

Idiotic Idioms

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IDIOTIC IDIOMS - I

WHERE DOES THE SAYING "I HAVE A FROG IN MY THROAT" COME FROM?

LONG AGO, IT USED TO BE THOUGHT THAT IF YOU DRANK WATER FROM A POND THAT HAD FROGSPAWN (FROG EGGS) IN, A FROG COULD LIVE AND HATCH OUT IN YOUR THROAT, WHICH NATURALLY WOULD BLOCK YOUR VOICE. QUACKS (UNQUALIFIED DOCTORS) USED TO HAVE A SCAM WHEREBY THE QUACK'S FRIEND USED TO PRETEND TO HAVE SUCH A FROG IN HIS THROAT SO THE QUACK WOULD GIVE HIS MEDICINE, THEN THE STOOGES WOULD COUGH UP A LIVE FROG AND "REGAIN HIS VOICE", AND THE PEOPLE WATCHING WOULD BUY THIS WONDERFUL CURE. FOR THIS REASON, AN OBSTRUCTION (SOMETHING STUCK) IN THE THROAT IS KNOWN AS A "FROG"