

# Bats in Your Backyard- Program Planner

We are looking forward to visiting your classroom soon to present the “Bats in Your Backyard” program. This will provide your students with a special opportunity to learn about Acadia’s bats and the current threats they’re facing. If you have any questions about the program in advance, please call the education office at 288-8823, and/or 288-8825 on the day of the program.

## Program Schedule:

5 minutes	Introduction and Bat True/False
15 minutes	Adaptations – Who am I? Game and Diversity Slideshow
20 minutes	Significance – Bat Importance Mystery Bags and WBAT Newscast
40 minutes	Acadia Research – Current Threats and Student Research Teams
10 minutes	Conclusion – What can You do?

## Teachers’ Responsibilities

- **Supervise students** and help them stay focused while on the program.
- Ensuring that **safe practices** are followed throughout.
- **Nametags:** Students need name tags. A piece of masking tape with name in marker is sufficient.
- **Set up a projector** if possible to be used for a Powerpoint slideshow. Ranger will bring a laptop.
- If time before the program date, **review measuring** using centimeters and millimeters with a ruler.

## Program Goals:

- To introduce the concepts of bat anatomy and adaptations.
- To help students understand the importance of bats.
- To develop an awareness of the severity of threats facing bats today.
- To facilitate an appreciation of how the Park protects wildlife and habitat.

## Program Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Identify and clarify two bat myths.
- Compare/contrast two different types of bats.
- Describe two adaptations bats utilize for survival.
- Name two ways bats are important.
- Explain a current threat bats face.
- Describe how Acadia National Park is helping to conserve bat populations.
- Recognize one way students can help conserve bat populations.

## Classroom activities (attached PDFs)

Suggested pre-trip activity:

- Bat Crossword Puzzle from [Bat Conservation International](#)
- The Wing’s the Thing from [Indiana Bats, Kids & Caves – Oh My!](#)
- Bat and Moth Game from [Sharing Nature with Children by Joseph Cornell](#)
- What about Bats? Pre-Program

Suggested post-trip activities:

- Bat Paper Airplane from [Bats at the Library](#)
- Bat Range Map Activity from [50Birds](#)
- What about Bats? Post-Program
- [Bat Research Video](#) ~4 minute YouTube video of researchers studying bats at Rock Creek Park outside of Washington D.C.

## Learning Standards:

### From the Next Generation Science Standards:

- 4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.
- 5-ESS3-1. Obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science ideas to protect the Earth's resources and environment.

### Common Core Standards (*Speaking and Listening*):

#### Comprehension and Collaboration:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 4 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 5 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

#### Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas:

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.4.4 Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.4 Report on a topic or text or present an opinion, sequencing ideas logically and using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.

## Online resources:

**Acadia's Teacher Resources:** [www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers](http://www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers)

**WebRangers:** [www.nps.gov/webrangers](http://www.nps.gov/webrangers)

**Map of Acadia:** [www.nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/maps.htm](http://www.nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/maps.htm)

**White-Nose Syndrome:** [www.whitenosesyndrome.org](http://www.whitenosesyndrome.org)

**Info about Maine bats & contact info if unusual bat behavior spotted outside of Acadia:** [Fish and Wildlife Service](#)