

● 插图本 ●

英汉—汉英 成语小词典

刘杰 赵燕 编著



中国国际广播出版社

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卢德平 审订

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前 言

在英语中，有大量与动物有关的成语，如：bear hug（热烈拥抱）、rain cats and dogs（倾盆大雨）、goose bumps（起鸡皮疙瘩），它们形象生动、内容丰富、言简意赅。由于英语与汉语在文化传统方面有所不同，因此虽然有些汉语成语与英语的表面意思相同，但是英语的动物成语具有其特殊的含义。本书将英汉两种语言中的部分动物成语的来源、出处配合大量实例，加以详细说明，旨在使读者能准确地掌握其含义和用法。

众所周知，成语在语言学习中是非常重要的的一环，打好成语这一基本功，对提高英语水平极其关键，编者在英语学习和英语教学过程中深深体会到了这一点，因此，我们编写这本书目的就是希望广大读者克服英语学习过程中的这一难关。

由于编者水平有限，书中难免出现一些错误，希望读者批评指正。

编 者

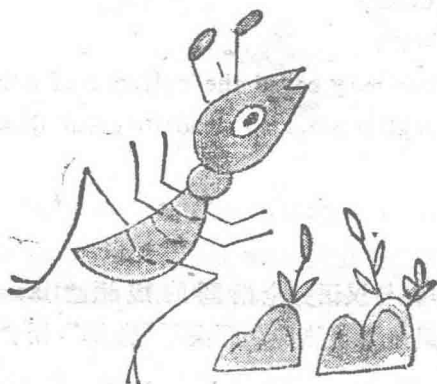
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Ant 蚂蚁



have ants in one's pants

(因焦急、气愤等而) 坐立不安, 急于采取行动

He's got ants in his Pants about the contract. 他急于实施那个合同。

She had ants in her pants ever since she won that ticket to Burmuda. 她自从获得 那张去百慕大的机票后一直急于启程。

Jane can't sit still, she has ants in her pants. 简无法安安静静地坐一会儿, 她总是神不守舍。

You have ants in your pants today. Is something wrong? 你今天坐立不安, 出什么事了吗?

蚂蚁啃骨头

ants gnawing at a bone—a concentration of small

machines on a big job; plod away at a big job bit by bit.

蚍蜉撼大树

like an ant trying to shake a giant tree/overrate oneself ridiculously

千里之堤，溃于蚁穴

one ant-hole may cause the collapse of a thousand li dyke—slight negligence may lead to great disaster

热锅上的蚂蚁

an ant on a hot pan/in a state of feverish excitement

[注] 英语中有与汉语完全相同的成语：“like a cat on hot bricks”，只是用“热砖”而没用“热锅”，用“猫”取代了“蚂蚁”。

[贾瑞]等着，热锅上蚂蚁一般。只是左等也不见人影，右等也没声响……(《红楼梦》)。 He waited there for her arrival with the frenzied agitation of an ant on a hot saucepan. Yet, though he waited and waited, not a human shape appeared nor a human sound was heard……

如蚁附膻

like ants clinging to something rank—swarming after unwholesome things or attaining oneself to influential people

Bat 蝙蝠



A nod is as good as a wink to a blind bat; a nod is as good as a wink to a blind man 反正都看不见。

I was still at the flat when my friend's girlfriend arrived. My friend gave me one look and I left them alone together. A nod is as good as a wink, you know. 我还呆在房间里时，同屋的女朋友来了。同屋向我使了个眼色，我便离开让他俩单独在一起，你知道，对瞎马点头、眨眼一个样。

as blind as a bat

瞎得厉害，对周围的事物完全看不见。

Stepping from the bright sunlight into the darkness of that cellar, I was as blind as a bat until my eyes became used to it. 从明亮的阳光下走进黑暗的地下室，我的眼睛一时适应不了，什么也看不见。

have bats in the belfry

傻里傻气，疯疯癫癫

They all thought a crazy man with bats in the belfry had got loose. 大家都认为有个精神失常的疯子逃

出来了。

When he talked about going to the moon he was thought to have bats in his belfry. 当他谈到要到月球上时，人们都以为他有精神病。

like a bat out of hell

风驰电掣（通常与动词 go 连用）

The motor cyclist had gone like a bat out of hell towards Baker Street. 那骑摩托车的人正风驰电掣地向贝克街驶去。He ran out of the room like a bat out of hell. 他飞也似地冲出屋子。

Bear 熊



as cross as a bear (as surly, sulky), as a bear with a sore head

脾气暴躁，脾气很坏

When the dance ended, they stopped just by the spot where Miss Ceswick was sitting. Florence and Dorothy were both dancing, but Jeremy, who did not dance was standing by her, looking as sulky as a bear with a sore head. (H. Haggard, "The Witch's Head")
舞曲结束时，他们正好停在塞斯威克小姐座位面前。佛罗伦丝和多罗蒂正在跳舞。杰连米没跳舞，他站在塞斯威克身边，满面怒容。（选自 H·哈格德《女巫的脑袋》）

I can't ask the boss for a holiday now because he's like a bear with a sore head this morning. 我现

在还不能向老板申请度假，因为他今天早上一直很暴躁。

as gruff as a bear

粗暴得像一只熊，非常粗俗

be a bear for

有精力，有能耐，有特殊才能，有兴趣（做某事）

— **William is a bear for work.** 威廉很能干活。

He is a bear for physics. 他对物理极感兴趣。

be a bear for punishment

经得起折磨；在艰苦中坚强不屈

bear hug

熊捕食时用双腿紧紧勒住猎物；热烈的拥抱

The two friends greeted each other with bear hugs.

两位老朋友见面时互相热烈拥抱。

catch the bear before you sell his skin

先捉到熊再卖皮（意指不要太乐观）

〔注〕也可以说 **sell the bear's skin before one has caught the bear**

loaded for bear

作好准备；（美俚）打架

Frank liked the new merchandise and as he set out on his roads as a salesman, he felt really loaded for bear. 弗兰克很喜欢此种新货，当他开始推销时，他觉得很有把握。

The football team arrived Friday noon, loaded for bear. 足球队于星期五中午到达，一切准备妥当，跃跃欲试。

make a bear garden of

弄得乱七八糟，把……搞成一片混乱

The three children played balls in the living-room and made a bear garden of it. 这三个孩子在卧室里玩球，把卧室弄得乱七八糟。

play the bear (with)

糟糕，搞坏

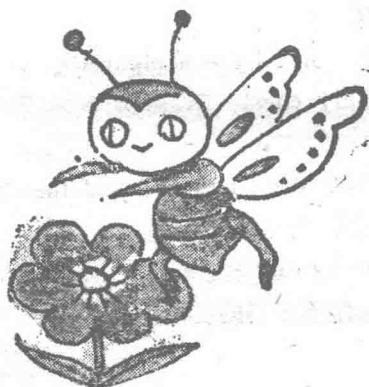
No, I won't have a cigarette, thanks. It plays the bear with my chest. 不，谢谢，我不再吸烟了。烟对我的肺不好。

Those children have played the bear with me all day. 那些孩子整天令我生气。

take a bear by the tooth

胆大妄为，作不必要的冒险，捋虎须

Bee 蜜蜂



have a bee in one's bonnet

(1) 荒诞念头，古怪主意，具有某种难以更改的想法

My brother has a bee in his bonnet about modern art. He thinks most of it is very bad. 我哥哥对现代艺术想法很古怪，他认为大部分现代艺术作品都很糟。

Grandmother has some bee in her bonnet about going to the dance. 祖母对参加舞会有着荒诞的看法。

(2) 胡思乱想，神经有点失常

He has a bee in his bonnet about reforming the world singlehanded. 他想独立改造世界，真有点疯狂。

Everybody knew that "young Mont" had a "bee in his bonnet" about child emigration... (J. Galsworthy "Swan Song"). 谁都知道儿童移民就是年轻的蒙特所喜爱

的话题。(J.高尔斯华绥《天鹅之歌》)

He has the presidentia (bee in his bonnet). 他想当总统想入了迷。

a busy bee

忙碌的人

She is, it seems, a very busy bee. And not short of a penny or two, as her Bayswater flat bears out.

(The Guardian 31 Jan. 1975) 看起来,她是个大忙人,从她在贝斯沃特的房子可以看出,她一点也不缺钱花。 (“卫报”, 1975年1月31日)

as busy as a bee

颇忙碌

I have been as busy as a bee all morning, doing the jobs I should have done yesterday. 整个上午我忙着干完本该昨天就干完的活。

be the bee's knees

最受宠爱的人

My brother thinks he's the bee's knees because he is the youngest in the family and is allowed to do whatever he wants. 我弟弟认为他是家中最受宠的人, 因为他在家中最小, 干什么事都没人管。

bees and honey

钱

[注] 此成语为一谐韵俚语, honey 和 money 同韵。

Do you reckon we'd waste good bees and honey on it for nothing?

难道你以为我们会把好端端的钱白白花在这上面?

have one's head full of bees

想入非非，异想天开，头脑有点不正常

[注] 亦可作 **have bees in the head** 或 **in the brains**;

亦可作 **one's head is full of bees**

make a bee-line

走直线；匆匆赶赴

[注] 此成语源自蜜蜂在飞回蜂巢时总是飞直线。

When they came out of school, all the children made a bee-line for the sweet shop. 这些孩子们放学后，都急急忙忙地走近路去了糖果店。

put the bees on

向…募捐，向…借钱，从…弄到钱

[注] 人人都怕蜂蜇，趁机从别人那里弄钱就如同蜂蜇，因此渐渐地就出现了这个成语。

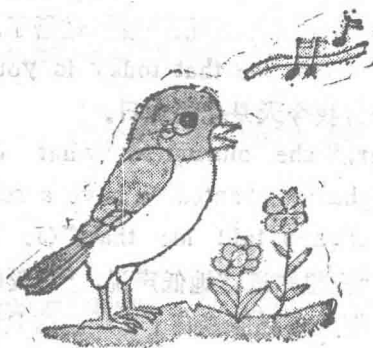
Because he was the richest man in town the orphanage always put the bees on him at Christmas. 因为他是城里最富有的人，所以每到圣诞节，孤儿院总是向他募捐。

一窝蜂

like a swarm of bees

孩子们一窝蜂似地拥上来。The children came swarming round.

Bird 鸟



a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush

双鸟在林，不如一鸟在手；到手的东西才是可靠的

John has a job as a paperboy, but he wants a job in a gas station. His father says that a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. 约翰是个报童，但他想转到加油站工作。他父亲说，已有的工作总比不一定能获得的工作要好。

a little bird told me

有人私下告诉我

〔注〕这个成语目的是为了在说话，尤其在回答问题时避免说出得到秘密的来源。