Bird Proverbs and Sayings List

BIRD PROVERBS

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush Don't count your chickens before they hatch One swallow does not make a summer What's good for the goose is good for the gander Wise as an owl Eagle eye Kill two birds with one stone Like water off a duck's back Like a duck to water Madder than a wet hen The goose that laid the golden egg Something worth crowing about Light as a feather Hen party Jaywalking Like a duck on a June bug My little chickadee Naked as a jaybird Nest egg Run around like a chicken with its head cut off Strut like a rooster Stuffed like a Christmas goose That's just ducky Watch like a hawk

BIRD SAYINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

A crab does not beget a bird. (Ghanaian) You can cage a bird, but you cannot make him sing. (French Jewish) Old birds are hard to pluck. (German) No need to teach an eagle to fly. (Greek) God gives every bird his worm, but he does not throw it into the nest. (Swedish) A bird is known by his feathers. (Yiddish) A bird does not sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song. (Chinese) Listen to all, plucking a feather from every passing goose, but, follow no one absolutely. (Chinese) People live like birds in the woods: When the time comes, each must take flight. (Chinese) You cannot prevent the birds of sorrow from flying over your head, but you can prevent them from building nests in your hair. (Chinese) If you have money, men think you are wise, handsome, and able to sing like a bird. (Jewish) A chattering bird builds no nest. (Cameroonian) Two birds disputed about a kernel, when a third swooped down and carried it off. (Congo) Each bird loves to hear himself sing. (Italian)

A bird does not change its feathers because the weather is bad. (Nigerian)

A bird may be known by its flight. (Russian)

Bird Scenario Cards

Like a duck to water

"Did you go to Nyahsa's piano recital last night?"

"Yes, it was wonderful. Did you know she has only been taking lessons for one year?" "Wow! She has taken to the piano..."

Madder than a wet hen

"So, what happened when your mom got home? I bet she wasn't too happy about the mess we made cooking in the kitchen or the chocolate sauce we spilled on the carpet." "She said I was grounded until I was a

grandfather! She was..."

Birds of a feather flock together

"Marge, Kevin, and Juan are never apart! They seem to like all of the same things, and all they do is either talk about soccer or play soccer."

"Well, you know what they say..."

Get your ducks in a row

"How does Phyllis do it? She participates in three after school activities, volunteers at the animal shelter, and still makes straight A's!" "I know. Phyllis has always been good at

managing her time. But you can do all that too, if you can..."

The early bird gets the worm

"I want to get good tickets for the show!" "The tickets start going on sale tomorrow. Let's wake up at five in the morning and stand in line until they start selling them at noon." "Even though we have to wake up really early, I think it's a good plan, because..."

Feather in your cap

"Did you hear that Yasu won the spelling bee last night?"

"Hear about it? I was there! I'm so proud of him; I had been helping him study for the competition for months."

"Really? Well, his award is a ... "

Bird Illustrations Cards



LIGHT AS A FEATHER Flying WILD: An Educator's Guide to Celebrating Birds

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