



And then a light bulb went off in my head!



If someone says a light bulb went off in their head, they mean that they got a sudden insight or idea. There are a lot of phrases in the English language like this, that have meanings different from, or in addition to, their literal meanings.

Directions: Read each sentence below. Is the underlined phrase meant to be understood literally or figuratively? If the phrase is meant to be understood figuratively, color the light bulb.



1. After the musician finished playing he passed the hat.



6. Tina ripped the plastic bag and spilled the beans all over the floor.



2. Julie was down in the dumps all afternoon.



7. We suspected that Jerry had something up his sleeve.



3. In school, Kay was really on the ball.



8. Pa went out to his toolshed because he had an axe to grind.



4. The cat climbed the tree and crept out on a limb.



9. Darla's friends came over to chew the fat.



5. Ani really upset the applecart with that remark.



10. Mary would give her right arm for a part in the play.