

PINFEATHERS

A play & learn page for future Payne County Audubon Chapter members



BATTY ABOUT OKLAHOMA BATS

- **Bats are the only flying mammals.**
- **The bones in a bat's wing** are the same as those of the human arm and hand, but a bat's finger bones are elongated and support a tough, elastic wing covering.
- **Though they have pretty good eyesight,** bats depend on an echolocation system, similar to sonar. They emit pulses of very high frequency sound—not audible to our human ears—at a rate of a few to more than 500 per second! By listening to the echoes that reflect back to them, bats are able to maneuver around objects in their path and to capture tiny flying insects
- **All bats in Oklahoma feed on insects** such as moths, mosquitoes, beetles, leafhoppers and even scorpions. In fact, bats are the only major predator of these night-flying insects. Some bats can consume more than 3,000 mosquitoes each night!
- **Because bats are mammals,** they bear live young (pups)—usually one pup a year—and nurse their pups on mother's milk.
- **Bats hibernate during winter.** During hibernation, the bats must not be disturbed. If the bats wake up during hibernation, they use valuable energy they've stored from eating insects during the summer and may starve before summer (and insects) return.
- **The most threatened bat species** in Oklahoma is the Ozark Big-eared Bat (right). The total population of Ozark Big-eared Bats consists only of a few hundred bats. Most of these bats live in only one or two Oklahoma caves.
- **Learn some interesting facts** and more about Oklahoma bats at this [website](#).



WE HAVE 22 SPECIES OF BATS IN OKLAHOMA, including a few that visit only in summer and fly south to warmer weather in winter. Here is a list of Oklahoma bats.

Southeastern Bat
 Gray Bat
 Keen's Bat
 Small-footed Bat
 Little Brown Bat
 Indiana Bat
 Cave Myotis
 Yuma Bat

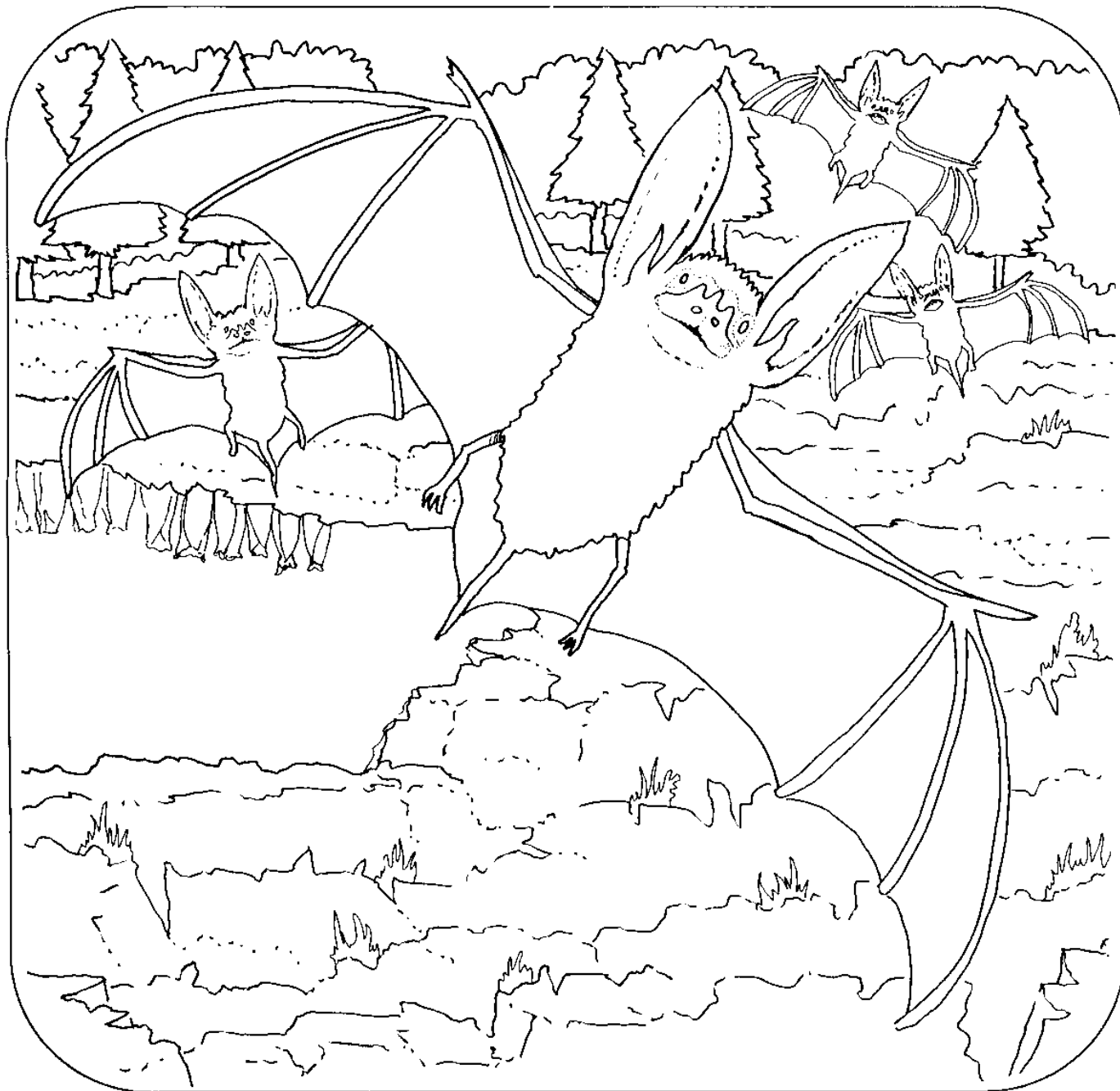
Silver-haired Bat
 Eastern Pipistrel
 Western Pipistrel
 Big Brown Bat
 Evening Bat
 Pallid Bat
 Rafinesque's Big-eared Bat
 Townsend's Big-eared Bat



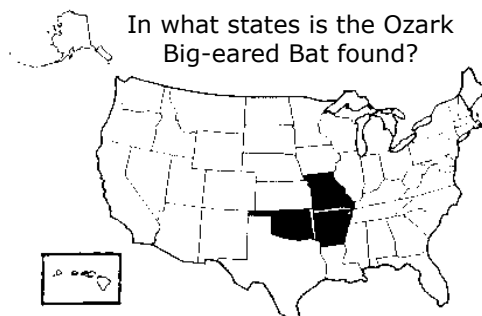
Ozark Big-eared Bat
 Red Bat
 Hoary Bat
 Seminole Bat
 Mexican Free-tailed Bat
 Big Free-tailed Bat



Ozark Big-Eared Bat



This bat has big ears and orange-red fur. During the day, it sleeps hanging upside down inside caves. At night, the bat hunts for moths and other insects. On summer evenings you might see bats flying back to their caves. Hungry pups are waiting to be fed!



In what states is the Ozark Big-eared Bat found?