



BATS AREN'T ALL BAD!

A unit/theme on bats can be used with the entire class as Hallowe'en approaches or with a small group of students who display an interest in learning more about bats.

The information cards can be used as Reading cards or as Reference cards along with books and periodicals.

Collect resource materials, set up a Bat centre and add the activities that are appropriate for your class.

Discuss and chart the ideas the students have about bats.

THINGS WE ALREADY KNOW ABOUT BATS

THINGS WE WANT TO FIND OUT/VERIFY ABOUT BATS

RESOURCES

1. "THE BAT BOOK" BERNICE KOHN
2. "BATS" DAVID PYE
3. "VAMPIRE BATS" ELAINE DICKSON
(from the series ANIMALS WE LOVE TO HATE)
4. "BATS AREN'T ALL BAD" NAT. GEOG. MAY 1973
5. "THE AMAZING FROG-EATING BAT" NAT. GEOG. JANUARY 1982
6. "BATS" NAT. GEOG. WORLD MAGAZINE 1975
7. "FLYING FOXES" RANGER RICK FEBRUARY 1980
8. "FRUIT BAT" OWL MAY 1979
9. "BATS" OWL SEPTEMBER 1976
10. "BATS" OWL MAY 1978
11. "HATTIE THE BACKSTAGE BAT" DON FREEMAN
12. "RUFUS" TOMI UNGERER

The Vampire Bat

Vampire bats are found in Central and South America. They live mostly in caves, but they also can be found in mines, old wells and hollow trees. They often share their home with other kinds of bats and in most cases, do not attack these bats.

A vampire bat has razor sharp teeth. It makes a painless cut into the skin of its prey and with very rapid movements of its tongue, it laps up the blood from the cut.

Vampire bats are known to feed on the blood of poultry, cattle, donkeys and deer. Sucking blood from their victim, weakens the victim. Vampire bats sometimes carry a disease known as rabies.

Vampire bats rarely bite people.

The vampire bat may drink so much blood, that it becomes too full to fly.



Research

True or False ?

1. Bats have teeth.
2. Bats are blind.
3. Bats usually fly at night.
4. Bats are the only mammals that can fly.
5. Some bats can be tamed and can make nice pets.
6. Bats find their way by listening to sounds.
7. If you blindfold a bat, he will bump into things.



Research

Find out about bats

Read a reference book or information from an encyclopedia about bats.

Answer these questions.

1. Explain why man is the bat's main enemy.
2. Flying is hard work for bats. Explain this statement.
3. What should you do if a bat visits your house?



Research

After you have read about bats, see how many of the following questions you can answer.

1. How do bats find food?
2. Is a bat a bird? Explain your answer.
3. Where do bats go in the winter?
4. Do bats live alone?
5. What is the smallest bat? What is the biggest bat?



