

October 24-31, 2021 is International Bat Week!

Bat Week is an annual, international celebration of the role of bats in nature.*

Why do bats matter?

- Over 1,400 species worldwide (make up 1/5 of all mammalian species).
- 70% of bats eat insects!!
 - Bats can eat their bodyweight in insects in one night.
 - Bats save farmers \$23 billion every year.
- Some bats eat fish, nectar, pollen, blood, rodents, frogs, and even other bats.

Amazing bat facts

- The Bumblebee Bat is the world's smallest bat and weighs less than a penny
- The Giant Golden-crowned Flying Fox is the largest bat, with a 6 foot wingspan
- The Mexican free-tailed bat is the fastest bat and can reach 100 mph!
- Bats are the only flying mammal.
- South Carolina has 14 species of bat, one of which is listed as federally threatened.

Activities for various ages (find pdfs and videos at [Educate - Bat Week](#))

PreK/Kindergarten

- Bats on the brink song by Mister G
- Be nice to bats poster
- Kindergarten unit "Bats All, Folks!"

Elementary

- Big-eared bat finger puppet
- Bat week in a box collection
- Be nice to bats poster
- Bat activities (PDF)

Middle school/High school

- Origami bat instructions
- Bat Hero Coloring Page
- Seasonal guide to bats coloring book
- Bat week in a box collection
- Bat week PowerPoint

*Information provided in this email obtained from batcon.org and batweek.org.