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aard·wolf  (ärd w lf')

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n.

A mammal (*Proteles cristatus*) of southern and eastern Africa, similar to a hyena but feeding mainly on termites and insect larvae.

[Afrikaans : *aarde*, earth (from Middle Dutch *aerde*; see **er**-² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)) + *wolf*, wolf (from Middle Dutch; see **w** **k**^{wo}- [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

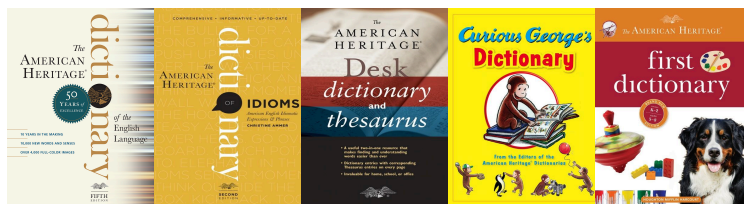
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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