



(wild) goose chase

Definition

A hopeless quest.

Origin

This phrase is old and appears to be one of the many phrases introduced to the language by Shakespeare. The first recorded citation is from *Romeo and Juliet*, 1592

Romeo: Switch and spurs, switch and spurs; or I'll cry a match.

Mercutio: Nay, if thy wits run the wild-goose chase, I have done, for thou hast more of the wild-goose in one of thy wits than, I am sure, I have in my whole five.

I've been on a wild goose chase trying to find a bag of Dan's favourite potato chips.

Those jerks sent me on a wild goose chase to find a copy of a book that hasn't been released yet!

1. Think of your own examples.



2. Have you heard any other idioms in the episode?