

Word of the Week

“Buoyant”

- Is an adjective. Adjectives are words that describe nouns. “Slimy,” “Sparkling,” etc.
- Is pronounced: ¹buoy-ant | \ ¹boi-ənt
- Means: : having *buoyancy*, such as, **A**: capable of floating // *Cork is naturally buoyant*, **b**: *CHEERFUL, GAY // in a buoyant mood*, **c**: capable of maintaining a satisfactorily high level // *a buoyant economy*
- In a sentence: “Warm air is more buoyant than cold air”
- For more information, see merriam-webster.com

Place of the Moment

Aba, China: Huanglong Travertine Pools

Intensely colorful calcite pools in Southern China.



For 2.2 miles in the Huanglong Valley, naturally formed terraced hot spring pools gently flow between rugged mountains and forests. Filled with awe-inspiring creatures known only to China it has been dubbed “Fairy Land on Earth.”



Over millennia of geological change, mineral deposits built up and naturally created the travertine pools of Huanglong. Formed out of limestone, the hot springs rose to varied levels, making the light blue water cascade over waterfalls into other series of pools and even hollowing out caves along the valley. With rugged, snow-capped peaks on both sides, the slicing river of hot springs looks almost like a dragon, earning the title of “Yellow Dragon.”

In many ways, the backdrop of this UNESCO site is as dramatic as the pools. Untouched forests gently slope toward the water, and Golden Snub-Nosed Monkeys and Giant Pandas have made the fantasy world their home. The most scenic 2.2 miles begin at the Benbo temple and gradually wind their way to the Xishen Cave Waterfalls where the main site ends.



Although many incredible environmental sites in China have been faced with mounting pressure from industrialization and business, Huanglong is protected both nationally, and by UNESCO.

“serflac.” “[Huanglong Travertine Pools](#)” Atlas Obscura (web). Accessed 26 March, 2020.

Nipper

Nipper is continuing to learn about bats. He's just entranced. He started out looking through books in the library, but now that everything has gone virtual, he's turning his attention to websites and online searches. This will mean a new kind of bibliography... but for now he's still gathering info. Here's one fun fact that he found on the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife website:

- Bats have few predators. Hawks, owls, house cats, and raccoons occasionally prey upon them.

Q: Where else should Nipper be going for research?

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 **Science Fiction** genre. SciFi on the spine, dark green tape.

What are some key words you'd use to describe a Science Fiction book? I might use "space" - what else can we add?

What are some examples of a Science Fiction 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?