



Bats are mammals



Bats live in caves, hollow trees, under loose bark, in buildings, under bridges



Most bats roost in colonies



Bats are in the order *Chiroptera* (hand-wing)



Most eat insects, some eat plants, and some eat meat



In winter, some bats hibernate, some migrate



Bats make up 20% of all mammals



Just one bat can catch 1,000 mosquitoes in a single hour



Bat challenges: habitat loss, disease, climate change, [White-nose Syndrome](#)



1,200 described species world-wide



Bats use echolocation to navigate, and to locate prey



Most bats live less than 20 years (oldest known 41)



51 described species N. America (14 S.C.)



Their wings are flexible - so they are more maneuverable than birds



Bats are pollinators and seed dispersers

## More information and activities

### Facts About Bats

- [National Geographic Bat Facts](#)
- [Carolina Bat Working Group](#)
- [Bat Conservation International](#)
- [Merlin Tuttle's Bat Conservation](#)

### Online Guides

- [SC Guide to Bats](#)
- [Online Guide to Bats](#)

### Print Guides

- Bats of the United States and Canada**, Michael J. Harvey, et al.
- Stokes Beginner's Guide to Bats**, Kim Williams, et al.

### Some Videos about Bats

- [Fun Facts About Bats](#)
- [When Bats Took Flight](#)
- [National Geographic: World's Largest Bat](#)

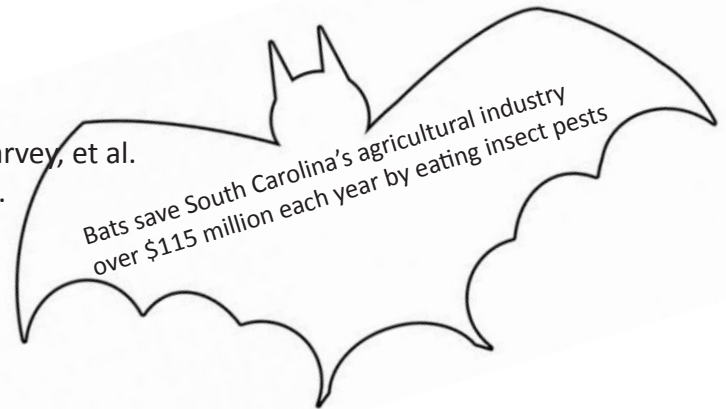
### Citizen Science Opportunities

- Book for kids: **Bat Count: A Citizen Science Story**, Anna Forrester
- [SCDNR BatWatch](#)

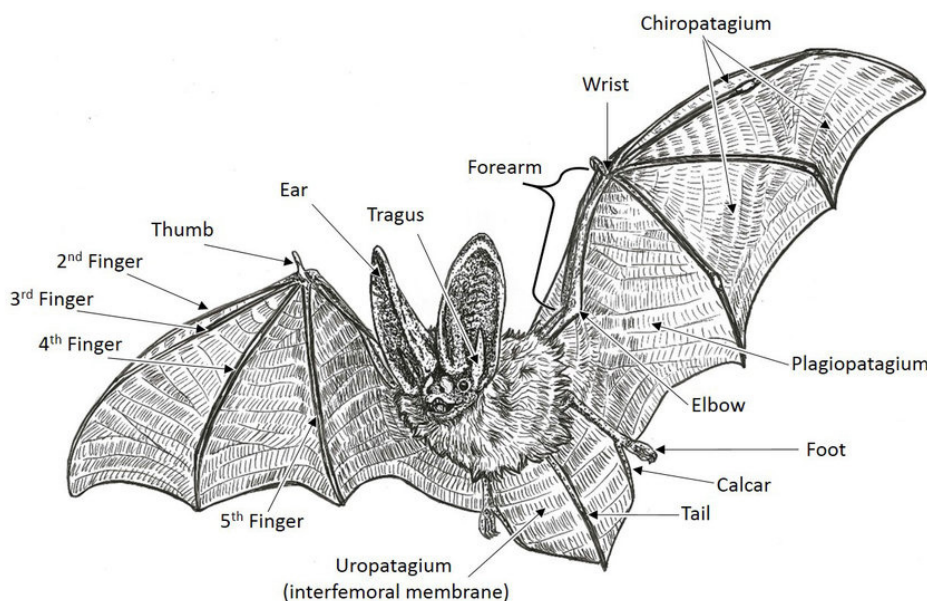
### Bat Crafts & Activities

- <https://www.kidssoup.com/activity/bats-preschool-activities-crafts-and-lessons>
- [https://www.dltk-holidays.com/Halloween/bat\\_crafts.html](https://www.dltk-holidays.com/Halloween/bat_crafts.html)

### Bat Books for Kids



Looking for bats can be as easy as sitting in your back garden, a local park or green space at twilight. Turn out the lights if you can, and enjoy the display.



## The Bat

By day the bat is cousin to the mouse.  
He likes the attic of an aging house.

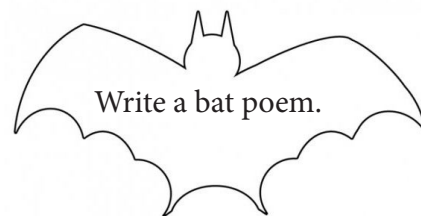
His fingers make a hat about his head.  
His pulse beat is so slow we think him dead.

He loops in crazy figures half the night  
Among the trees that face the corner light.

But when he brushes up against a screen,  
We are afraid of what our eyes have seen:

For something is amiss or out of place  
When mice with wings can wear a human face.

~ Theodore Roethke



## South Carolina Bats

B G N I N E V E I J P Q V R J V X A R C X O A W  
R A F I N E S Q U E S B I G E A R E D H V M S D  
I G C O M V D O L M Q S A K R Z Y R T V H B Q E  
D S N X S U K M M P Q D E T P K B N P Y P Y H L  
B L M O Q S H M Q G Y I S M N U Q E T J Z J K I  
Q K I R R T L U K W G H L W P F Q I A P D Z B A  
Y F C T H T C S Q C A S O F W B U C B N E I E T  
C R T Z T X H K O V G R O C M I X G D B A T P E  
Y K A Y K L X E X U B Z P B R D B R E M S T Z E  
V H Z O F W E Y R G T O L Y A J V D R P T H D R  
F U I X H W T B I N P H G C P Y E N O Q E W D F  
D X O Q F A E B R B Y W E W E R M R L L R G X N  
F E V R S O R T B O X E V A Y Q B I O W N V K A  
Q U R L J E L O M H W E L Y S O H S C G S I M I  
M J T N H F M T T I H N R L P T P Q I U M L U L  
K T T W R J C I G N I Y L P O X E Y R P A R R I  
X U N N N E O T N Y S X X I X W M R T P L H Y Z  
B D Y V I N T W D O E B N D C Y B B N P L Z J A  
T W Z X H N Z S K X L S N U R J K A K S F C O R  
D M J U O S Z N A T I E Z R R U F E T D O K Q B  
Y P L R Y D O P E E L I J Y Z O L Z J F O Z G Y  
W Y T N O R T H E R N L O N G E A R E D T I Q O  
S I L V E R H A I R E D V M G L W D T N E C S G  
K P V R T B H F G M W N F X V G E N X V D Q U N

- Tricolored bat    Seminole    Southeastern    Silver-haired    Rafinesque's big-eared  
Northern yellow bat    Northern long-eared    Little brown    Hoary    Evening    Eastern small-footed  
Eastern red    Brazilian free-tailed    Big brown