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Language



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za·mi·a  (zā mē-ə)

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n.

Any of various chiefly tropical American cycads of the genus *Zamia*, having a thick, usually underground stem, palmlike terminal leaves, and seeds borne in woody cones.

[New Latin *Zamia*, genus name, from misreading of (*nūcēs*) *azāniae*, pine cone (nuts), probably from Greek *azainein*, to dry up, from *azein*, to dry; see **as-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

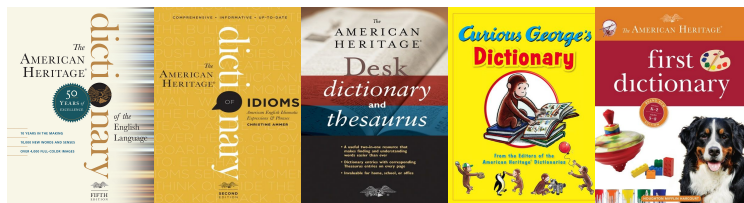
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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