

A Teacher's Guide to the World of

Bats

A Tree for Shelter Series – Bat Workshop

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The Bat Workshop

is one of a series of
Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden (KFBG)'s
"A Tree for Shelter" Projects
specially designed to enhance teachers' knowledge and
awareness of important environmental issues.

During each workshop, educators will gain
creative, valuable and
interesting teaching tools
and resources to use in the classroom
to challenge and inspire students
to care more about nature.



Cover photo: Short-nosed Fruit Bats



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About the Bat Workshop

3 What do you know about bats? Do you think these animals are blind, dirty, spread disease, carry rabies, are dangerous, like to attack humans and suck their blood?

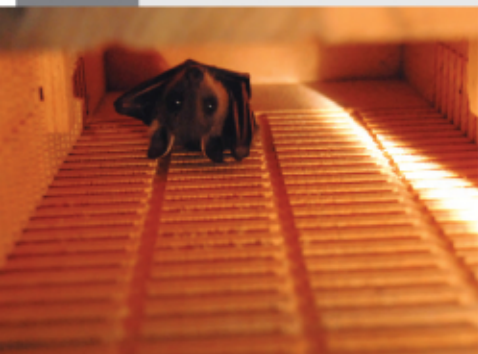
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Basic Bat Facts

10 The scientific name for the group of mammals to which bats belong is Chiroptera, a Greek word meaning "winged hand".

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Vision and Echolocation

24 Contrary to popular belief, bats are not blind. All bats have good vision. Most bats use echolocation to fly at night.

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Natural Predators and Threats in Hong Kong

28 In tropical areas, natural predators of bats include snakes, owls, hawks, civets, domestic cats and dogs. Sadly, the biggest threat to bat survival is HUMAN BEINGS.

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Habitat Enhancement in Urban Areas for Bats

31 Bats can and, often do, live in close proximity to people. Hong Kong is a bustling metropolis, surrounded by mountains and woodlands, many within an hour's reach from the heart of the city. Hong Kong also has urban parks in which several bat species occur.

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Human Culture and Bat Mythology

34 In Central America, bat gods were treated with reverence by pre-Columbian civilizations. In Africa and the Caribbean, bats have been used in voodoo worship, a practice still in use today.

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The Vampire Bat

38 Vampire bats prefer to feed on blood from cows, pigs, horses and birds. They make a small incision with their teeth and then lap up the flowing blood from the wound with their tongues.

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Bat Guano

40 Guano is the name given to the accumulated droppings of seabirds and bats. Guano is derived from the word "wanu" of the Native South American language Quechua (pronounced Kech-wa).

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Bat Conservation International Photos p41-43

References p44-45