



Bats

Elizabeth Carney , National Geographic Kids (Editor)

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They live in spooky caves, in forests, even in the dark reaches of ordinary attics and bridges. They flock by the hundreds, and they sleep while hanging upside down! In this beautifully photographed Level 2 Reader, kids learn about one of the most interesting creatures around—and discover the bat's unique place in the wild and in the world. The high-interest topic, expertly written text, and bonus learning activity lay the groundwork for a successful and rewarding reading experience.

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Bats Details

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From Reader Review Bats for online ebook

Miloš & Brontë says

Pa: So if I remember correctly, you want a pet bat now, right?

Brontë: Mmmhmm.

Pa: Why?

Brontë: Because they're cute and they look fun to play with.

Pa: Aren't they dangerous?

Brontë: No. I don't think so.

Pa: What about vampire bats?

Brontë: Well, I don't think they bite people. The myth about them is that vampire bats don't turn into people vampires. That's just silly.

Pa: What do they bite?

Brontë: I think instead they bite other animals instead of people. Besides, even if they bite people I don't think they would do it unless a person was annoying them. And if they swoop in and try to bite you they'll just get knocked in your hair and all tangled. Actually, I can't remember if that is true or false. I think Mom would like some of these bats. Because one of them takes pollen from flowers.

Pa: Do they spread flowers?

Brontë: There's one bat who does. Hairy-legged nectar bat.

Pa: What was your favourite bat?

Brontë: My favourite bat? Let's see. There are a lot of cool bats. I like this bat, the Gambian epauletted bat (*bit of a struggle in the middle of that*). Anyway, this bat, the Ma and baby, they fly together and they do everything together, it's like they are attached to each other, and before they are about to fly, the Mom milks the baby until the baby is large and fat and full, and that gets his wings strong.

Oh! And I like these bats that I think are all brothers and sisters I think they are all stuck together when they are sleeping.

Pa: Would you like to sleep upside down?

Brontë: Mmm ... yep, as long as I had a tree and my feet were attached to it because if they weren't I'd be awake all night.

Pa: So what are you reading next?

Brontë: Umm ... maybe Harry Potter.

Pa: What about My Dead Girlfriend. The first bit is a bit tough, but then the rest just flies by.

Brontë: Did you read it?

Pa: Yep.

Brontë: How long did it take?

Pa: I read it in a day.

Brontë: Wow!

Pa: It will take you longer, but you'll dig it.

Brontë: Okay, I'll read that next.

Pa: Cool.

Erica says

We've been making our way through the National Geographic readers this summer, and my son loves them. Bats was a favorite and I agree with another reviewer who said it makes you want a pet bat! :)

Lynn says

This was a very informative book. My son (5 yrs old) loves having this book read to him. He loves learning about animals, and loved learning about bats. Of course, the pictures are fantastic! What else would you expect from National Geographic.

S.Vandermolen says

What better time of year than October to read this informational text (interest level: K-2) about bats? This National Geographic Kids book is chocked full of interesting facts about bats, and it provides an opportunity for students to get more acquainted with the anatomy of a nonfiction book: table of contents, vocabulary terms, glossary, etc. This book also works hard to de-stigmatize bats in the minds of young students (Did you know that only 3 out of 1,200+ types of bats are vampire bats?). Not only is there a section devoted to addressing common myths about bats, but the text also frequently compares and contrasts bats to humans to establish similarities (both mammals, both have eight fingers and two thumbs, etc.).

“Bats” would be an excellent way to incorporate a “Halloween” themed topic into an appropriate classroom lesson (which can be a challenge sometimes!). This book exposes students to several excellent vocabulary words that can apply to many scientific areas (i.e.: mammal, nocturnal, ecosystem, nectar, etc.). It would be

beneficial to further discuss the book's terms as a class, encouraging students to compare, contrast, and make connections with other animals and environments they have learned about.

I also like how "Bats" exposes children to important ideas about animal conservation and ecosystem balance. While it may be difficult for young children to fully understand pollination/bats' role in pollination, the idea of rescuing baby bats after a powerful storm should resonate with children. I believe it is important to discuss taking care of animals and the earth from a very young age, and I think students would enjoy sharing stories about how they once helped save an animal, insect, plant, etc.

Megan says

I love using this nonfiction series to help my students understand text features and how to paraphrase nonfiction information. Highly engaging photographs and text.

Paige Joerger says

I paired this non-fiction book "Bats" with the book "Bats at the Beach". While "Bats" has interesting information about bats and their daily lives, "Bats at the Beach" is a super fun and obviously fictional book kids can laugh at and enjoy. I think this is the strongest twin pair I have.

Carol says

Geddy rad 6-16-13

Mariama Bah says

I enjoyed reading this book very much. The life of Bats. How they live and eat.

Lauren says

Great book for curious readers! Bats is full of information that students will enjoy reading about. I would say it's about 1st grade level. One thing I enjoyed about this book is the Bat myths! This page is about different myths about bats and the true facts about bats! This page is interesting because there are so many myths that many people may believe to be true! This is a very interesting book!

Ashly Schuette says

In this Level 2 Reader, kids learn about one of the most interesting creatures and discover the bat's unique place in the wild and in the world. I would recommend any of the National Geographic Readers, but this one in particular plays to the reader who has ever been an out-cast for their uniqueness.

This is an informational text as it provides an accurate account of the life of a bat. Facts range from sleeping upside down to flocking by the hundreds.

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Nancy says

I started reading, the National Geographic children's books, a few days ago. I really enjoy them, and as an adult, I am learning a lot from them.

Classmates of mine, caught, and brought bats into school. Our science teacher took them from class to class, and show them to us, and taught us a little bit about them. This book tells about the many kinds of bats are in the world. They eat a lot of bugs. I enjoy seeing bats fly at night, knowing they are eating a lot of unwanted bugs. The photography is excellent, and I learned a lot.

Stephanie says

Nice nonfiction reader with great photos of different types of bats. Covers all the basics, plus has some cool trivia.

Miriam says

Bats

RB says

I have to be honest, I have no clue how to review this book. Obviously I am not a four-year-old and I never will have kids so I could not say how this book would work with a kid but I am sure I would've loved it had I came across it at the targeted reading age, but the truth is that I am interested in bats and typed the word "bats" into my local library and all I could locate was a batch of books intended for kids, so I did what anyone interested in these mammals would do, take every single one out. This is one of (more to come) calls for guidance from anyone who knows about any books on this subject matter that are aimed at adults or college kids or anything, really . . .

As for this one, it includes corny bat jokes and a picture of a bat swallowing a frog so bonus points there for

a good laugh.

Amanda Gary says

Bats!!! Anytime I think about bats I get a little grossed out, but it just so happens that what grosses adults out is what is often the most interesting to children.

This book is a great informational text on the topic of bats. It could be used a group lesson for ages K-3, or independently for grades 2-3. This National Geographic text has wonderful pictures to showcase bats and all their unique characteristics. The non-fiction structure is set up to really allow students to understand the information the author is giving us. The features in the text are great way to get students to understand the importance of text features like diagrams, labels, captions, etc. I think this book had interesting information but it also has a joke on every couple of pages that the students love.

I choose this book as a WOW book because of its wonderful non-fiction text features that are not to overwhelming for students. The pictures are creepy but very cool and kids love to be able to see all the details in the photos. Bats are always fun to study in the month of October, and it led to a lot of my students wanting to head towards the library to check out more books on bats, which is always a good thing!
