Proverbs

A proverb is a short, popular saying that expresses a useful or wise thought in a commonsense way. Below are some well-known proverbs along with their definitions and some examples.

**Birds of a feather flock together.**

**Meaning:** People who clearly like the same things are often drawn to each other.

**Example:** People who love to read often join book clubs where they can discuss books with others who also love reading.

**One good turn deserves another.**

**Meaning:** If someone does something nice for you, then you should be cheerful and willing to do something nice for them (or for someone else).

**Example:** One day I forgot to take my lunch to school, so my friend shared her thermos of soup with me. A week later I shared my sandwich with a boy who had forgotten his lunch.

**You can take a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink.**

**Meaning:** You can help someone only as much as they allow themselves to be helped.

**Example:** David gave me a book about how to grow beautiful flowers. I didn’t read the book. My rose garden nearly died because I didn’t know what I was doing.

**The early bird catches the worm.**

**Meaning:** You are more certain of getting what you want if you start early.

**Example:** Rick wanted to visit Yellowstone Park during summer break. During winter break he looked online to see how to get a permit. He was just in time because the permits for the next summer were almost all given out.