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cy•cle (sī'kəl) *n.*



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## 1.

An interval of time during which a characteristic, often regularly repeated event or sequence of events occurs: Sunspots increase and decrease in intensity in an 11-year cycle.

## 2.

### *a.*

A single complete execution of a periodically repeated phenomenon: A year constitutes a cycle of the seasons.

### *b.*

A periodically repeated sequence of events: the cycle of birth, growth, and death; a cycle of reprisal and retaliation.

## 3.

The orbit of a celestial body.

## 4.

A long period of time; an age.

**5.****a.**

The aggregate of traditional poems or stories organized around a central theme or hero: the Arthurian cycle.

**b.**

A series of poems or songs on the same theme: Schubert's song cycles.

**6.**

A bicycle, motorcycle, or similar vehicle.

**7. Botany**

A circular or whorled arrangement of flower parts such as those of petals or sepals.

**8. Baseball**

The achievement of hitting a single, double, triple, and home run in a single game.

v. cy•cled, cy•cling, cy•cles v. intr.

**1.**

To occur in or pass through a cycle.

**2.**

To move in or as if in a cycle.

**3.**

To ride a bicycle, motorcycle, or similar vehicle.

v. tr.

To use in or put through a cycle: cycled the heavily soiled laundry twice; cycling the recruits through eight weeks of basic training.

[Middle English , from Late Latin *cyclus* , from Greek *kuklos*, circle ; see **kw**  
(<http://search.credoreference.com/content/entry/15218602>)el<sup>-1</sup> in Indo-European roots.]

cy'cler *n.*

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