

A close-up photograph of a brown bat with its wings partially spread, eating a piece of dragon fruit. The dragon fruit is cut open, showing its bright red flesh and black seeds. The background is dark, making the bat and the fruit stand out. In the top right corner, there is a small graphic of a book with yellow sparkles above it.

# All About Bats

by Mary Dell Hartman

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

# 🔊 All About Bats



by Mary Dell Hartman



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

BOSTON

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS: Cover © Dr. Merlin D. Tuttle/Photo Researchers, Inc.; 1 © Peter Arnold, Inc./Alamy; 2 © Timothy G. Laman/National Geographic/Getty Images; 3 © Barry Bland/Alamy; 4 (t) © Wolfgang Kaehler/Corbis, (b) © Blickwinkel/Alamy; 5 © Holger Hollemann/dpa/Corbis; 6 © Peter Arnold, Inc./Alamy; 7 © Nick Greaves/Alamy; 8 © Dr. Merlin D. Tuttle/Bat Cons. Int'l/Photo Researchers, Inc.; 9 © Dr. Merlin D. Tuttle/Photo Researchers, Inc.; 10 © Arco Images/Alamy

Copyright © by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved.

No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system without the prior written permission of Houghton Mifflin Company unless such copying is expressly permitted by federal copyright law. Address inquiries to School Permissions, Houghton Mifflin Company, 222 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116.

Printed in China

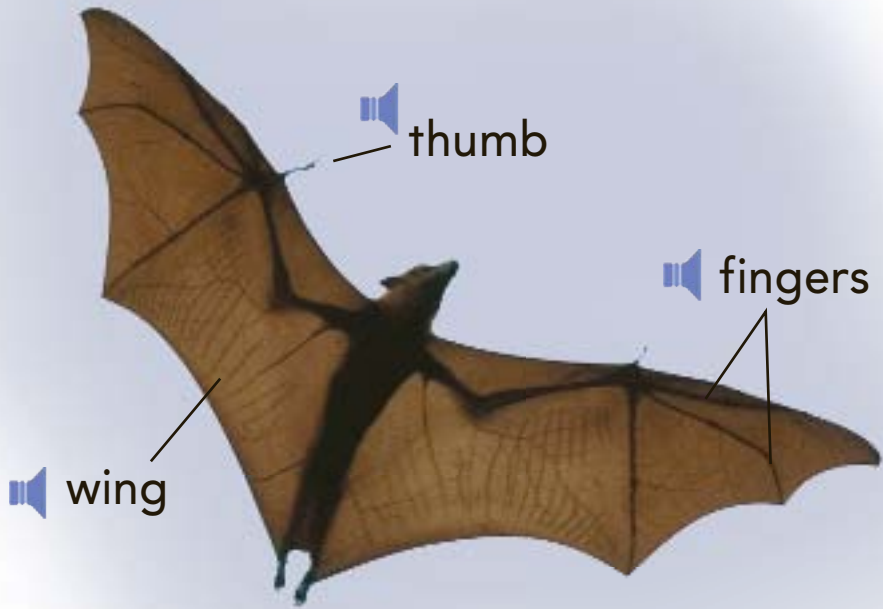
ISBN-13: 978-0-547-02827-9

ISBN-10: 0-547-02827-X

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 SDP 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08



🔊 Have you ever seen an animal fly at night? It might have been a bat! Bats and birds are the only animals that can fly, but they are not the same. Bats do not have feathers or lay eggs like birds do.



🔊 All bats have wings for flying. Bats have thin skin on their wings and very long fingers. They also have thumbs. Many bats can use their thumbs to walk or climb.



🔊 Bats come in many colors.  
Some bats have brown fur.  
Others have black or gray fur.

🔊 Bats come in many sizes.  
Some bats can be very large.  
Others are smaller than a penny!



🔊 Most bats have big ears that help them hear very well. Bats can hear sounds that people cannot. This helps them to fly in the dark.



🔊 Bats live all over the world. They make their homes in warm, dark spots. Their homes are called roosts. The bats sleep in the roost all day. They come out at night to fly and eat.



🔊 Many bats make their roosts in caves. Other bats make roosts in rock piles or inside trees. Some bats even live inside the walls of a house. Bats do not like to live alone, so many bats may live in the same place.





🔊 Most bats eat insects. The bats come out at night to hunt. Some bats can catch 600 insects in one hour! Bats help people by eating insects that bite.



🔊 Some bats eat fruit. They carry the seeds away when they fly. Then they drop the seeds in other places. New plants grow in places where the bats drop the seeds.

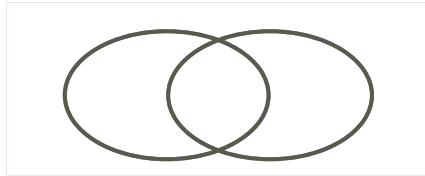


🔊 The next time you see something fly in the night sky, look closely. It might be a bird... or it just might be a bat!

# Responding

## **TARGET SKILL Compare and**

**Contrast** How are bats like birds?  
How are they different? Make a  
diagram.



## **Talk About It**

**Text to Text** Think of a different story about animals. How are these animals like bats? How are they different?



## WORDS TO KNOW

bird

hear

fly

long

or

warm



## TARGET SKILL

**Compare and**

**Contrast** Tell how two things are alike or not.



## TARGET STRATEGY

**Monitor/Clarify**

Find ways to figure out what doesn't make sense.

**GENRE** Informational Text gives facts about a topic.

**Level:** J

**DRA:** 18

**Genre:**  
Informational

**Strategy:**  
Monitor/Clarify

**Skill:**  
Compare and Contrast

**Word Count:** 296

1.3.15

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN  
**Online Books**



ISBN-13:978-0-547-02827-9  
ISBN-10:0-547-02827-X



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

1032893