## What are Bats?



Bats are <u>mammals</u>, just like us humans. Mammals have warm blood, wide wings and can fly. They are also <u>nocturnal</u>. Nocturnal means they are awake at night. During the day, they sleep upside down in dark caves, old buildings, or trees.



Most bats use <u>sound</u> to catch <u>prey</u>. Prey is the food they eat. First, bats make sounds. Then these sounds bats make bounce off objects. These sounds then return to the bat. Then the bat can tell how far away their prey is. If sounds return fast, then the bat knows food is close. This is like throwing a ball at a wall, then seeing how fast the ball returns. If it comes back slowly, the wall is far away. If it comes back fast, the wall is close to you. About 70% of bats are <u>insectivores</u>. This means they eat insects such as mosquitos or other bugs.

Task: Describe what bats can do.