**Literal Idioms**

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| Name: |  | Date: |  |

Idioms are groups of words with a meaning different from their literal definition. So, once you understand the figurative meaning of an idiom, you can have fun using it in a literal sense.

*I had a* ***rude awakening*** *when waves* ***rocked the boat****. I felt numb and had to* ***shake a leg*** *to stand up. I* ***put my best foot forward*** *and stepped* ***over and above*** *the stern seat to start the motor and* ***shift into high gear****.*

Read through the following idioms, and if any are unfamiliar, look up the meaning in *Write for College* or online. Pick out four or more idioms that interest you and use them all literally in a short, ridiculous paragraph.

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| ahead of the curvebig picturebreak the icecold shoulderdrop in the bucketface the musicfall through the cracksfloating on airelephant in the room | hands are tiedhit the ceilingin the long runin the loopland on your feetlearn the ropesnose to the grindstoneout the windowraise the bar | red tapesave facesee eye to eyeshoot from the hiptake the bull by the hornsthrow in the toweltouch baseup in the airwork the bugs out |