

## Do You Know That Saying...?

Here are some phrases related to knitting, sewing, sheep, and yarn making.  
Can you figure out what each one means?

For extra exploration, research how one phrase (or idiom) got started.  
Then make a mini-poster illustrating the phrase's origin and/or meaning.

1. \_\_\_ spinning a yarn
  2. \_\_\_ close-knit
  3. \_\_\_ in stitches
  4. \_\_\_ thread the needle
  5. \_\_\_ a wolf in sheep's clothing
  6. \_\_\_ gentle as a lamb
  7. \_\_\_ two shakes of a lamb's tail
  8. \_\_\_ dyed-in-the-wool
  9. \_\_\_ A stitch in time saves nine.
  10. \_\_\_ March comes in like a lion  
and goes out like a lamb.
- A. laughing uncontrollably
  - B. In northern climates, weather is often fierce at the beginning of March and gentler by the end.
  - C. caring and calm
  - D. someone pretending to be a good person
  - E. bound together by having things in common
  - F. It's better to spend time now dealing with a problem. If you put it off, you'll probably have to spend even more time on it.
  - G. telling a made-up or exaggerated story
  - H. to find the path between obstacles
  - I. unchanging
  - J. very quickly



*IF YOU WANT TO KNIT SOME MITTENS*

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Illustrated by Angela Matteson

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# Do You Know That Saying...?

## Answer Key

1. **G** spinning a yarn - telling a made-up or exaggerated story  
“I think you’re spinning a yarn about the bicycle trick you did.”
2. **E** close-knit - bound together by having things in common  
“My sisters and I have a close-knit relationship.”
3. **A** in stitches - laughing uncontrollably  
“That funny video had me in stitches!”
4. **H** thread the needle - to find the path between obstacles  
“That quarterback sure threads the needle with his passes.”
5. **D** a wolf in sheep’s clothing - someone pretending to be a good person  
“I liked him at first, but he turned out to be a wolf in sheep’s clothing.”
6. **C** gentle as a lamb - caring and calm  
“My dog looks tough, but he’s gentle as a lamb.”
7. **J** two shakes of a lamb’s tail - very quickly  
“I’ll be there in two shakes of a lamb’s tail.”
8. **I** dyed-in-the-wool - unchanging  
“All winter, she eats lunch outside. She’s a dyed-in-the-wool nature lover.”
9. **F** A stitch in time saves nine. - It’s better to spend time now dealing with a problem.  
If you put it off, you’ll probably have to spend even more time on it.
10. **B** March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. - In northern climates,  
weather is often fierce at the beginning of March and gentler by the end.



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