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brood  (br d)

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n.

1. The young of certain animals, especially a group of young birds hatched at one time and cared for together.
2. The children in one family.

v. **brood·ed, brood·ing, broods**

v.intr.

1.

a. To focus the attention on a subject persistently and moodily; worry: *brooded about his future; brooded over the insult for several days.*

b. To be depressed: *All he seemed to do was sit and brood.*

2.

a. To sit on or hatch eggs.

b. To protect developing eggs or young.

3. To hover envelopingly; hang: *Mist brooded over the moor.*

v.tr.

1. To think about (something) persistently or moodily: *brooded that her work might come to nothing.*

2.

a. To sit on or hatch (eggs).

b. To protect (developing eggs or young).

adj.

Kept for breeding: *a brood hen.*

[Middle English, from Old English *brōd*; see **bhreu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

brood ing·ly *adv.*

Synonyms: brood, dwell, fret¹, mope, worry

These verbs mean to turn something over in the mind moodily and at length: *brooding about his decline in popularity; dwelled on her defeat; fretted over the loss of his job; moping about his illness; worrying about the unpaid bills.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

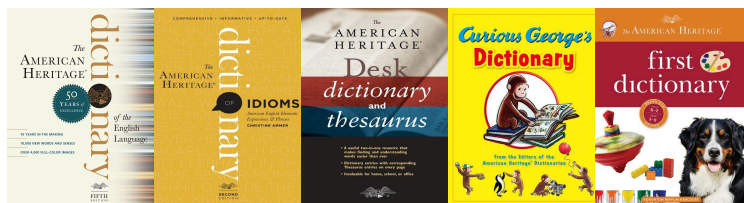
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[Indo-European Roots](#)

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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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