flying pig cards have been read.

when pigs fly	a way of saying that something will never happen
on pins and needles	anxious; excited; in suspense
keep an eye on	to watch someone or something closely
give/lend a hand	to help someone
miss the boat	to miss out on an opportunity; to make an error or not understand
hold your horses	to wait; to have patience
hang out	to spend time with certain people or at a certain place
let the cat out of the bag	to reveal a secret by mistake
apple of my eye	someone or something that is very precious; a favorite person or object
green with envy	jealous; wishing you had what someone else has
takes the cake	when a person does something that is even worse than what he's done before
in a pickle	to be in a difficult situation

#### Answer Key



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when pigs fly

on pins and needles

keep an eye on you

give me a hand

miss the boat

hold your horses

hang out

let the cat out of the bag

apple of my eye

green with envy takes the cake

in a pickle



### Did you enjoy this activity? Then you'll love All About® Reading!

All About Reading is a fun and engaging program that starts with essential pre-reading skills and continues on to teach all five key components of reading. It contains everything your student needs to become a fluent reader for life!

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