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buoy  (b ē, boi)

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n.

1. A float placed in water and usually moored, as to mark a location, enable retrieval of a sunken object, or record oceanographic data.
2. A life buoy.

tr.v. **buoyed, buoy·ing, buoys**

1. To keep afloat or aloft: *a glider buoyed by air currents.*
2.
 - a. To maintain at a high level; support: *"the persistent ... takeover speculation, which has buoyed up the shares of banks" (Financial Times).*
 - b. To hearten or inspire; uplift: *"buoyed up by the team spirit and the pride of the older generation back at home" (Judith Martin).*
3. To mark with or as if with a buoy.

[Middle English *boie*, from Old French *boue*, probably of Germanic origin; see **bhā**-¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

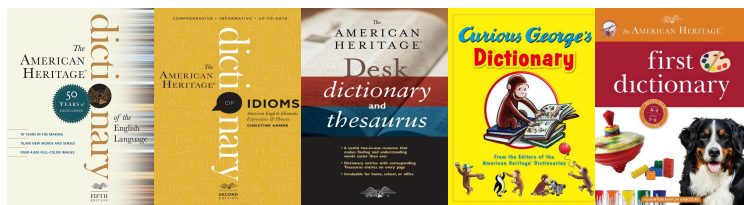
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