

## Word of the Week

### “Outlandish”

- Is an adjective. Adjectives are words that describe nouns. “Slimy,” “Sparkling,” etc.
- Is pronounced: [out-LAN-dish](#)
- Means: 1: of or relating to another country : [foreign](#); 2 a : strikingly out of the ordinary : [bizarre](#)
- In a sentence: “Ms. Martin keeps dressing her dogs in outlandish costumes.”
- In olden times, English speakers used the phrase "outlandish man" to refer to a foreigner—or, one who came from an [outland](#), which originally meant "a foreign land." From here, *outlandish* broadened in usage from a word meaning "from another land" to one describing something unfamiliar or strange.
- For more information, see [merriam-webster.com](http://merriam-webster.com)

## Place of the Moment

### Ex-Hacienda de San Gabriel de Barrera Gardens

[Guanajuato, Mexico](#)



**This colonial mining complex is now home to magnificent themed gardens.**

Built in the late 1600s by order of silver mining tycoon Captain Gabriel de la Barrera, this historic hacienda used to house Barrera and his family as well some silver mining operations. The rooms in the former living spaces have kept most of the decoration from centuries past and are open to visit as part of the hacienda museum. The highlight of a visit, however, is the site’s lovely and extensive themed gardens.

Following the property’s acquisition by the [Guanajuato](#) state government in 1977, the gardens were remodeled into themed sections that pay tribute to different horticultural cultures around the world. This includes the English Garden, the Oriental Garden with a beautiful East Asian design, the Mexican Garden, mostly filled with cacti, and a semi-enclosed Roman Garden with classical statues and amphorae.

Well-maintained by a troop of gardeners and groundskeepers, the gardens are well-known to locals, and it’s not rare to see wedding or quinceañera photoshoots taking place here. The gardens are rented out for private events as well, so sometimes there will be actual weddings and quinceañera parties taking place during your visit.

“linkogecko.” [“Ex-Hacienda”](#) Atlas Obscura (web). Accessed 26 March, 2020.

## Nipper

More from the article Nipper found in [The Smithsonian](#):



“Despite these strides, scientists are left with some big questions. For one thing: The 50-million-year-old bat specimens are already recognizable as bats, so where did they come from? When, where, why and how the first bats become airborne is another mystery buried by Deep Time.”

## Library Skill

In the library, we had been having a lot of conversations about genres of fiction. Remember, the “genre” is like the “flavor” - it describes what sort of made up story it will be. Our library uses 13 different genres to organize the books, and we’re going to take a close look into them.

This week, we will be looking at the **Sports** genre. SPO on the spine, light blue tape.

What are some key words you’d use to describe a Sports book? I might expect “game” - what else can we add?

What are some examples of a Sport book you can think of?

Is this a genre you enjoy? Why or why not?

## Reading for Pleasure

I’m going to keep asking... What is a book you are really enjoying? What is one thing about that book that makes it so great?