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bil·ber·ry  (bĭl bĕr'ē)

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n.

1.

a. A low-growing deciduous shrub (*Vaccinium myrtillus*) of the heath family native to Eurasia and western North America, having edible bluish-black berries borne singly or in pairs, used for making jams, jellies, and juice and for medicinal purposes.

b. Any of several similar plants of the genus *Vaccinium*.

2. The fruit of any of these plants.

[*bil-*, probably of Scandinavian origin; see **bhel-**² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + [BERRY](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

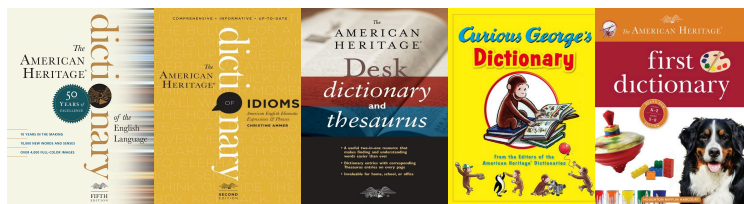
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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