

## #10 Easy Chinese Idioms Kids Can Learn Today— Free PDF Download

### 1. Shǒu Zhū Dài Tù (守株待兔)

Meaning: To wait for windfalls (hoping for easy gains without effort)

Example: “Don’ t just sit by the toy box waiting for a new toy — that’ s shǒu zhū dāi tù! You have to ask nicely.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is shǒu zhū dāi tù?

- A) Working hard to earn money
  - B) Waiting for a gift without asking
  - C) Helping a friend find a lost toy
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### 2. Huà Shé Tiān Zú (画蛇添足)

Meaning: To gild the lily (ruining something by adding unnecessary details)

Example: “Your drawing of a snake is perfect — don’ t add feet! That would be huà shé tiān zú.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is huà shé tiān zú?

- A) Adding extra stickers to a already perfect card
  - B) Coloring a picture with bright colors
  - C) Using a ruler to draw a straight line
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### 3. Duì Niú Tán Qín (对牛弹琴)

Meaning: To cast pearls before swine (talking to someone who doesn’ t understand or care)

Example: “Trying to explain calculus to your little brother is like duì niú tán qín — he just wants to play.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is duì niú tán qín?

- A) Telling a baby a complicated story
  - B) Reading a book to your dog
  - C) Teaching your friend a new game
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4. Jī Fēi Dàn Dǎ (鸡飞蛋打)

Meaning: To end up with nothing (trying to get two things and failing at both)

Example: “If you try to hold both the cookie and the juice, you’ ll drop them both — that’ s jī fēi dàn dǎ.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is jī fēi dàn dǎ?

- A) Trying to catch two butterflies and missing both
  - B) Sharing your snack with a friend
  - C) Finishing your homework and watching TV
- 

5. Hǔ Tóu Shé Wěi (虎头蛇尾)

Meaning: A strong start, weak finish (losing interest halfway through)

Example: “You started your puzzle with so much energy, but now you’ re watching TV — don’ t be hǔ tóu shé wěi!”

**Quiz:** Which of these is hǔ tóu shé wěi?

- A) Starting a book and finishing it quickly
  - B) Cleaning your room for 5 minutes and then playing
  - C) Practicing piano every day
- 

6. Láng Tūn Hǔ Yàn (狼吞虎咽)

Meaning: To eat very quickly and greedily

Example: “Slow down and chew your food! Eating láng tūn hǔ yàn will give you a stomachache.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is láng tūn hǔ yàn?

- A) Eating your dinner in 2 minutes
  - B) Taking small bites and chewing slowly
  - C) Sharing your food with the whole family
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7. Wáng Yáng Bǔ Láo (亡羊补牢)

Meaning: Better late than never (fixing a problem after it happens)

Example: “You forgot to water the plant, but you can still do it now — that’ s wáng yáng bǔ láo.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is wáng yáng bǔ láo?

- A) Fixing a broken bike after you crashed it
  - B) Leaving a mess on the floor and ignoring it
  - C) Wearing a helmet when riding your bike
- 

8. Yǎn ěr Dào Líng (掩耳盗铃)

Meaning: To plug your ears while stealing a bell (thinking you can hide a mistake)

Example: “Covering your eyes won’ t make the mess disappear — that’ s yǎn ěr dào líng. Clean it up!”

**Quiz:** Which of these is yǎn ěr dào líng?

- A) Hiding a broken toy under your bed
  - B) Telling your mom you broke the vase
  - C) Cleaning up a spill right away
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9. Kè Zhōu Qiú Jiàn (刻舟求剑)

Meaning: To use an old method for a new problem

Example: “You can’ t use last year’ s map to find the new park — that’ s kè zhōu qiú jiàn.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is kè zhōu qiú jiàn?

- A) Using a new app to find your way
  - B) Asking your mom for directions
  - C) Using a 10-year-old map to find a new store
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10. Jǐng Dǐ Zhī Wā (井底之蛙)

Meaning: A frog in a well (someone with a narrow view of the world)

Example: “If you never travel, you’ ll be like jǐng dǐ zhī wā — you won’ t know how big the world is.”

**Quiz:** Which of these is jǐng dǐ zhī wā?

- A) Traveling to a new country every year
- B) Thinking your school is the only one in the world
- C) Reading books about different cultures

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测试题答案

- B) Waiting for a gift without asking
- A) Adding extra stickers to a already perfect card
- A) Telling a baby a complicated story
- A) Trying to catch two butterflies and missing both
- B) Cleaning your room for 5 minutes and then playing
- A) Eating your dinner in 2 minutes
- A) Fixing a broken bike after you crashed it
- A) Hiding a broken toy under your bed
- C) Using a 10-year-old map to find a new store
- B) Thinking your school is the only one in the world

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