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fering fathers certain benefits, such as flexible schedules, but usually providing them with fewer opportunities for advancement.

dad·gum (dād'gŭm) *adj.* Chiefly Southern U.S. Used as an intensive to express mild annoyance. See Regional Note at **damned**. [Alteration to express mild annoyance. See Regional Note at **damned**.] [Alteration to express mild annoyance. See Regional Note at **damned**.]

da·do (dā'dō) *n., pl. -does* 1. *Architecture* The section of a pedestal between base and surbase. 2. The lower portion of the wall of a room, decorated differently from the upper section, as with panels. 3a. A rectangular groove cut into a board so that a like piece may be fitted into it. b. The groove so cut. *tr.v.* -doed, -do·ing, -does 1. To furnish with a dado. 2a. To cut a dado in. b. To fit into a dado. [Italian, from Latin *datum*, neuter past participle of *dare*, to give. See **dō** in Appendix I.]

dae·dal (dē'dāl) *adj.* 1. Ingenious and complex in design or function; intricate. 2. Finely or skillfully made or employed; artistic. [Latin *daedalus*, from Greek *daidalos*.]

Dae·da·lus (dē'dāl'ŭs) *n.* Greek Mythology A renowned craftsman, sculptor, and inventor and builder of the Labyrinth. He fashioned the wings with which he and his son Icarus escaped from Crete after their imprisonment by Minos. —**Dae·da·li·an**, **Dae·da·le·an** (dē'dāl'ē-ən, -dāl'yən) *adj.*

dae·mon (dē'mən) *n.* 1. Chiefly British Variant of **demon**. 2. Variant of **daimon**. 3. *Computer Science* A program or process that sits idly in the background until it is invoked to perform its task.

dae·mon·ic (dē'mōn'ik) *adj.* Variant of **demonic**.

daef·fo·dil (dāf'fō-dil) *n.* 1a. Any of various bulbous plants of the genus *Narcissus*, especially *N. pseudonarcissus*, having showy, usually yellow flowers with a trumpet-shaped central corona. b. The flower of this plant. 2. A brilliant to vivid yellow. [Alteration of Middle English *affodil*, from Latin *asphodelus*, *asphodel*. See **ASPHODEL**.]

daef·fy (dāf'fē) *adj.* -fi·er, -fi·est *Informal* 1. Silly; foolish. 2. Crazy. [From obsolete *daffi*, fool, from Middle English *daffe*; probably akin to *dafte*, foolish. See **DAFT**.] —**daef·fi·ly** *adv.* —**daef·fi·ness** *n.*

daft (dāft) *adj.* **daft·er**, **daft·est** 1. Mad; crazy. 2. Foolish; stupid. 3. *Scots* Frolicsome. [Middle English *dafte*, foolish, from Old English *gedæfte*, meek.] —**daft·ly** *adv.* —**daft·ness** *n.*

dag (dāg) *n.* 1. A lock of matted or dung-coated wool. 2. A hanging end or shred. [Middle English *dagge*, shred.]

dag *abbr.* decagram

Da·gan (dā'gān) *n.* *Mythology* The Babylonian god of the earth. [Akkadian. See **dgn** in Appendix I.]

DAGC *abbr.* Electronics delayed automatic gain control

Dag·es·tan (dā'gē-stān, dāg'fī-stān) *n.* An autonomous republic of southwest Russia bordering on the Caspian Sea. Settled in the first millennium B.C., it was ceded to Russia by Persia in 1813. —**Dag·es·ta·ni** (-stā'nē, -stān'ē) *adj.* & *n.*

dag·ga (dāg'gā) *n.* South African Indian hemp used as a narcotic; cannabis. [Afrikaans, from Khoikoin *dachab*.]

dag·ger (dāg'gər) *n.* 1. A short pointed weapon with sharp edges. 2. Something that agonizes, torments, or wounds. 3. *Printing* a. See **obeliisk** (sense 2). b. A double dagger. —*idiom*: **look daggers at** To glare at angrily or hatefully. [Middle English *daggere*, alteration of Old French *dague*, from Old Provençal *dague* or Old Italian *daga*, both perhaps from Vulgar Latin **dāca* (ēnsis), Dacian (knife), from feminine of Latin *Dācus*.]

dagger fern *n.* See **Christmas fern**.

dag·go also **Dag·go** (dā'gō) *n., pl. -gos or -goes* *Offensive Slang* Used as a disparaging term for an Italian, Spaniard, or Portuguese. [Alteration of Spanish *Diego*, a given name, from Latin *Iacobus*, Jacob.]

Dag·gon (dā'gōn) *n.* *Mythology* The chief god of the ancient Philistines, represented as half-man and half-fish. [Hebrew *dagōn*, of Phoenician origin. See **dgn** in Appendix II.]

Da·guer·re (dā-gär', dā-gēr') *n.* Louis Jacques Mandé 1789–1851. French artist and inventor of the daguerreotype process for obtaining positive photographic prints.

da·guer·re·o·type (dā-gär'ō-tip') *n.* 1. An early photographic process with the image made on a light-sensitive silver-coated metallic plate. 2. A photograph made by this process. *tr.v.* -typed, -typ·ing, -types To make a daguerreotype of. [French, after Louis Jacques Mandé DAGUERRE.] —**da·guer·re·o·typ·er** *n.* —**da·guer·re·o·typ·y** *n.*

dag·wood also **Dag·wood** (dāg'wōod') *n.* A multilayered sandwich with a variety of fillings. [After *Dagwood* Bumstead, a character who made such sandwiches in the comic strip *Blondie* by Murat Bernard ("Chic") Young (1901–1973).]

dah (dā) *n.* The spoken representation of a dash in radio and telegraph code. [Imitative.]

da·ha·be·ah also **da·ha·bee·yah** or **da·ha·bi·ah** (dā'hā-bē'ā) *n.* A houseboat having sails and sometimes an engine, used on the Nile. [Arabic *dahabiya*, the Golden One, name of the gilded barge of the Muslim rulers of Egypt, from *dahabi*, golden, from *dahab*, gold. See **ghb** in Appendix II.]

dahl (dāl) *n.* 1. See **pigeon pea**. 2. or **dal** A thick creamy East Indian stew made with lentils or other legumes, onions, and various spices. [Hindi *dāl*, dahl seed, from Sanskrit *dalāh*, *dalam*, piece split off, from *dalati*, he splits. See **der** in Appendix I.]

Dahl (dāl), **Roald** 1916–1990. British fiction and screenplay writer best known for his children's books, including *James and the Giant Peach* (1961) and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (1964).

dah·li·a (dāl'yā, dāl'f-, dāl'-) *n.* 1. Any of several plants of the genus *Dahlia* native to the mountains of Mexico, Central America, and Colombia, having tuberous roots and showy, rayed, variously colored flower heads. 2. The flower head of one of these plants. [New Latin *Dahlia*,

genus name, after Anders Dahl (1751–1787), Swedish botanist.]

Da·ho·mey (dā-hō'mē, dā-ō-mā') See **Benin** (sense 2). —**Da·ho·me·an** (dā-hō'mē-ən), **Da·ho·man** (-mən) *adj.* & *n.*

da·hoon (dā-hōon) *n.* A small tree (*Ilex cassine*) of the southeast United States, having red or sometimes orange to yellow fruit and leathery, dark green leaves. Also called *cassina*. [Origin unknown.]

Dai (dī) *n. & adj.* Variant of **Tai**.

dai·kon (dī'kōn', -kən) *n.* A white radish (*Raphanus sativus* var. *longipinnatus*) of Japan, having a long root that is eaten raw, pickled, or cooked. Also called *Chinese radish*, *Japanese radish*, *Oriental radish*. [Japanese: *dai*, big (from Middle Chinese *dai*, *thai*) + *kon*, root (from Middle Chinese *kən*).]

dai·ly (dā'lē) *adj.* 1. Of or occurring during the day. 2. Happening or done every day: the physician's daily rounds. 3. Computed or assessed for each day: a daily record. 4. Everyday: casual clothes only for daily use. *adv.* 1. Every day: Exercise daily. 2. Once a day: Wind the clock daily.

n., pl. -lies 1. A newspaper published every day or every weekday. 2. **dailies** The first, unedited print of movie film usually viewed after a day's shooting; the rushes. [Middle English *daily*, from Old English *dæglīc*, from *dæg*, day. See **DAY**.] —**dai·ly·ness**, **dai·ly·ness** *n.*

daily double *n.* A bet won by choosing both winners of two specified races on one day, as in horseracing.

daily dozen *n.* 1. A set of exercises that one does every day. 2. A set of routine tasks.

dai·mi·o (dī'mē-ō', dīm'yō') *n., pl. daimio or -mi·os* A feudal lord of Japan who was a large landowner. [Japanese *daimyō*: *dai*, great; see **DAIKON** + *myō*, name (from Middle Chinese *mjiaing*).]

Daim·ler (dīm'lər), **Gottlieb** 1834–1900. German engineer and pioneer automobile manufacturer who produced the first high-speed internal-combustion engine (1885).

dai·mon (dī'mōn') also **de·mon** or **dae·mon** (dē'mən) *n.* Greek Mythology 1. An inferior deity, such as a deified hero. 2. An attendant spirit; a genius. [Greek *daimōn*. See **dā** in Appendix I.]

dai·my·o (dī'mē-ō', dīm'yō') *n.* A daimio.

dai·ny (dān'tē) *adj.* -ti·er, -ti·est 1. Delicately beautiful or charming; exquisite: "No dainty rhymes or sentimental love verses for you, terrible year" (Walt Whitman). 2. Delicious or choice. See synonyms at **delicate**. 3. Of refined taste; discriminating. 4. Overly fastidious; squeamish. *n., pl. -ties* Something delicious; a delicacy. [Middle English *deinte*, excellent, excellence, from Old French *deintie*, from Latin *dignitas*, from *dignus*, worthy. See **dek** in Appendix I.] —**dai·ny·ly** *adv.* —**dai·ny·ness** *n.*

dai·qui·ri (dī'kī-rē, dāk'ā-) *n., pl. -ris* An iced cocktail of rum, lime or lemon juice, and sugar. [After *Daiquiri*, a village of eastern Cuba.]

Dai·ren (dī'rēn') See **Dalian**.

dair·y (dār'ē) *n., pl. -ies* 1. A commercial establishment for processing or selling milk and milk products. 2. A place where milk and cream are stored and processed. 3. A dairy farm. 4. The dairy business; dairying. *adj.* 1. Of, for, or relating to milk or milk products: the dairy section at the grocery store. 2. Of or relating to dairying. 3. *Judaism* Of, relating to, or intended for the consumption or preparation of milk or milk products exclusively, as dictated by dietary law. [Middle English *daierie*: Middle English *daie*, dairymaid (from Old English *dæge*, bread kneader; see **dheigh** in Appendix I) + Anglo-Norman *-erie*, place (from Old French; see **-ERY**).]

dairy cattle *pl.n.* Cows bred and raised for milk rather than meat.

dair·y·er (dār'ē-ər) *n.* One who owns or manages a dairy or works in one.

dairy farm *n.* A farm for producing milk and milk products. —**dair·y·farm**' (dār'ē-fārm') *v.* —**dairy farmer** *n.*

dair·y·ing (dār'ē-īng) *n.* The business of owning and operating a dairy or a dairy farm.

dair·y·maid (dār'ē-mād') *n.* A woman or girl who works in a dairy.

dair·y·man (dār'ē-mən) *n.* 1. A man who owns or manages a dairy. 2. A man who works in a dairy.

dair·y·wom·an (dār'ē-wōm'ən) *n.* 1. A woman who owns or manages a dairy. 2. A woman who works in a dairy.

da·is (dā'is, dī'-) *n.* A raised platform, as in a lecture hall, for speakers or honored guests. [Middle English *deis*, from Anglo-Norman, platform, from Late Latin *discus*, table, from Latin, *discus*, quoit. See **DISK**.]

dai·shi·ki (dī-shē'kē) *n.* Variant of **dashiki**.

dai·sy (dā'zē) *n., pl. -sies* 1. Any of several plants of the composite family, especially a widely naturalized Eurasian plant (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*) having flower heads with a yellow center and white rays. Also called *oxeye daisy*, *white daisy*. 2. A low-growing European plant (*Bellis perennis*) having flower heads with pink or white rays. Also called *English daisy*. 3. The flower head of any of these plants. 4. *Slang* One that is deemed excellent or notable. [Middle English *daisie*, from Old English *dæges æge*: *dæges*, genitive of *dæg*, day; see **agh** in Appendix I + *æge*, eye; see **ok** in Appendix I.]

daisy chain *n.* 1. A garland or chain made of linked daisies. 2. A series of connected events, activities, or experiences, likened to a garland: "It's a vast daisy chain of status, stretching from the first toddler group to the entry-level position at an investment banking house" (James Traub).

daisy fleabane *n.* An eastern North American weed (*Erigeron annuus*) naturalized in Europe, having rayed, white to bluish flower heads grouped in corymblike panicles.

daisy wheel *n.* A printing device used in some electric typewriters and printers, consisting of printing characters fixed at the ends of spokes on a wheel.

Da·kar (dā-kār', dāk'ār') The capital and largest city of Senegal, in



dado



dahlia

à pat	oi boy
à pay	ou out
à care	oo took
à father	oo boot
è pet	ù cut
è be	ùr urge
l pit	th thin
l pie	th this
l pier	hw which
ò pot	zh vision
ò toe	à about, item
ò paw	♦ regionalism

Stress marks: ' (primary);
' (secondary), as in
dictionary (dīk'shə-nēr'ē)