A **dream** is a succession of [images](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image), [ideas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Idea), [emotions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emotions), and [sensations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sensation_(psychology)) that usually occur involuntarily in the [mind](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mind) during certain stages of [sleep](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sleep).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dream#cite_note-1) The content and purpose of dreams are not fully understood, though they have been a topic of scientific speculation, as well as a subject of philosophical and religious interest, throughout [recorded history](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Recorded_history). [Dream interpretation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dream_interpretation) is the attempt at drawing meaning from dreams and searching for an underlying message. The scientific study of dreams is called [oneirology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oneirology)