

fluoridation → focus

- fluoridation** *NOVA* adding fluoride to drinking water in order to help prevent tooth decay
- fluoride** *NOVA* a chemical substance that is thought to prevent tooth decay
- flurry** *NOVA* **flurries** 1 a sudden whirling gust of wind, rain, or snow 2 a short period of activity or excitement
- flush** *V* **flushes, flushing, flushed** 1 blurb 2 clean or remove something with a fast flow of water
- flush** *NOVA* **flushes** 1 a blurb 2 a fast flow of water 3 (in card games) a hand of cards of the same suit
- flush** *ADJECTIVE* 1 level with the surrounding surface 2 the doors are flush with the walls 2 (informal) having plenty of money
- fluster** *V* **flusters, flustering, flustered** make somebody nervous and confused
► **fluster** *NOVA*
- flute** *NOVA* **flutes** a musical instrument consisting of a long pipe with holes that are stopped by fingers or keys
- flutter** *V* **flutters, fluttering, fluttered** 1 flap wings quickly 2 move or flap quickly and irregularly
- flutter** *NOVA* **flutters** 1 a fluttering movement 2 a nervously excited condition 3 (informal) a small bet ► **Have a flutter!**
- fly** *NOVA* **flies** 1 a small flying insect with two wings 2 a real or artificial fly used as bait in fishing
- fly** *V* **flies, flying, flew, flown** 1 move through the air by means of wings or in an aircraft 2 travel through the air or through space 3 wave in the air ► **Flags were flying**

Thesaurus

- flurry** *NOVA* 1 a move **flurry** ► swirl, whirl, gust 2 a flurry of activity ► spate, wave, burst, spell, stir, spurt, outbreak, commotion
- flush** *ADJECTIVE* 1 He had just been paid and was **feeling flush** ► rich, wealthy, well off, prosperous 2 The opening needs to be **flush with the wall** ► level, flat, even, square, true
- flush** *V* 1 Nancy **flushed with embarrassment** ► blush, go red, redden, colour, glow 2 Fruit helps **flush toxins from the body** ► cleanse, rinse out, wash out, swirl 3 The police tried to **flush the suspects out** ► chase out, drive out, expel, send up
- flustered** *ADJECTIVE* She looked shocked and **flustered** ► confused, bewildered, bemused, perplexed, baffled, puzzled, mystified, disconcerted, confounded
- fly** *V* 1 A flock of birds **flew past** ► glide, flit, flutter, hover, soar, wing 2 A gull **flew into the air** ► rise, soar, ascend, mount 3 He **refused to fly the aircraft** until it had been checked ► pilot, operate, take off in, travel in 4 A flag was **flying**

- 4 make something fly ► They **flew** model aircraft 5 move or pass quickly ► Time **fies** 6 **flee** from ► **you must fly** the country!
► **flyer** *NOVA*
- fly** *NOVA* **flies** the front opening of a pair of trousers
- flying saucer** *NOVA* **flying saucers** a mysterious saucer-shaped object reported to have been seen in the sky and believed by some people to be an alien spacecraft
- flyleaf** *NOVA* **flyleaves** a blank page at the beginning or end of a book
- flyover** *NOVA* **flyovers** a bridge that carries one road or railway over another
- flywheel** *NOVA* **flywheels** a heavy wheel used to regulate machinery
- foal** *NOVA* **foals** a young horse
- foam** *NOVA* 1 a white mass of tiny bubbles on a liquid; froth 2 a spongy kind of rubber or plastic
► **foamy** *ADJECTIVE*
- foam** *V* **foams, foaming, foamed** form bubbles or froth
- fob** *V* **fobs, fobbing, fobbed**
- fob off** get rid of someone by an excuse or a trick
- focal** *ADJECTIVE* to do with or at a focus
- focus** *NOVA* **focuses or foci** 1 the distance from an eye or lens at which an object appears clearest 2 the point at which rays etc. seem to meet 3 something that is a centre of interest or attention etc.
- in focus** appearing clearly
- out of focus** not appearing clearly
- focus** *V* **focuses, focusing, focused** 1 adjust the focus of your eye or a lens so that objects at half mast ► **flutter, flap, wave** 5 The ship was **flying a neutral flag** ► **display, show, exhibit**
- fly** at Charley **flew** at him, **slaking his fit**
- **attack, assault, go for, set upon, weigh into**, **let fly** at, **hit out at**, **lash out at**
- foam** *NOVA* 1 The sea looked like **white crests of foam** ► froth, spume, surf, spray, lather, scum, suds 2 There was at least an inch of **foam** on his beer ► head, bubbles, effervescence
- foam** *V* The water **heaved and foamed** ► froth, fizz, seethe, ferment, bubble, effervesce, lather, boil
- focus** *NOVA* 1 Get the camera into **focus** ► clarify, correct adjustment, sharpness 2 The television has become a **main focus** of the living room.
► centre, focal point, heart, hub, core, pivot
- focus** *V* **focus on** We need to **focus on the events** of this coming week ► concentrate on, direct attention to, fix attention on, home in on, zero in on, spotlight, think about, aim at, centre on, look mainly at

fodder → food

- appear clearly 2 concentrate ► She **focused** her attention on the screen.
- fodder** *NOVA* food for horses and farm animals
- foetus** (fee-tus) *NOVA* **foetuses** another spelling of **fetus**
- fog** *NOVA* thick mist
► **foggy** *ADJECTIVE*
- foghorn** *NOVA **foghorns** a loud horn for warning ships in fog*
- foil** *NOVA* **foils** 1 a very thin sheet of metal ► **ooking, foil** 2 a person or thing that makes another look better in contrast
- foil** *NOVA* **foils** a long narrow sword used in the sport of fencing
- fold** *V* **foils, folding, folded** prevent something from being successful ► We **folded his** and plans
- foist** *V* **foists, foisting, foisted** make a person accept something inferior or unwelcome ► They **foisted** the job on me
- fold** *V* **folds, folding, folded** bend or move so that one part lies on another part
- fold** *NOVA* **folds** a line where something is folded
- folder** *NOVA* **folders** a folding cover for loose papers

Thesaurus

- foggy** *ADJECTIVE* Outside it was dull and **foggy**.
► misty, smoggy, hazy, murky, gloomy, dingy, dim
AN OPPOSITE is clear
- fold** *V* She **folded** their efforts by walking in at the wrong moment ► thwart, frustrate, obstruct, impede, hamper, hinder, baffle, scotch, check, prevent, stop
- fold** *V* 1 **Fold** the sheets and put them in a drawer ► double, double over, turn over, bend, tuck, overlap, crease, pleat 2 She stood there, **folding her arms** ► clasp, wrap, cradle, enfold, enclose, embrace, entwine, envelop, hug 3 I **fold** the chair and put it away ► close, collapse, let down, put down 4 The business **folded** during the recession ► fail, collapse, crash, founder, close down
- fold** *NOVA* 1 Neatly arrange the folds in the curtains ► pleat, crease, tuck, furrow, bend 2 A **fold** for sheep ► enclosure, pen, paddock, compound
- folder** *NOVA* I need a **folder** for these papers.
► file, binder, portfolio, wallet, sleeve
- foil** or **foils** *ADJECTIVE* 1 It was good news for the **foils** back home ► people, individuals, citizens, inhabitants 2 She would **stare** her **foils** at the weekend ► family, parents, relatives, people, kinsfolk
- follow** *V* 1 He **followed** them as far as the corner ► go after, come after, walk behind, tread on the heels of, trace the footsteps of 2 She hoped to **follow** her father as **chief executive** of the company ► succeed, replace, take the

- folk** *NOVA* people
- folk dance** *NOVA* **folk dances** a dance in the traditional style of a country
- folklore** *NOVA* old beliefs and legends
- folk song** *NOVA* **folk songs** a song in the traditional style of a country
- follow** *V* **follows, following, followed** 1 go or come after 2 do a thing after something else 3 take a person or thing as a guide or example 4 take an interest in the progress of events or a sport or team etc. 5 understand ► Did you **follow** what he said? 6 result from something
► **follower** *NOVA*
- following** *PREPOSITION* after, as a result of
► Following the burglary, we had new locks fitted.
- folly** *NOVA* **follies** foolishness; a foolish action etc.
- fool** *ADJECTIVE* 1 loving or liking a person or thing 2 foolishly happy ► **fool** *NOVA*
► **fondly** *ADVERB* **fondness** *NOVA*
- fondle** *V* **fondles, fondling, fondled** touch or stroke lovingly
- food** *NOVA* **foods** any substance that a person or animal can eat in order to grow and be healthy

- place of, take over from, supplant, supersede, step into someone's shoes 3 An undercover police officer **followed** him everywhere ► pursue, stalk, track, shadow, trail, go after, (more informal) tail 4 Make sure you **follow** the instructions on the packet ► observe, comply with, adhere to, carry out, obey, note, heed, conform to, keep to 5 Many benefits **followed** from their membership of the community.
► result, ensue, emanate, arise, develop 6 I **found** it hard to **follow** his meaning.
► understand, comprehend, grasp, fathom, take in, catch 7 Which team do you **follow**? ► support, be a fan of
- following** *ADJECTIVE* She went home on the **following** days ► next, ensuing, subsequent, succeeding
OPPOSITES are preceding, previous
- folly** *NOVA* It would be an act of **folly** to start a war.
► foolishness, stupidity, senselessness, recklessness, silliness, madness, lunacy, idiocy
- fond** *ADJECTIVE* 1 her **fond** father ► loving, adoring, devoted, doting, caring, attentive, kind 2 a **fond** hope ► foolish, unrealistic, naive, vain, empty 3 **be fond** of She's **fond** of dancing. I'm very **fond** of Jo. ► be keen on, be partial to, be attached to, like, love, (more informal) be hooked on, (more informal) be wild about, (more informal) be crazy about
- fondle** *V* He stooped down to **fondle** the cat.
► stroke, caress, pat, pet, cuddle, play with
- food** *NOVA* 1 He had gone a week without **food**.
► nourishment, sustenance, nutriment,