



American Expression E0022 Apple of my eye

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The phrase "apple of my eye" is an idiomatic expression used to convey deep affection or love for someone. It signifies that the person being referred to is held in high regard and regarded as extremely cherished and valued.

The origin of the phrase can be traced back to biblical times. In the Bible, the term "apple of the eye" is mentioned in several instances, referring to the pupil of the eye, which is a delicate and vital part of the body. It symbolizes something precious and worthy of protection.

Metaphorically, when someone refers to another person as the "apple of their eye," they are expressing an intense fondness and admiration. It signifies that the person is considered to be the most beloved and important individual in their life.

The phrase can be used in various contexts, including relationships between parents and children, romantic partnerships, or even friendships. It conveys a deep emotional connection and a sense of affectionate attachment.

For example, a parent might refer to their child as the "apple of their eye" to express the profound love and devotion they have for their offspring. It signifies that the child is the center of their world and holds a special place in their heart.

Furthermore, the phrase can be applied to romantic relationships, where one partner describes the other as the "apple of their eye" to convey the depth of their love and admiration. It signifies that the person is cherished above all others and is the object of their affection and adoration.

However, it's important to note that the expression is not limited to familial or romantic relationships. It can also be used to describe the significance and value of a close friend or someone who is highly regarded and respected.

In summary, "apple of my eye" is an idiomatic expression used to convey deep affection and love for someone. It signifies that the person being referred to is cherished, valued, and held in high regard. The phrase is a metaphorical expression of the profound emotional connection and attachment one feels towards the individual. Whether used in the context of family, romance, or friendship, it signifies the special place someone holds in the speaker's heart and their status as the most beloved person in their life.

#### Questions for Discussion

1. Who is someone you consider to be the "apple of your eye," and what qualities or characteristics make them so special to you?
2. In what ways does being the "apple of someone's eye" impact a person's self-esteem and sense of belonging? How does knowing that you are deeply cherished and valued by someone affect your overall well-being?
3. Can you think of instances where the phrase "apple of my eye" is used to describe relationships beyond romantic or familial connections, such as friendships or mentorships? How does the concept of being cherished and highly regarded extend to different types of relationships?
4. How can expressing and acknowledging someone as the "apple of your eye" contribute to the strength and longevity of a relationship? What role does verbal affirmation and demonstrating affection play in fostering a deep emotional bond with someone?
5. Has there been a time when you were the "apple of someone's eye"? How did that make you feel, and what impact did it have on your relationship with that person? Did it influence your own sense of self-worth and the value you place on close relationships?