



# #10005 KIDS DISCOVER BATS!

BIG KIDS PRODUCTIONS, INC., 2000  
Grade Level: 2-5  
22 mins.



## DESCRIPTION

What do you know about bats? Are they our friends or enemies? Emphasizes that bats help us with pollination, seed dispersal, and by eating millions of bugs. Discusses their habitats and the foods they eat. Shows that their appearance and size differ. Closes with a warning that bats are wild animals.

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS

### Subject Area: Science–Life Sciences

- Standard: Understands the structure and function of cells and organisms
  - ◆ Benchmark: Knows that plants and animals progress through life cycles of birth, growth, and development, reproduction, and death; the details of these life cycles are different for different organisms (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)
  - ◆ Benchmark: Knows that living organisms have distinct structures and body systems that serve specific functions in growth, survival, and reproduction (e.g., various body structures for walking, flying, or swimming) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1 and 2.)
- Standard: Understands relationships among organisms and their physical environment
  - ◆ Benchmark: Knows that an organism's patterns of behavior are related to the nature of that organism's environment (e.g., kinds and number of other organisms present, availability of food and resources, physical characteristics of the environment) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 3 and 5.)
  - ◆ Benchmark: Knows that all organisms (including humans) cause changes in their environments, and these changes can be beneficial or detrimental (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 4.)

## C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- Standard: Understands biological evolution and the diversity of life
  - ♦ Benchmark: Knows different ways in which living things can be grouped (e.g., plants/animals, bones/no bones, insects/spiders, live on land/live in water) and purposes of different groupings (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)

### Subject Area: Health

- Standard: Knows essential concepts and practices concerning injury prevention and safety
  - ♦ Benchmark: Knows basic fire, traffic, water, and recreation safety practices (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 6.)

### INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To describe what bats look like.
2. To review the characteristics of mammals.
3. To point out what bats eat.
4. To examine a bat's role in scattering seeds, spreading pollen, and controlling insect populations.
5. To observe where bats live.
6. To emphasize that bats should not be touched or picked up.

### VOCABULARY

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. bridge      | 10. mosquito     |
| 2. bugs        | 11. nectar       |
| 3. cave        | 12. pollen       |
| 4. cricket     | 13. pups         |
| 5. fruit       | 14. seeds        |
| 6. fur         | 15. squeak       |
| 7. gigantic    | 16. vampire bat  |
| 8. hibernating | 17. wild animals |
| 9. mammal      | 18. wings        |

### BEFORE SHOWING

1. Display a Batman comic book. Compare the Batman visage with that of real bats. How are they alike and how are they different?
2. Make a "We Learn About Bats" poster.
  - a. Take pictures of students wearing a Batman mask and cape. Paste the pictures on a poster board.
  - b. Write facts about bats on the poster after the video is shown.
3. Generate questions prior to showing the video. Examples include:
  - a. Do bats have hands?
  - b. How do bats see at night?
  - c. Why do bats sleep upside down?
  - d. How long do bats live?
  - e. Are bats dangerous to people?

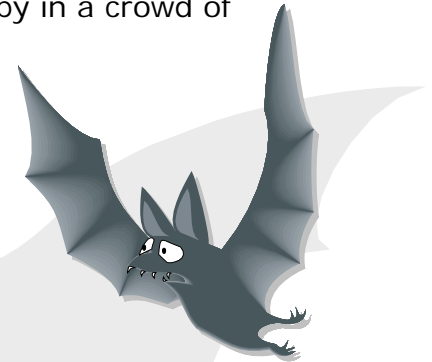
## DURING SHOWING

1. View the video more than once, with one showing uninterrupted.
2. Pause at the scene showing the bumblebee bat. Pass a penny around and feel its weight.
3. Pause at the section that explains that a bat's wing can be six feet across. Demonstrate a length of six feet using a tape measure.
4. Pause at the sections mentioning Africa and Latin America. Point them out on a map.
5. Pause at the scene that shows the bat dispersing seeds. Point out the seeds.
6. Pause at the scene with the caption "bat attitude." Explain what it means.

## AFTER SHOWING

### Discussion Items and Questions

1. How many different kinds of bats are there? Describe how some of the different kinds of bats look.
2. In what ways are all mammals alike? Name some animals that are mammals.
3. In what way is a bat different than other mammals?
4. What is a baby bat called? Describe what newborn bats look like. What do newborn bats eat? How does the mother bat find her baby in a crowd of newborn bats?
5. How do bats help plants and forests grow?
6. What food do bats eat?
7. Where do bats live?
8. From which animals does a vampire bat drink blood?
9. How are vampire bats helpful to people?
10. Name some insects that bats eat.
11. Why is it not safe to pick up or pet a bat?



### Applications and Activities

1. Search the Internet for various pictures of bats. Identify those with faces that resemble other animals.
2. Make bat masks from paper plates and cardboard.
3. Report on bat myths
4. Design and construct a simple bat house.
5. Purchase a clear plastic mug that has plain paper between the thermal layers to decorate. Stamp or draw pictures of bats to make a decorative mug.
6. Have a bat feast using paper plates and napkins imprinted with bat images.
  - a. Serve berries, bananas, fruit nectar, and fish crackers.
  - b. Decorate the table with plastic insects.
7. Draw a time line showing what happens during a year in the life of a bat. Include hibernation.
8. For a language activity, explore idioms that contain the word "bat." Possible phrases include:
  - a. Blind as a bat.
  - b. Driving me batty.

- c. Right off the bat.
  - d. "Bat" attitude.
  - e. Bat out.
9. Search the Internet to find the following information:
- a. The largest bat and the smallest bat.
  - b. The countries that have the largest bat populations.
  - c. How bats move around in the dark.
  - d. How to get rid of bats that are living in a house.

## CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [Mammals #3152](#)

## World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **BAT CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.**

<http://www.batcon.org>

Geared for adults, this site has information about bat conservation issues. It also has a live "bat cam" that students might enjoy seeing.



- **BATS BATS EVERYWHERE**

<http://members.aol.com/bats4kids/>

Includes bat facts, games, a bat quiz, details for building a bat house, and photos of various bats.

- **BATS**

<http://www.kidzone.ws/animals/bats/index.htm>

Contains bat activities, facts, and photos. Included are a jigsaw puzzle, coloring pages, and craft ideas.

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- **CREATURE FEATURE: VAMPIRE BATS**

[http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/creature\\_feature/0110/vampirebats.html](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/creature_feature/0110/vampirebats.html)

Includes vampire bat fun facts, video, audio, map, and a postcard.

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- **BATS**

<http://www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/bats/>

Contains interactive anatomy of a bat, an imaginary interview with a bat, art activities, a bat word search, and a list of books about bats.

