



*Are you scared of bats?
Many people are.*

That's because most people don't understand bats very well.
Think you know all about bats?
See if you can answer these questions...

Are bats birds?

Nope – they're **mammals**. They can fly like birds, but bats don't have feathers – they have fur like other mammals. And bats give birth to live young, unlike birds which lay eggs.

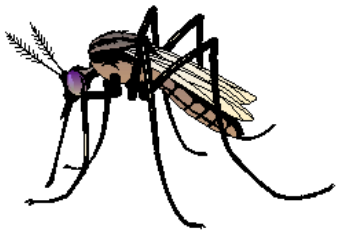
Do bats help people?

They sure do. They eat lots of **insects** – a single little brown bat can eat up to 600 mosquitoes in a single hour! Some kinds of bats eat **fruits** and drop the seeds all over to make new fruit trees that we then enjoy. And bats help to pollinate **farm crops** so there's a lot more food for everyone.



Do all bats eat the same thing?

No. Some like **fish**, some prefer **fruit**. But most bats like **insects**. Bats that like fish use their strong claws to scoop fish right out of the water. Those same claws allow bats to hang upside down from branches and other secluded roosting spots.

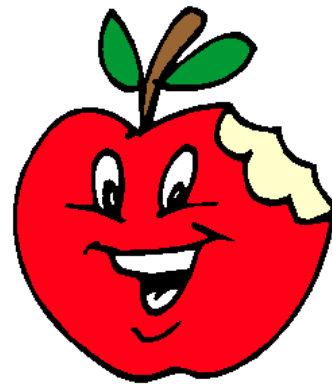


**Do bats drink blood?
(Yecchh!!)**

Only one kind of bat does – the **vampire** bat.

But they're not interested in people – just cattle and such.

Nothing like in those silly vampire movies.





Are bats blind?

Nope – in fact, their eyesight works pretty well in the dark. But bats have even better hearing and a very special skill called **echo location** – the bat makes a squeaky noise and when it echoes back, the bat can tell what's nearby from the quality of the echo. It could be a tasty mosquito that the bat will then chase down for supper.

How many kinds of bats are there in the world?

Over 1,000 different kinds!

Do bats sleep at night?

No way. They begin their activities when the sun goes down and work hard into the night looking for **food**.

So, did you learn something new about bats?

They're very interesting creatures. And like all the creatures that God has made, they have their own special qualities.

When we think about how bats work so hard at night, we can remember that their Creator – *God Himself* – also works hard at night – and throughout the day too.

God never sleeps.

He is always looking over us, providing for us, and helping us – even when we don't realize it. We can sleep peacefully because God is awake. And when we awaken,

He is always listening for our prayers.



"But God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer." - Psalm 66:19

