

Ellie's Idioms

Don't put all your eggs in one basket

Everybody puts all their eggs in one basket. Who ever goes to the supermarket, buys 6 eggs, and puts 3 eggs in one basket and 3 eggs in the other? Nobody does this, nobody at all, at least nobody I know.

So what is the idiom telling us? Well, it's telling us not to depend on just one possibility. For example, you are looking for a new job, maybe as an air hostess. Don't just apply to one airline, apply to ten, because that way you have a better chance of getting a job.

Or, you're looking for a wife. Don't just propose to one girl. Propose to five. One of them will probably accept. Let's hope it's the pretty one!

Putting all your eggs in one basket is like betting all your money on one horse in a race. If the horse wins, great, you're rich. But if it doesn't you're in big trouble. You'll never put all your eggs in one basket again. In fact you won't have enough money to buy eggs. So why worry?