

Join us for an exciting discovery tour into the magical world of bats!

Hello, and welcome to Classrooms without Walls - your fun adventure into the secret lives of bats! My name is Spike and I'm a free-tailed bat. It's great to meet a human so interested in bats. I'm looking forward to telling you more about bats, us having fun together, and introducing you to some of my best friends!

Our friends at **Bats** without Borders have been enjoying working with me to create 8 fun lessons for you. Do you want to know what you will be learning over the lessons?



Here's the list of what is coming up!

Lesson

1

What is a bat?

Find out more about bats and what makes them so special.

Lesson

2

Bat diversity

Learn about the different types of bats, and how different they all are.

Lesson

3

Where do bats live?

Discover where different bats live (and some unusual places they call home!).

Lesson

4

What do bats eat?

Explore the foods that bats like (are there any you like too?)



Lesson
5

Bat babies

Find out about bat babies, and what they are called!

Lesson
6

Fantastic flyers

I bet you wish you could fly?

Flying is another reason why bats are so cool.

Lesson
7

Threats to bats

Explore the reasons bats are in trouble.

Lesson
8

What you can do to help bats!

Find out ways you can get involved and help bats.



Over these 8 lessons, we are going to tell you lots of cool things about bats, but to give you a little taster about what's coming up here are 5 fun facts about bats:

1. We can fly!
2. We are found nearly all over the world!
3. Some of us use a cool trick called echolocation to find our way around (think of it as a sound picture).
4. We've been around for a long time!
5. Some of us like to hang upside down (like me)!



Bats and humans are similar in some ways...

"I have been finding out more about humans, and wow you really are a bit weird! I was glad to hear that you feed your babies milk, that's one of the things we DO have in common. Bats and humans are both **mammals**."

How are bats and humans different? Do you want to know why I find humans a bit strange?



I have heard some pretty odd things about humans. Is it really true that humans...

... are awake when the sun is out and asleep when it's dark?
(that's back to front to me!)



... can't fly?!



... walk on their feet with their heads up, instead of hanging by their feet with their heads down?

... see with their eyes and cannot echolocate?

... can sing and talk but can only make low notes and cannot make or hear the high-pitched sounds, that us bats can make?



I have so much to learn about humans, but wow your life does seem strange and very different from mine!

Meet some of my bat buddies!



During our lessons, some of my bat friends will come and help us out.
Hey awesome bats, do you want to introduce yourselves?!



Hi, I'm Zeke (with the very high squeak). I may be really tiny BUT I have THE highest pitched echolocation call of all the bats in Southern Africa (around 210 KHz). That's ten times higher than any human can hear.

I'm a Percival's short eared trident bat. I'm named after a Scientist who's surname was Percival, I have short (but beautiful) ears and have three little spikes on my nose leaf that look a bit like a trident (a three pronged spear).

Hello there! I'm Avnaya, I'm a yellow-winged bat. I bet you thought all bats were brown and boring. Not me, I'm big, bright and beautiful!



Hi! I'm Logan, a baby Botswanan long-eared bat. I spend my time snuggled up under my mum's (Bongi) wing drinking milk. I haven't got much fur yet but that will grow. Once I'm about four weeks old I will start learning to fly and then I'll start catching insects. I hope I'll be flying well by the time I'm six weeks old and then I won't need milk any more.



Over to you!

A fun activity for you:

Can you spot the difference?

There are 5 differences between the two pictures below, can you find them?

