

Name _____



Idiom Sleuth

Directions: Read each short passage carefully. Your job as an **Idiom Detective** is to **highlight or underline all idioms** you can find in the text. Be careful; some sentences are literal, while others hide idiomatic expressions.

1. Lena was nervous about the first day of school. Her teacher told a funny story to **break the ice**, and soon everyone was laughing. By the end of the day, making new friends felt like a **piece of cake**.
2. During the storm, it was **raining cats and dogs**, and Marcus forgot his umbrella. He got soaked to the skin, but he told his mom, "No use **crying over spilled milk**, I'll just change clothes."
3. Mia wanted to quit the soccer team after losing three games in a row. But her coach said, "This isn't the time to give up. **Keep your chin up**, and next time you'll play even better!"
4. David studied all night for the history test. He was **burning the midnight oil**, but when he finished, he felt like he had really **hit the nail on the head** with his essay answers.
5. Sara's brother almost revealed the secret about her surprise party. "Don't **let the cat out of the bag**," she whispered. The big cake had also **cost an arm and a leg**, but her parents didn't mind.