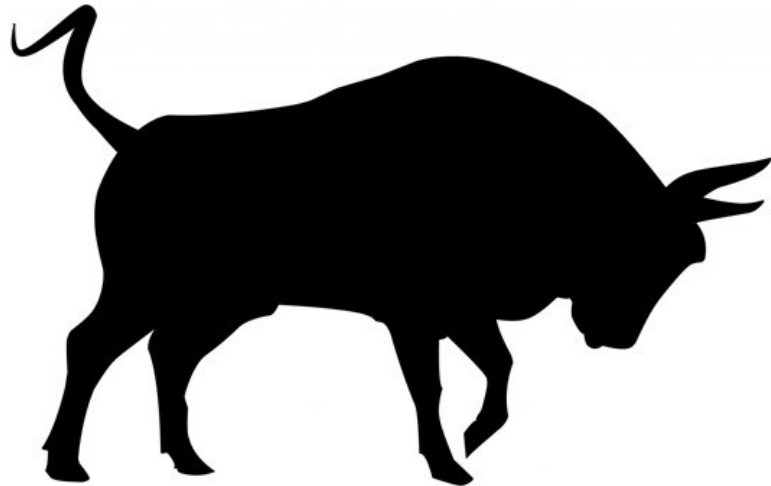


to be all ears

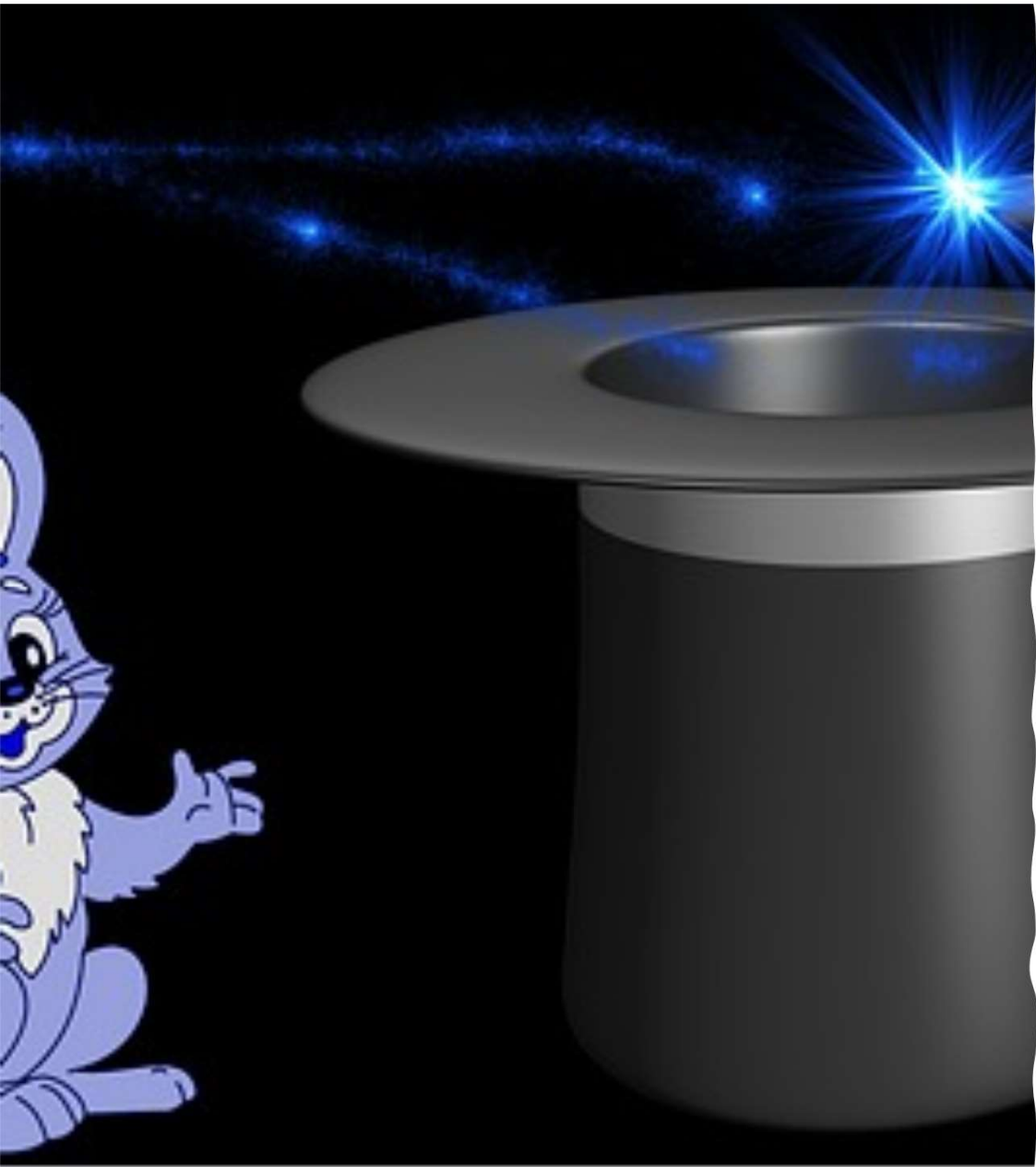
to be waiting eagerly to hear
about something



to take the bull by the horns



to do something difficult in a brave
and determined way



a hat-trick

when someone is successful at
achieving something three
times

to save something for a rainy day

to save for a time when money might
unexpectedly be needed





to pull your socks up

to make an effort to improve
your work or behaviour because
it is not good enough (informal)



to be down
in the dumps

to be unhappy



to let the cat
out of the bag

to allow a secret to be known,
usually without intending to



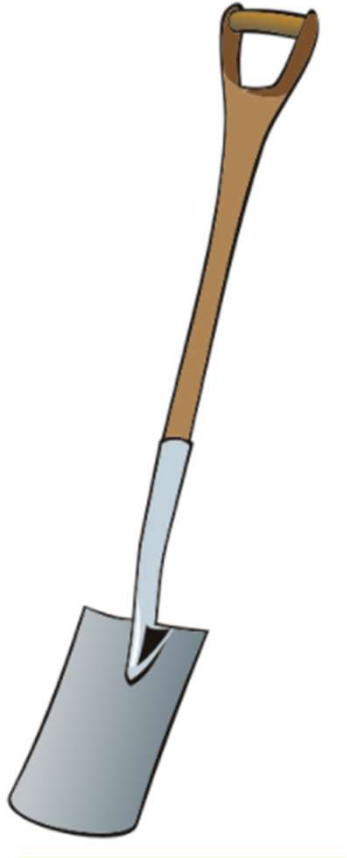
to bend over
backwards

to try very hard to do
something good or helpful



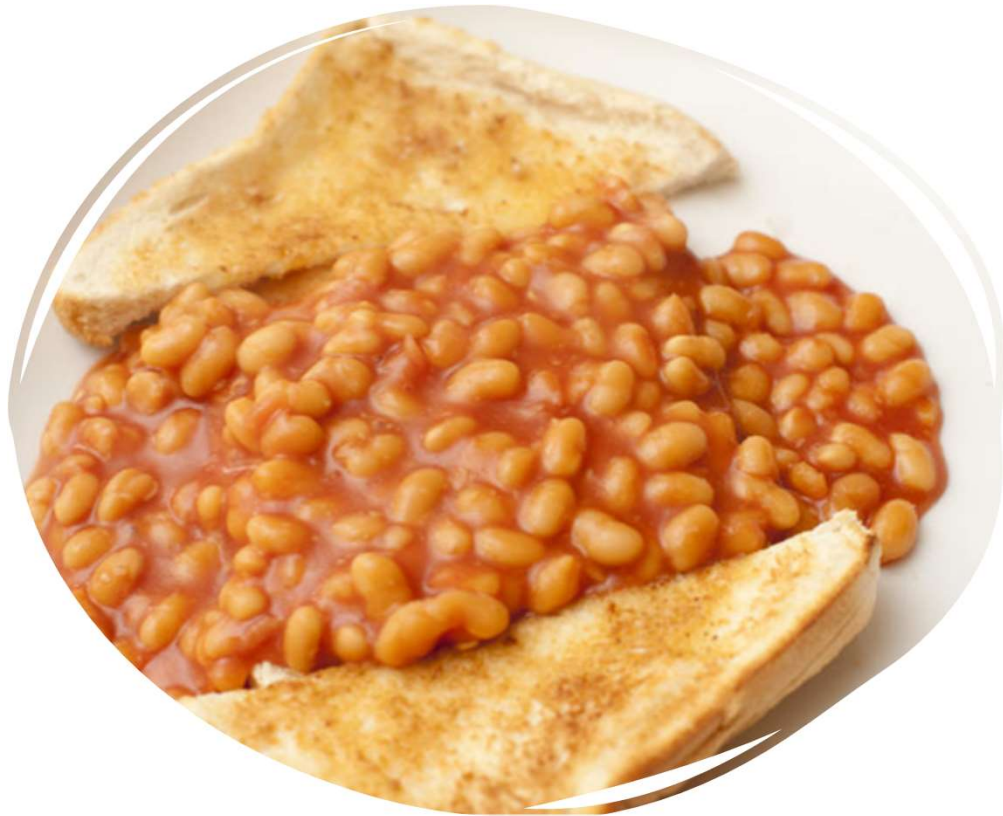
to get/put
your skates on

used when you want to tell
someone to hurry up (informal)



to call a spade
a spade

to say the truth about something, even
if it is not polite or pleasant (informal)



to be full
of beans

to have a lot of energy and
enthusiasm (informal)



not a
sausage

nothing (old fashioned)