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Dictionary

centaur

cen·taur
/sentôr/

noun GREEK MYTHOLOGY
noun: centaur; plural noun: centaurs
a creature with the head, arms, and torso of a man and the body and legs of a horse.

Origin

GREEK
kentauros — LATIN — centaur
GREEK

via Latin from Greek *kentauros*, the Greek name for a Thessalonian tribe of expert horsemen; of unknown ultimate origin.

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Page Safety Tools

GAMES | BROWSE THESAURUS | WORD OF THE DAY | WORDS AT PLAY

Merriam-Webster SINCE 1828

centauri

DICTIONARY THESAURUS

Alpha Cen'tau-ri | \ -sen-'tôr-ē \

Definition of *Alpha Centauri*

astronomy

: a binary star of magnitude zero that is the brightest star in the southern constellation Centaurus

// The plot centered on scientists John and Maureen Robinson and their three children, who in 1997 leave an overpopulated Earth to colonize a planet near *Alpha Centauri*.
— Diane Tedeschi, *Air & Space Smithsonian*, August/September 1988

NOTE: What is visible in the night sky as the star Alpha Centauri is actually a binary system: two stars bound together gravitationally.

WORD OF THE DAY

bruit

to spread as a report or rumor