

中國經典  
文化故事  
Chinese Classic  
Cultural Stories Series

Stories of Chinese Idioms

# 中国成语故事

◎ 沈红 汤璐 编著



廣東省出版集團  
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爱屋及乌

The Love for a Person Extending Even  
to the Crows on His Roof

此地无银三百两

No 300 Taels of Silver Buried Here

半途而废

Giving up Halfway

道听途说

Hearing It on the Way



东山再起

Staging a Comeback from Dongshan

毛遂自荐

Mao Sui Recommending Himself

贫贱之交

Friends in the Hard Days

## 1. 爱屋及乌

中国历史上有一个国家名叫“周”。一天，周王问他的官员，应该怎样处理战俘。

一个官员说：“我以前曾听说：如果喜欢某个人，就连停留在那人住的屋顶上的乌鸦都喜欢；如果厌恶某个人，就连那人家里的墙壁和围墙都厌恶。战俘是我们的敌人，和我们对立的，我觉得最好把他们全部杀了。”周王认为这样做不行。

另外一个官员也提出了自己的意见：“依我看应该把战俘区分对待，把有罪的和无罪的、好的和坏的区分开来。有罪的战俘要处死，不能留下祸患。”周王认为这样做也不大妥当。

接着，又有一个官员说：“大王，我认为应该把这些战俘全都放了，让他们回到自己的家里，耕种田地，自食其力。而大王对自己的亲人和朋友，也要赏罚分明，不能偏心。通过道德和法律来治理国家，人民肯定会对大王信服的。”周王听后觉得很有道理，就按这个办法去做，结果国家真的很快安定下来了，变得越来越稳定和强大。

成语“爱屋及乌”后来就被用来比喻：因为喜爱一个人，连带和他有关的人或事物也喜爱、关心。



## The Love for a Person Extending Even to the Crows on His Roof

There was a state called Zhou in the Chinese history. One day, the king of Zhou asked his officials for advice on dealing with prisoners of war.

An official said, "I once heard if you love someone, you are intended to love even the crows on the roof of his house; if you hate someone, you are intended to hate even the walls and the parapets of his. The prisoners of war were enemies fighting against us. In my opinion, we'd better kill them all." But the king didn't agree with him.

"I think we should treat the prisoners of war differently by differing them into those who are guilty and those who are not. The guilty ones will be sentenced to death in order to avoid future disasters." Another official put forward his suggestion. The king didn't think it was a proper way, either.

Then a third one said, "Your Majesty, I think all the prisoners should be set free and sent back home to work in the fields and support themselves by their own labor. Moreover, you should keep strictly the rules for reward and punishment and treat your relatives and friends impartially. The people are sure to believe in you if you administer our country by morals and laws." The king thought the official's proposal was quite reasonable so he accepted and followed it. As a result, the domestic situation soon settled down and gradually the country became more stable and stronger.

The idiom is then used to mean that if you love someone, you'll love people and things relative to him as well.



## 2. 按图索骥

伯乐是我国古代最著名的相马专家，他编写了一本《相马经》，总结了千里马各种各样的特征，并画了不少插图，供人们参考。

伯乐有个儿子，也很想找到千里马。他看到《相马经》上说：“千里马的主要特征是额头高高的、眼睛



鼓鼓的、蹄子又圆又结实”，便拿着书走出家门，要试试自己的眼力。走了不远，他看到一只癞蛤蟆，连忙捉回去，兴高采烈地告诉父亲说：“我找到了匹好马！模样和你那本《相马经》上说的差不多，只是蹄子不够圆。”

伯乐看了看儿子手里的癞蛤蟆，不由得又好笑又好气，幽默地说：“这‘马’爱跳，但没办法骑呀！”

按着图像去寻找良马，比喻做事拘泥教条，墨守成规。现在也可指顺着线索去寻找东西。

## Looking for a Fine Horse with the Aid of a Picture

Bo Le was the most famous horse expert of ancient China. He wrote a book *The Art of Valuing a Horse*, in which he described various features of fine horses which could cover one thousand *li* a day and added a lot of pictures in it for people to refer to.

His son was eager to find such a fine horse, too. It said in *The Art of Valuing a Horse* that “the horse which can cover one thousand *li* a day is characterized by raised forehead, protruding eyes and strong round hooves.” After reading that, his son took the book with him and hurried out, because he couldn’t wait to test his judging skills. He didn’t walk very far when a toad came into his sight. He caught the toad at once and took it back. On arriving home, he happily told his father, “I’ve found a fine horse by myself. It looks exactly like what is described in your book except that its hooves are not round enough.”

Looking at the toad held by his son, Bo Le got angry but felt funny as well. He said humorously, “This horse is too fond of jumping to be ridden.”

People usually use this idiom to refer to handling affairs mechanically instead of being flexible. Today, it is also used to mean searching for something by following some clues.





### 3. 拔苗助长

从前有一个农夫，他老嫌自己地里的秧苗长得太慢，并且整天为此忧心忡忡。

这一天，他又来到地里，看着瘦瘦小小的秧苗似乎丝毫没有长高的迹象，不禁苦苦思索起来：怎样才能让稻子长高长快一些呢？忽然，他灵机一动，立刻卷起衣袖、挽起裤脚跳到水田里，动手把每一棵秧苗都往上提高一些。直到傍晚，农夫才好不容易完成了这项艰巨而“伟大”的工作。他得意洋洋地跑回家，迫不及待地告诉妻子说：“我今天做了一件了不起的大事！咱们地里的秧苗一下子全长高了。”第二天一早，妻子半信半疑地跑到田边一看，秧苗的确是长高了，但一棵棵都耷拉着脑袋，快要枯死了。

这个成语说明一切事物都有自身的发展规律，如果急于求成，反而坏事。

