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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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de·fo·li·ate  (dē-fō lē-āt')

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v. de·fo·li·at·ed, de·fo·li·at·ing, de·fo·li·ates

v.tr.

1. To deprive (a plant or a vegetated area, for example) of leaves.

2. To cause the leaves of (a plant or plants) to fall off, especially by the use of chemicals.

v.intr.

To lose foliage.

[Late Latin *dēfoliāre*, *dēfoliāt-* : Latin *dē-*, *de-* + Latin *folium*, leaf; see **bhel-**³ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

de·fo li·ate (-īt) *adj.*

de·fo'li·a tion *n.*

de·fo li·a'tor *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

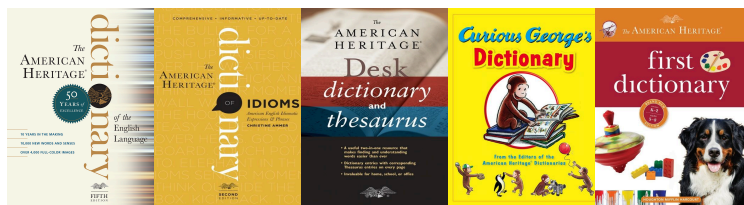
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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