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fil·i·al  (fĭl ē-əl, fē lē-)

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adj.

1. Of, relating to, or befitting a son or daughter: *filial respect*.
2. Having or assuming the relationship of child or offspring to parent.
3. *Genetics* Of or relating to a generation or the sequence of generations following the parental generation.

[Middle English, from Old French, from Late Latin *filiālis*, from Latin *filius*, son; see **dhē(i)-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

fil i·al·ly *adv.*

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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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