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Offensive. Down syndrome. [From MONGOLIAN, term used in a system of classification for mentally retarded people, devised around ethnic lines by John L.H. Down (1828–1896), British physician.]

Mongoloid (mŏng'gə-lŏid', mŏn'f-) *adj.* 1. **Anthropology.** Of, relating to, or being a major human racial division traditionally distinguished by physical characteristics such as yellowish-brown skin pigmentation, straight black hair, dark eyes with pronounced epicanthic folds, and prominent cheekbones and including peoples indigenous to central and eastern Asia. No longer in scientific use. 2. Characteristic of or resembling a Mongol. 3. Also **mongoloid**. **Offensive.** Of or relating to Down syndrome. —**Mongoloid** *n.* 1. **Anthropology.** A member of the Mongoloid racial division. No longer in scientific use. 2. Also **mongoloid**. **Offensive.** A person affected with Down syndrome.

mon-goose (mŏng'gōōs', mŏn'f-) *n., pl. -gooses.* Any of various Old World carnivorous mammals of the genus *Herpestes* and related genera, having a slender agile body and a long tail and noted for the ability to seize and kill venomous snakes. [Marathi *mangūs*, of Dravidian origin.]

mon-grel (mŏng'gral, mŏng'f-) *n.* 1. An animal or a plant resulting from various interbreedings, especially a dog of mixed or undetermined breed. 2. A cross between different breeds, groups, or varieties, especially a mixture that is or appears to be incongruous. —**mongrel** *adj.* Of mixed origin. [Probably from Middle English *mong*, mixture, from Old English *gemang*. See *mag-* in Appendix.] —**mon-grelism** *n.* —**mon-grel-ly** *adv.*

mon-grel-ize (mŏng'gral-iz', mŏng'f-) *tr.v. -ized, -iz-ing, -izes.* To make mongrel in race, nature, or character. —**mon-grel-ization** (-gral-iz-ā'shan) *n.*

mon-ick-er (mŏn'ī-kər) *n.* Variant of **moniker**.

mon-ied (mŏn'ēd) *adj.* Variant of **moneyed**.

mon-ies (mŏn'ez) *n.* A plural of **money**.

mon-i-ker or **mon-ick-er** (mŏn'ī-kər) *n.* **Slang.** A personal name or nickname. [Probably from Shelta *munik*, name, possibly alteration of Irish Gaelic *ainm*, from Old Irish. See *nō-men-* in Appendix.]

mon-i-l-i-al (mə-nīl'ē-əl) *adj.* Of, relating to, or caused by a fungus of the genus *Monilia* (or *Candida*): *monilial infections*.

mon-i-l-i-a-sis (mə'nā-lī'ā-sis, mŏn'f-) *n.* See **candidiasis**. [New Latin *Monilia*, type genus (from Latin *monile*, necklace) + *-iasis*.]

mon-il-i-form (mŏ-nīl'ā-fŏrm') *adj.* Resembling a string of beads, as the roots of certain plants or the antennae of certain insects. [Latin *monile*, necklace + *-form*.] —**mon-il-i-form-ly** *adv.*

mon-ish (mŏn'ish) *tr.v. -ished, -ish-ing, -ish-es.* To admonish; warn. [Middle English *monisten*, *monishe*, from Old French *monester*, from Vulgar Latin **monestāre*, alteration of Latin *monēre*, to warn. See *men-* in Appendix.]

mon-ism (mŏn'iz'm, mŏn'iz'am) *n.* **Philosophy.** 1. The view in metaphysics that reality is a unified whole and that all existing things can be ascribed to or described by a single concept or system. 2. The doctrine that mind and matter are formed, or reducible to, the same ultimate substance or principle of being. —**mon-ist** *n.* —**mon-ist-ic** (mŏ-nis'tik, mŏ-) *adj.* —**mon-ist-ical-ly** *adv.*

mon-i-tion (mŏ-nish'an, mə-) *n.* 1. A warning or an intimation of something imminent, especially of impending danger. 2. Cautionary advice or counsel; an admonition. 3. A formal order from a bishop or an ecclesiastical court to refrain from a specified offense. 4. A summons or citation in civil or admiralty law. [Middle English *monicioun*, from Old French *monicion*, from Latin *monitiō*, *monitiōn-*, from *monitus*, past participle of *monēre*, to warn. See *men-* in Appendix.]

mon-i-tor (mŏn'ī-tər) *n.* 1. One that admonishes, cautions, or reminds, especially with respect to matters of conduct. 2. A pupil who assists a teacher in routine duties. 3. a. A usually electronic device used to record, regulate, or control a process or system. b. A receiver, such as a screen or speaker, that is used to check the quality or content of an electronic transmission: *followed the broadcast on the television monitor.* c. **Computer Science.** A device that accepts video signals from a computer and displays information on a screen. 4. **Computer Science.** A program that observes, supervises, or controls the activities of other programs. 5. An articulated device holding a rotating nozzle with which a jet of water is regulated, used in mining and firefighting. 6. a. A heavily ironclad warship of the 19th century with a low, flat deck and one or more gun turrets. b. A modern warship designed for coastal bombardment. 7. **Biology.** Any of various tropical carnivorous lizards of the family *Varanidae*, living in the East Indies, southern Asia, Africa, Australia, and New Guinea and ranging in length from several centimeters to 3 meters (10 feet). —**monitor** *adj.* —**mon-itor-ing, -tors.** —*tr.* 1. To check the quality or content of (an electronic audio or visual signal) by means of a receiver. 2. To check by means of an electronic receiver for significant content, such as military, political, or illegal activity: *monitor a suspected criminal's phone conversations.* 3. To keep track of systematically with a view to collecting information: *monitor the bear population of a national park; monitored the political views of the people.* 4. a. To test or sample on a regular or ongoing basis: *monitored the city's drinking water for impurities.* b. To test (air or an object's surface, for example) for radiation intensity. 5. To keep close watch over; supervise. 6. To direct. —*intr.*

To act as a monitor. [Latin, from *monēre*, to warn. See *men-* in Appendix.] —**mon'ī-tor-ship** *n.*

mon-i-to-ri-al (mŏn'ī-tŏr'ē-əl, -tŏr'f-) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, or performed by monitors. 2. **Monitory.** —**mon'ī-to-ri-al-ly** *adv.*

mon-i-to-ry (mŏn'ī-tŏr'ē, -tŏr'f) *adj.* Conveying an admonition or a warning: *a monitory glance.* —**monitory** *n., pl. -ries.* A letter of admonition, such as one from a bishop or an ecclesiastical court. [Middle English *monitorie*, letter of admonition, *admonitory*, from Medieval Latin *monitōria*, admonition, from feminine of Latin *monitōrius*, monitory, from *monitor*, monitor. See *MONITOR*.]

monk (mŏngk) *n.* A man who is a member of a brotherhood living in a monastery and devoted to a discipline prescribed by his order: *a Carthusian monk; a Buddhist monk.* [Middle English *munk*, from Old English *munuc*, from Late Latin *monachus*, from Late Greek *monakhos*, from Greek, single, from *monos*. See *men-* in Appendix.]

Monk (mŏngk), **George.** See **George Monk**.

Monk, Thelonious Sphere. 1917–1982. American jazz pianist and composer whose spare piano style and unusual harmonic sense made him one of the most influential modern jazz musicians.

monk-er-y (mŏng'kə-rē) *n., pl. -ies.* 1. Monastic life or practices. 2. Monks considered as a group. 3. A monastery.

mon-key (mŏng'kē) *n., pl. -keys.* 1. Any of various long-tailed, medium-sized members of the order Primates, including the macaques, baboons, guenons, capuchins, marmosets, and tamarins and excluding the anthropoid apes and the prosimians. 2. One that behaves in a way suggestive of a monkey, as a mischievous child or a mimic. 3. The iron block of a pile driver. 4. **Slang.** A person who is mocked, duped, or made to appear a fool: *They made a monkey out of him.* 5. **Slang.** Drug addiction: *have a monkey on one's back.* —**monkey** *v. -keyed, -key-ing, -keys.* —*intr.* **Informal.** 1. To play, fiddle, trifle, or tamper with something. 2. To behave in a mischievous or apish manner: *Stop monkeying around!* —*tr.* To imitate or mimic; ape. [Origin unknown.]

monkey bars *pl.n.* A three-dimensional structure of poles and bars on which children can play, as in a playground; a jungle gym.

monkey bread *n.* The hanging, gourdlike fruit of the baobab.

monkey business *n.* **Slang.** Silly, mischievous, or deceitful acts or behavior.

mon-key-faced owl (mŏng'kē-fāst') *n.* See **barn owl**.

monkey flower *n.* Any of various herbs or shrubs of the genus *Mimulus*, having variously colored, two-lipped flowers. [From the pattern of spots on its flowers.]

monkey jacket *n.* 1. A short, tight-fitting jacket, traditionally worn by sailors. 2. See **mess jacket**. [From its resemblance to the jacket worn by an organ grinder's monkey.]

monkey pot *n.* 1. a. Any of various tropical American trees of the genus *Lecythis*, having a large, woody, urn-shaped pod that dehiscs by a lid. b. The fruit of this tree. 2. A cylindrical or barrel-shaped melting pot used in making flint glass.

mon-key-puz-zle (mŏng'kē-pŭz'əl) *n.* A coniferous evergreen tree (*Araucaria araucana*) native to Chile, having intricately ramifying branches covered with overlapping, leathery, lanceolate, prickly-tipped leaves. [Perhaps from the obstacle its intertwined branches would pose.]

mon-key-shine (mŏng'kē-shīn') *n.* **Slang.** A mischievous or playful trick; a prank. Often used in the plural: *laughed at my daughter's monkeyshines.*

monkey wrench *n.* 1. A hand tool with adjustable jaws for turning nuts of varying sizes. 2. **Informal.** Something that disrupts: *He threw a monkey wrench into our plans.* [Origin unknown.]

monk-fish (mŏngk'fīsh') *n., pl. monkfish or -fish-es.* See **goosefish**. [Perhaps from the cowed appearance of its head.]

Mon-Khmer (mŏn'kmēr') *n.* A subfamily of the Austro-Asiatic language family that includes Mon, Khmer, and other languages of southeast Asia.

monk-hood (mŏngk'hōōd') *n.* 1. The character, condition, or profession of a monk; monasticism. 2. Monks considered as a group.

monk-ish (mŏng'kīsh) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, or characteristic of monks or monasticism. 2. Inclined to self-denial; ascetic. —**monk-ish-ly** *adv.* —**monk-ish-ness** *n.*

monk's cloth (mŏngks) *n.* A heavy cotton cloth in a coarse basket weave, now used chiefly for draperies.

monks-hood (mŏngks'hōōd') *n.* 1. See **aconite**. 2. A slender, erect, poisonous perennial herb (*Aconitum napellus*) native to northern Europe, having violet flowers and whose dried leaves and roots yield aconite. Also called *wolfsbane*.

Mon-mouth (mŏn'məth), **Duke of.** Title of James Scott. 1649–1685. English pretender to the throne. The illegitimate son of Charles II, he led a rebellion after the succession of the Catholic James II but was defeated in battle, captured, and beheaded.

Mon-net (mŏ-nā'), **Jean.** 1888–1979. French economist and politician who laid the plans for the Common Market.

mon-o¹ (mŏn'ō) *n.* **Informal.** Infectious mononucleosis.

mon-o² (mŏn'ō) *adj.* **Informal.** Monaural; monophonic. [Short for **MONOPHONIC**.]

mono- or **mon-** *pref.* 1. One; single; alone: *monomorphic*.



Thelonious Monk
Photographed in 1949



monkey
Javan macaque
Macaca irus



monkey bars



monkey wrench