



WHY DO WE SAY THAT?

1. Why do we call small change "chicken feed"?

The corn and other food given chickens is usually cracked or ground into bits; small change is likewise part of the whole. A handful of small change is therefore similar to a handful of "chicken feed" and is so called.

2. What is the origin of the word "Icky"?

"Icky" is just a shortening of the word "sticky". It sounds more unpleasant, however.

3. What is the origin of the term "kidnap"?

The "nap" of this word is a variant of "nab", meaning "to steal". To "kidnap" is to steal a child or "kid".

4. Why is a "Jaywalker" known by that name?"

The jay is a saucy bird that pays little attention to anything—even the cat which may be waiting to pounce upon it. A "jaywalker" pays as little attention to the dangers of traffic.

5. Why do we say a person who has died has "kicked the bucket"?

The man about to hang himself will mount a bucket or other support, tie the rope, and then "kick the bucket" out from under.