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Bur-y 🗣️ (bĕr ē)

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A borough of northwest England north-northwest of Manchester.

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bur-y 🗣️ (bĕr ē, būr ē)

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tr.v. **bur-ied**, **bur-y-ing**, **bur-ies**

1.
 - a. To place (a corpse) in a grave, a tomb, or the sea; inter.
 - b. To dispose of (a corpse) ritually by means other than interment or cremation.
2.
 - a. To place in the ground; cover with earth: *The dog buried the bone. The oil was buried deep under the tundra.*
 - b. To place so as to conceal; hide or obscure: *buried her face in the pillow; buried the secret deep within himself.*
3. To occupy (oneself) with deep concentration; absorb: *buried myself in my studies.*
4. To put an end to; abandon: *buried their quarrel and shook hands.*
5. *Slang, Sports*
 - a. To outdo or defeat by a large margin: *The team was buried in the first half by its crosstown rivals.*
 - b. To make (a shot) successfully and especially forcefully.

Idiom:

bury the hatchet

To stop fighting; resolve a quarrel.

[Middle English *burien*, from Old English *byrgan*; see **bhergh**-¹ in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

bur i-er n.

Word History: Why do many speakers of English pronounce *bury* like *berry* instead rhyming it with *jury*? The answer goes back to early English times. The late Old English form of the verb *bury* was *byrgan*, pronounced approximately (būr yān). During Middle English times this (ū) sound changed, but with different results in different regions of England: to () as in *put* in the Midlands, to (ī) as in *pit* in southern England, or to (ĕ) as in *pet* in southeast England. London was located in the East Midlands dialect zone, but because of its status as the capital, its East Midlands dialect was influenced by southern (Saxon) and southeastern (Kentish) dialects. The normal East Midlands development of (ū) was (), spelled *u*. Because scribes from the East Midlands pronounced the word with this vowel they tended to spell the word with a *u*, and this spelling became standard when spellings were fixed after the introduction of printing. The word's pronunciation, however, is southeastern. *Bury* is the only word in Modern English with a Midlands spelling and a southeastern pronunciation. Similarly, the word *busy*, from Old English *bysig*, *bisig*, and its verb *bysgian*, *bisgian*, “to employ,” is spelled with the East Midlands dialect *u*, but pronounced with the southern (Saxon) development of (ū), (ī).

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

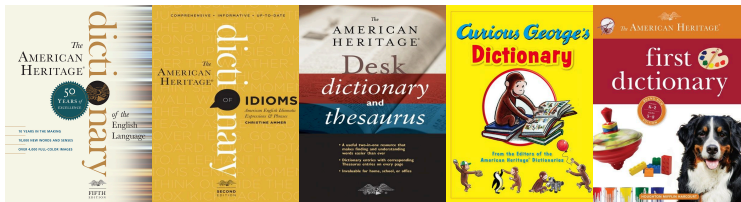
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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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