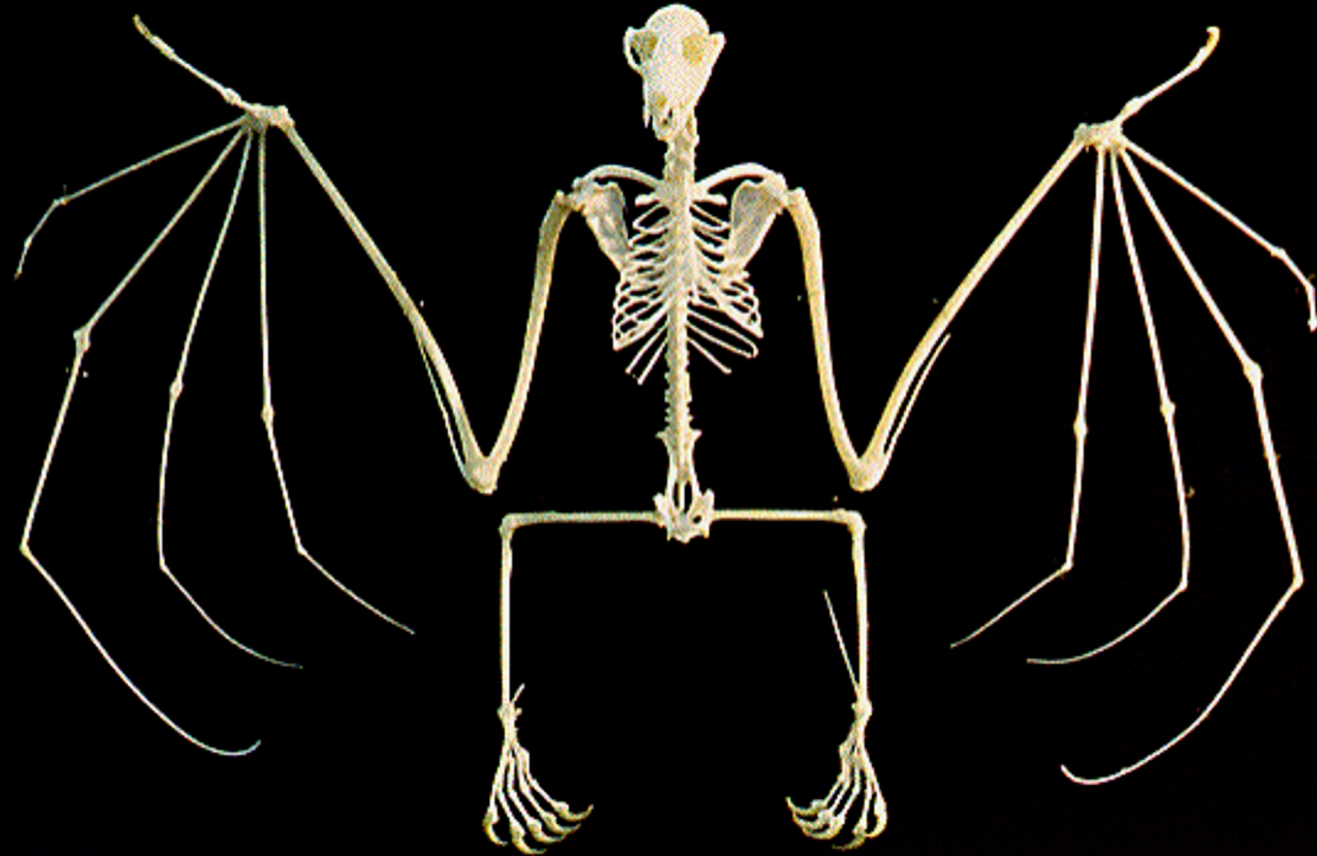


BENEFICIAL BATS

The Importance of Bats to Humans, Ecosystems, and Economies

Order Chiroptera = Hand-Wing



#BatWeek



Bats are Everywhere and they are highly diverse!

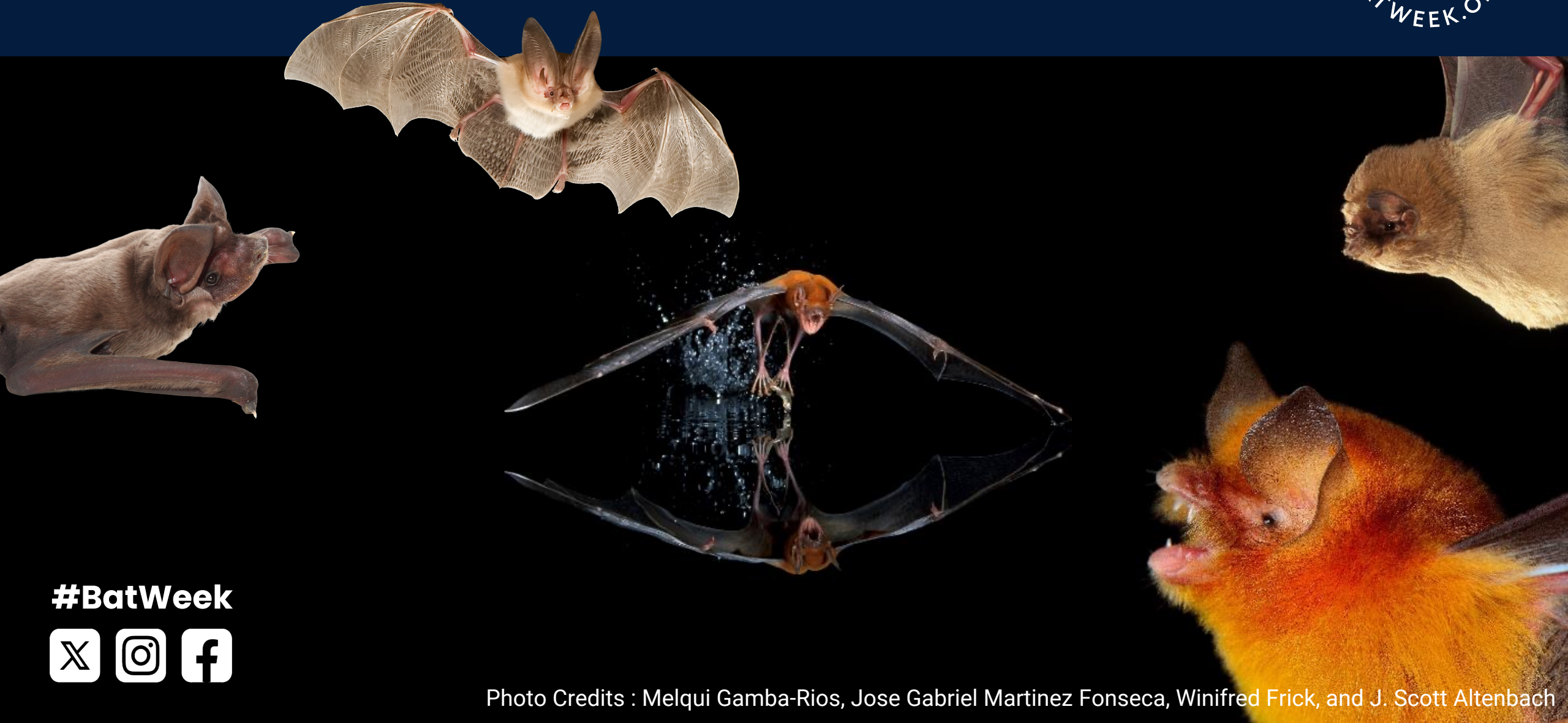


#BatWeek



Photo Credits : Dr. Isabella Mandl, Charles M. Francis, and Pete Oxford

Bats in North America



#BatWeek



Photo Credits : Melqui Gamba-Rios, Jose Gabriel Martinez Fonseca, Winifred Frick, and J. Scott Altenbach

Amazing, Adaptable Bats

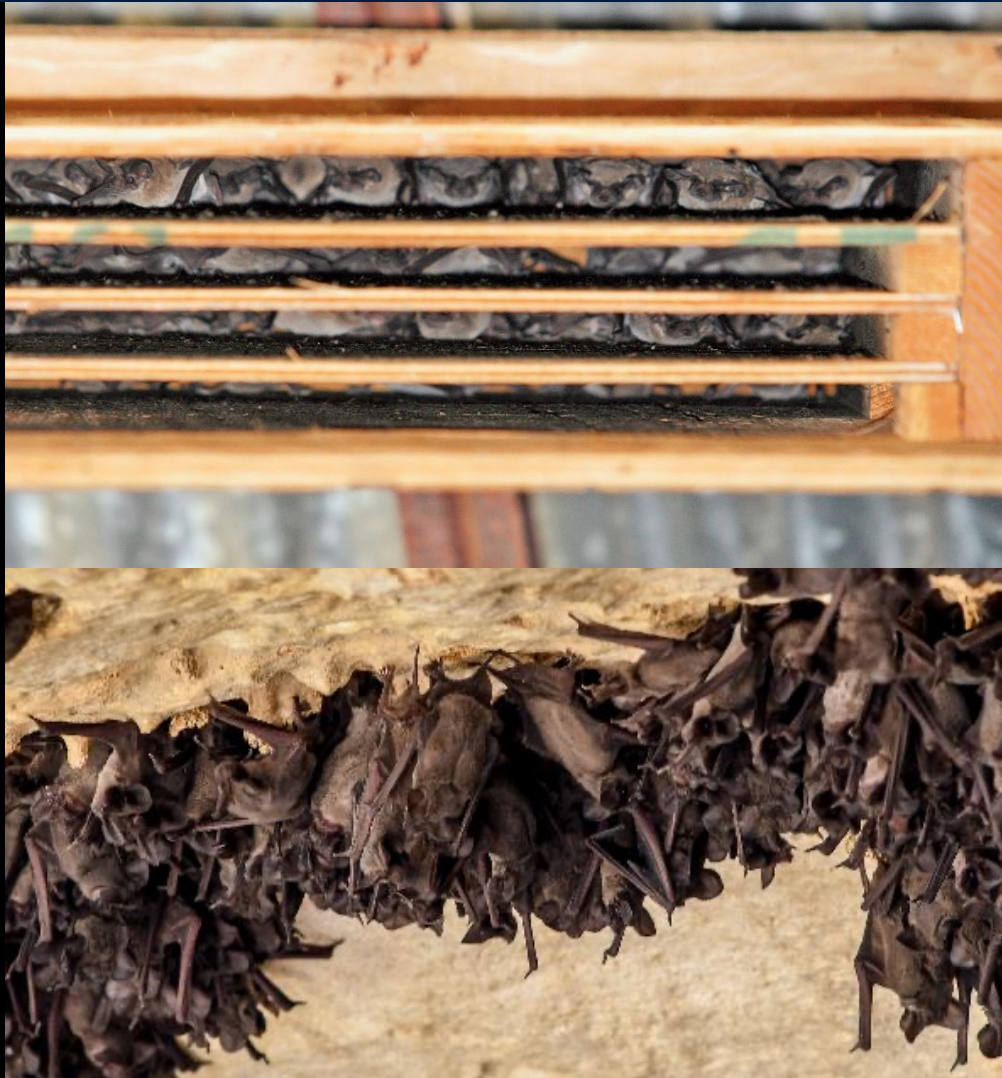


#BatWeek



Photo Credit : Wyatt McSpadden

Amazing, Adaptable Bats



#BatWeek



Photo Credits : Mylea Bayless and Brian Keeley

Amazing, Adaptable Bats



#BatWeek



PHOTO CREDIT : Charles M. Francis

Amazing, Adaptable Bats

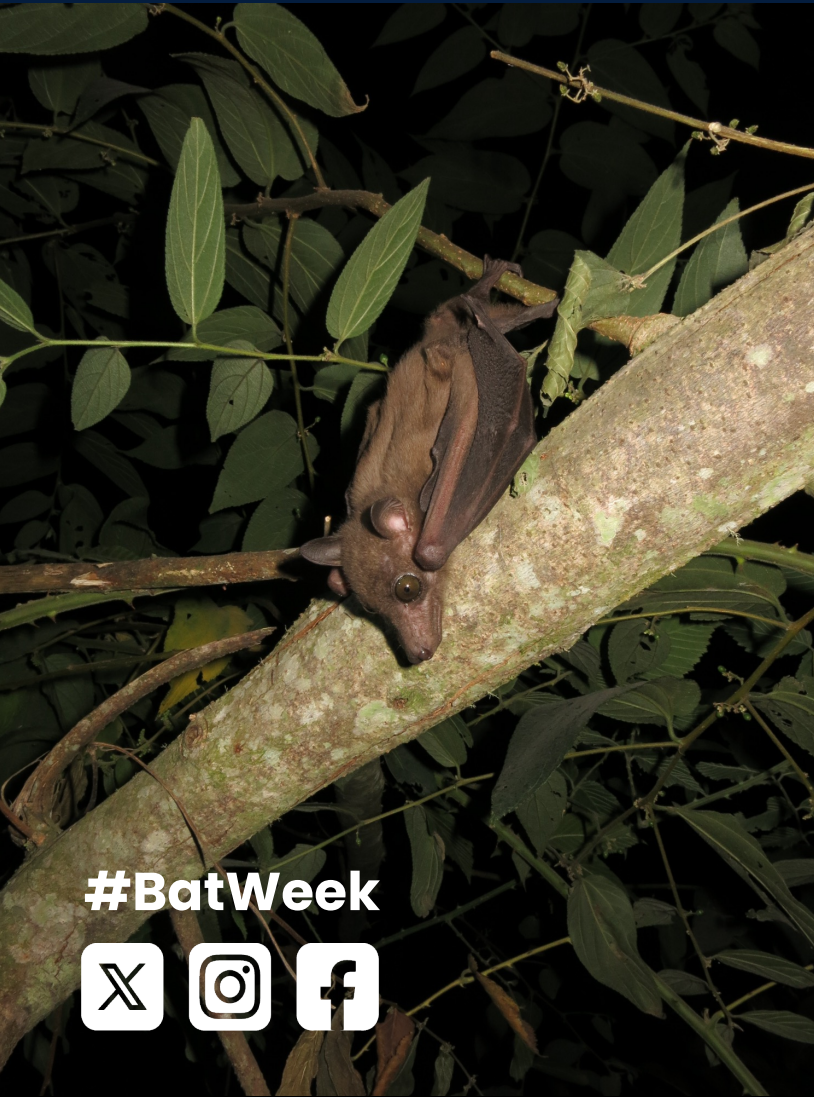


#BatWeek



Photo Credits : Melqui Gamba-Rios, Bruce Taubert

Amazing, Adaptable Bats

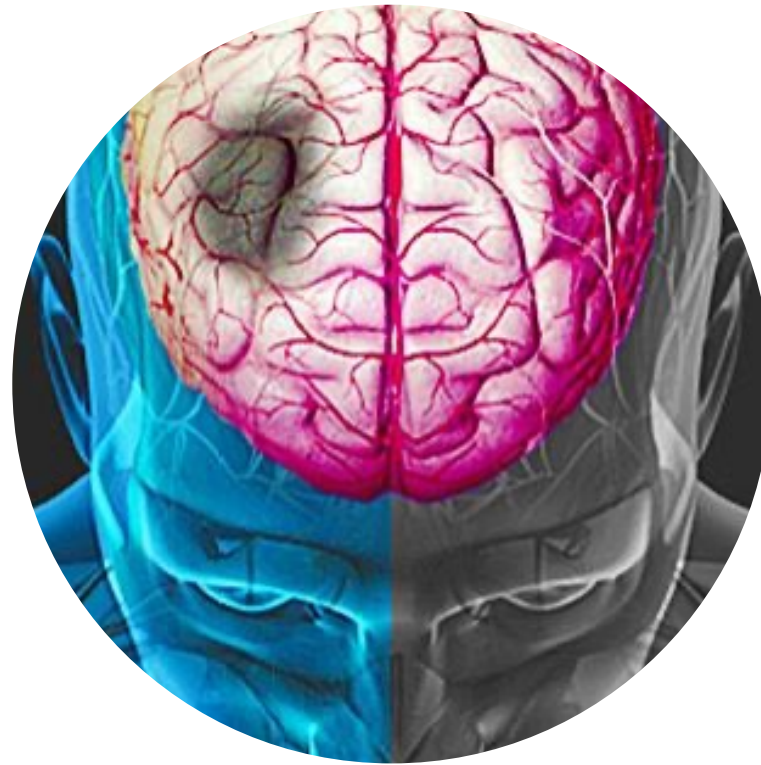


#BatWeek



Photo Credits : Dr. Jon Flanders, Yushi Osawa, and Dr. Isabella Mandl

Importance: Medical Research



An anti-coagulant found in vampire bat saliva is used to develop medication for stroke treatments.

#BatWeek



Importance: Guano and Nutrient Cycling



- Fertilizer and soil conditioner
- Compost activator
- Natural fungicide in the soil
- Organic compounds could be used in cosmetics and pharmaceuticals



#BatWeek



Importance: Engineering



Bat flight and acoustic skills are used as engineering models for:

- **Plane navigation**
- **Air traffic control**
- **Flight patterns**
- **Drone designs**

#BatWeek



Photo Credit : Jonathan Alonzo

Threats to Bats



- Habitat loss
- Destruction of roost sites
- Wind energy turbines
- Climate change
- Overuse of pesticides
- Poor public image
- Over-harvesting for bush meat
- White-nose Syndrome (U.S. & Canada)

www.whitenosesyndrome.org

#BatWeek



Photo Credit : USFWS

By Protecting Bats, We...



#BatWeek



- **Protect the functioning of ecosystems worldwide**
- **Help to ensure food supplies by controlling pests naturally**
- **Discover medical and engineering advances**



BAT WEEK

Oct. 24-31

YOU can help bats by celebrating Bat Week!

Bat Week is an international, annual celebration designed to raise awareness about the need for bat conservation.

EXPLORE
CELEBRATE
LEARN
SHARE

#BatWeek



EXPLORE: BatWeek.org

- Learn more about Bats and the many Bat Week Partners across North America
- Sign up for Bat Week updates and share your Bat Week events
- FREE information and activities for adults (teachers, individuals, community leaders) and children



**BAT
WEEK**
Oct. 24-31

CELEBRATE: Bat dependent food

- The [Bat Week Celebration Cookbook](#) features recipes that educate and inspire.
- All recipes feature food that is either pollinated by bats, protected by bats, or bats spread the seeds.
- You can educate, learn and share knowledge while having great fun.
- Recipes come from South America, Central America, the Caribbean, the US and Canada.



**BAT
WEEK**
Oct. 24-31

LEARN: Take action for bats

- Learn ways to maintain a bat-friendly habitat or garden:
 - night-blooming flowers
 - water sources
 - welcome insects for prey/food
 - remove invasive species from habitat
 - reduce/eliminate use of pesticides
- Build, install, and monitor a roosting box



**BAT
WEEK**
Oct. 24-31

LEARN: Tools and learning experiences

- [Batnado](#) – Virtual reality experience & Interactive video of bats exiting Bracken Cave.
- [Fly Through Bracken Cave Like a Bat](#) - 3-D imagery of largest colony of bats in North America, from Bracken Cave.
- [Project EduBat](#) – is an educator’s tool kit filled with everything you need to engage all ages at a bat festival or classroom presentation.
- Many [lessons and crafts](#) for educators and parents including themed activities for each day of Bat Week.



SHARE: Tell others about Bat Week and the benefits of bats

- Post your events on www.batweek.org
- Share your activities and projects and love of bats on social media.
- Download memes or other visuals from the Bat Week website to share in your social media promotions during Bat Week.



#BatWeek



**BAT
WEEK**
Oct. 24-31