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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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comp·sog·na·thus  (kŏmp-sŏg nă-thəs, kŏmp'səg-nā -)

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n.

A carnivorous theropod dinosaur of the genus *Compsognathus* of the Jurassic Period, characterized by its very small size, thought to be about that of a chicken.

[New Latin *genus name* : Greek *kompso*s, refined, delicate + Greek *gnathos*, jaw; see **genu-**² [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:

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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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