

THE MANHOOD MANUAL IDIOMS: A HUMOROUS ADVENTURE

Grade Level: 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade

Standards Addressed:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean).

Learning Objective:

Students will be able to understand and use idioms in their writing and speaking by analyzing and creating comic strips based on idioms found in **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure**.

Materials Needed:

1. Copies of **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure** for each student
2. Whiteboard or blackboard
3. Markers or chalk
4. Art supplies for creating comic strips (paper, pencils, erasers, colored pencils or markers)
5. Print outs of the attachments:
 - a. Press Release
 - b. Manhood Manual Idioms
 - c. Idioms and Their Meanings Worksheet
 - d. Idiom Comic Sheet

Lesson Outline (60 minutes):

1. **Introduction (5 minutes)**
 - a. Introduce **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure** and give a brief summary of the book (attached).
2. **Introduction to Idioms (5 minutes)**
 - a. Begin the lesson by explaining that idioms are phrases that have a different meaning than the literal meaning of the individual words. Provide a few examples, such as "break a leg" or "barking up the wrong tree."
 - b. Ask students if they can think of any idioms they've heard before and have them share their ideas.

3. Direct Instruction (10 minutes)

- a. Read selected excerpts from **The Manhood Manual – A Comic Adventure** that contain idioms (attached). Discuss the idioms found in the text as a class, identifying their meaning and how they contribute to the humor of the story.
- b. Circulate the Idiom Worksheet with idioms and explanations (attached).

4. Guided Practice (20 minutes):

- a. Divide students into small groups and provide each group with a list of idioms for inspiration.
- b. Instruct students to choose one idiom from the list and create a comic strip that humorously illustrates the meaning of the idiom. Encourage them to think about the adventures of Jeffrey Crandle as they create their comic (attached).
- c. Circulate around the room to provide guidance and support as needed.

5. Independent Practice (10 minutes):

- a. Have students return to their seats and work independently to create a second comic strip based on a different idiom.
- b. Encourage students to think about how they can use their newfound understanding of idioms to add humor to their writing and speaking.

6. Closure (10 minutes):

- a. Have students share their comic strips with the class.
- b. Discuss how idioms can add humor and depth to our language, and ask students to share their thoughts on the use of idioms in **The Manhood Manual – A Comic Adventure**.
- c. Encourage students to continue exploring idioms and to consider incorporating them into their writing and speaking.

Assessment:

Assess students' understanding of idioms through their comic strip creations and class discussions.

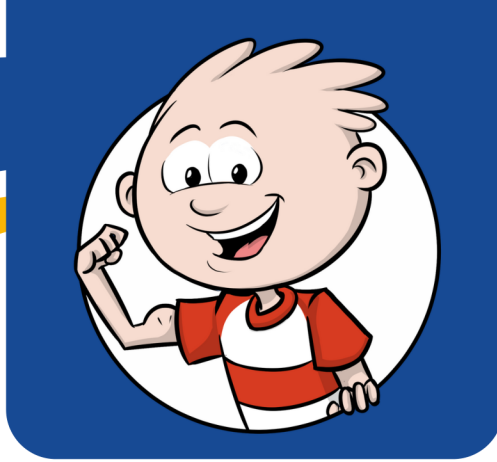
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Additional Standards Addressed:

For 5th grade students, the following Common Core Standards can be applied to the lesson plan:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 5 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.5: Include multimedia components (e.g., graphics, sound) and visual displays in presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.

These standards emphasize students' abilities to determine the meaning of words and phrases, engage in collaborative discussions, and incorporate multimedia components in their presentations. Adapt the lesson plan to focus on figurative language, such as metaphors and similes, in addition to idioms, and encourage students to participate in more in-depth discussions about the use of these language devices in [The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure](#).



PRESS RELEASE

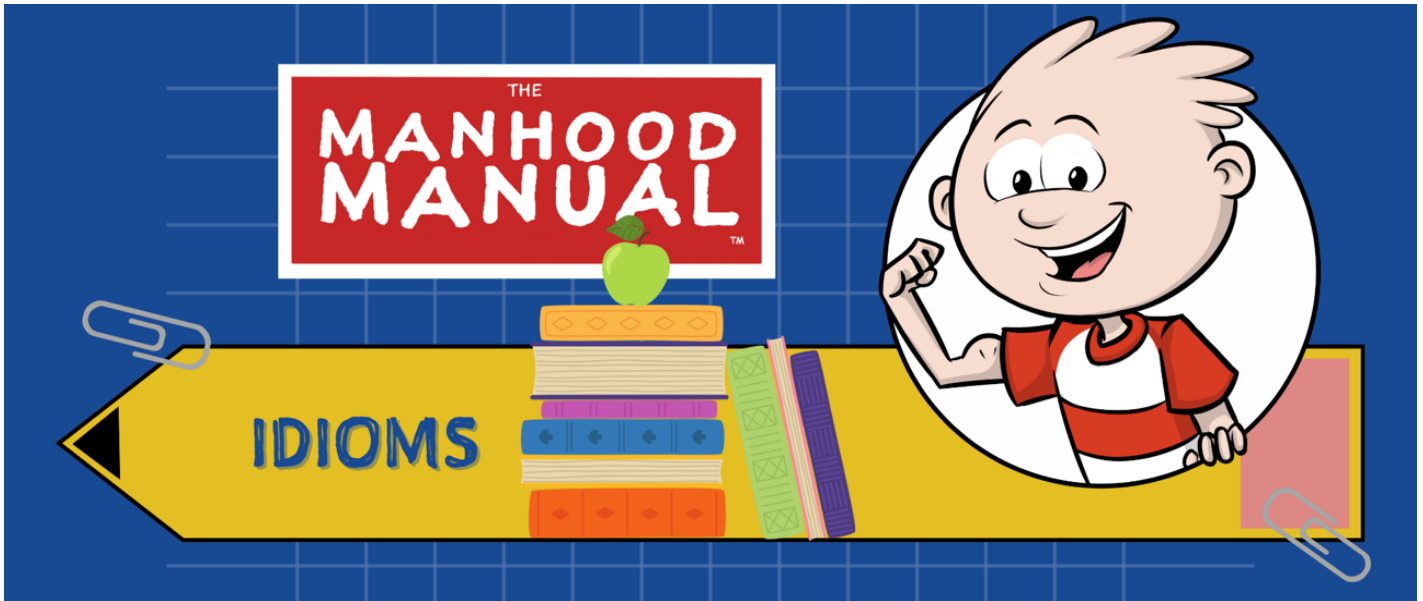
Embark on a Hilarious and Inspiring Journey to Manhood with **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure**.

Discover the wisdom, the mistakes, and the life lessons hidden within this one-of-a-kind self-help book. Although crafted specifically for boys aged 7-12, this book is a delightful read for "kids" of all ages.

[Horn Hill, USA] - Prepare to embark on an insightful and downright hilarious journey into the world of **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure**. As the age-old adage goes, "to truly grow, we must make as many mistakes as possible." That's precisely what the book's protagonist, Jeffrey R. Crandle, does in his quest to become a "successful, well-adjusted, good-looking thirteen-year-old man."

In **The Manhood Manual**, Jeffrey shares his unique and humorous perspectives on how to become a man through a series of entertaining stories. These tales are brimming with Cool Ideas for any young person, such as fishing, tinkering with gadgets, negotiating allowances, sibling coexistence strategies, finding a hobby, maintaining a sense of humor, and even outsmarting your parents. Each story is accompanied by a Big Problem and, most importantly, a Lesson Learned.

Jeffrey Crandle has now achieved his self-proclaimed manhood status! So, how can he help other young boys? Well, Jeffrey noticed that his dad reads books about getting rich, his mom reads books on cooking (and ones with shirtless, long-haired men on the cover), and even his sister Kate reads self-help books about beauty and attracting boys. However, there wasn't a single book out there about becoming the man Jeffrey is today. Thus, **The Manhood Manual - A Comic Adventure** was born!



An idiom is a secret language that grown-ups use to confuse kids by saying one thing, but meaning something totally different. It's like when they say "raining cats and dogs" and you look outside, but there are no pets falling from the sky! Sneaky, huh? Here are some idioms from **The Manhood Manual – A Comic Adventure**. Write down what you think the idiom means and then follow up with a sneaky grown-up to see if you're right!

1. "The way I see it, my bumps and bruises are your **express ticket** to manhood." (p. 9)

Meaning

2. "Dad explained that "**the devil is in the details**" and insisted on some ground rules." (p. 38)

Meaning

3. “**Sweet talking** your little brother after a fight never works if your mom can clearly see the evidence.” (p. 45)

Meaning

4. “If Mom saw Ben’s amazing driving skills firsthand, she did not appear as impressed as I was by the performance. I could see him smiling at first, but Ben’s smile quickly turned to **crocodile tears** when he saw Mom’s spastic dash to the scene.” (p. 55)

Meaning

5. “With the twenty bucks I found in the couch **burning a hole in my pocket**, we were closer than ever to making our dream come true.” (p. 102)

Meaning

6. “It was **a dark day** for the Crandle family.” (p. 167)

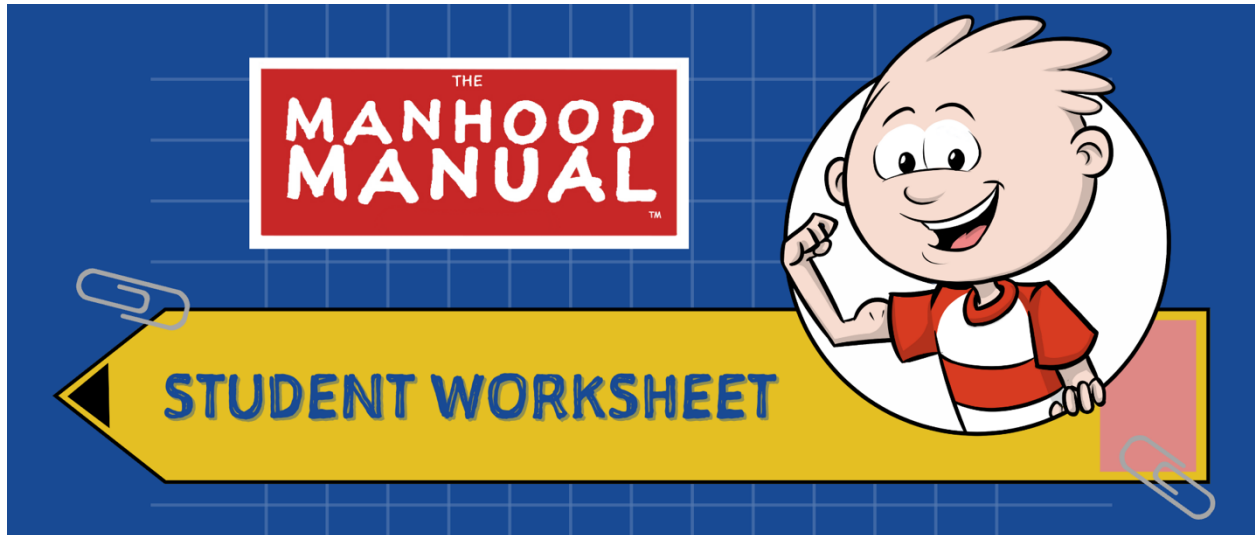
Meaning

7. "You will find pictures of real men **smiling from ear to ear.**" (p. 173)

Meaning

8. "Being a man is being happy with the little things in life and laughing even if **the big one gets away.**" (p. 175)

Meaning



IDIOMS AND THEIR MEANINGS

1. Break a leg

Meaning: Good luck (often said to performers before they go on stage)

2. Barking up the wrong tree

Meaning: Looking for answers or solutions in the wrong place

3. Cry over spilled milk

Meaning: To be upset over something that has already happened and cannot be changed

4. A piece of cake

Meaning: Something that is easy to do

5. The ball is in your court

Meaning: It's your turn to take action or make a decision

6. Bite the bullet

Meaning: To face a difficult situation bravely and endure it

7. Get your act together

Meaning: Organize yourself and improve your behavior or performance

8. Hit the nail on the head

Meaning: To be exactly right or accurate

9. Let the cat out of the bag

Meaning: To reveal a secret unintentionally

10. Put all your eggs in one basket

Meaning: To rely on a single plan or idea, risking everything on one thing

11. The elephant in the room

Meaning: A significant problem or issue that people are avoiding discussing

12. Throw in the towel

Meaning: To give up or quit

13. Out of the frying pan and into the fire

Meaning: To move from a difficult situation to one that is even worse

14. When pigs fly

Meaning: Something that is highly unlikely or impossible to happen

15. You can't judge a book by its cover

Meaning: You shouldn't judge something or someone based on appearance alone

THE MANHOOD MANUAL

TM

www.manhoodmanual.com

YOUR MANHOOD MANUAL COMIC STRIP

Draw a Comic Strip About Idioms

An idiom is a secret language that grown-ups use to confuse kids by saying one thing but meaning something totally different. It's like when they say "raining cats and dogs" and you look outside, but there are no pets falling from the sky! Sneaky, huh? **The Manhood Manual – A Comic Adventure** has a few idioms to keep you on your toes like "the devil is in the details" and "burning a hole in my pocket". Grab your copy of the book and find some idioms. Or find some cool idioms on your own. Draw a cartoon strip about an idiom you like and share it with the world.

Enjoy!

Jeffrey

