

# Zip Line Zaniness

Autumn brings about a whole new breed of fun family things to do: pumpkin farms, hay rides, apple picking, playing in the leaves, corn mazes, haunted houses... the list goes on and on. A few weeks ago, during a visit to a local farm which boasts such fun fall activities as a corn maze, petting zoo, hay ride, and haunted corn maze amongst other things, my kids had a blast with the zip line. It's all fun and games, as they say, until someone gets hurt...

And while no one was seriously injured during the filming of the following video, my 2-year-old daughter has decided that the zip line is no longer for her. When you watch the following video, you'll see why. Her 5-year-old sister goes first and has a blast, but poor little Disney didn't fare so well. Don't worry if your instinct is to chuckle – she wasn't hurt, just a little frightened. After all, people must find these types of things funny. Isn't that the reason why America's Funniest Home Videos became a show filled with video clips of people getting injured?

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# Baignoire

Sitting here watching the Scripps National Spelling Bee (not sure if it was taped prior or not... OH, it is live) but the staged musical bumpers are getting rather tiresome. Get on with the competition already! It almost seems like a televised round of golf with the commentators including Tom Bergeron (of Dancing with the Stars and America's Funniest Home Videos (IS THAT STILL ON) fame... why?). The audience is dead silent until a comment is made. One speller very humorously attempted to spell her word and after said "DING?" indicating her belief that she misspelled the word.

The gentleman who announced the words attempted to put the spellers at ease with some of the sentences he used with the given word.

*"Enough of this low-carb garbage! Bring me the palatschinken."*

There were at least two words that are types of cheese: *neufchatel* and *caerphilly*. Someone must have been hungry when they made the official list. Two the three final spellers were friends who moved away from each other and met again on the national stage.

The winning word: *laodicean* spelled by a young Kansas girl named Kavya.

One word prompted me to make this post: *baignoire*. It is derived from the French meaning either a box in the lowest level of a theatre OR a bathtub. The pronouncer failed to give the second definition. No [numnah](#) this year.