

# PAPER BAG PUPPETS



## SUBJECTS:

Art, science, Language Arts, Performing Arts

## LOCATION:

Classroom

## DURATION:

30 minutes to make puppets. Several hours to research, write and present plays

## OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Students will be able to demonstrate bat behavior and discuss bat anatomy.
- 2) Students will be able to name and locate bat body parts.

## BACKGROUND:

See text on pages 1 and 2 of this unit.

## KEY VOCABULARY:

Echolocation, wing, and adaptation

## MATERIALS:

1 paper bag per student, glue, scissors, construction paper (different colors), templates (see next page), and students' bat wings from previous activity.

## METHOD:

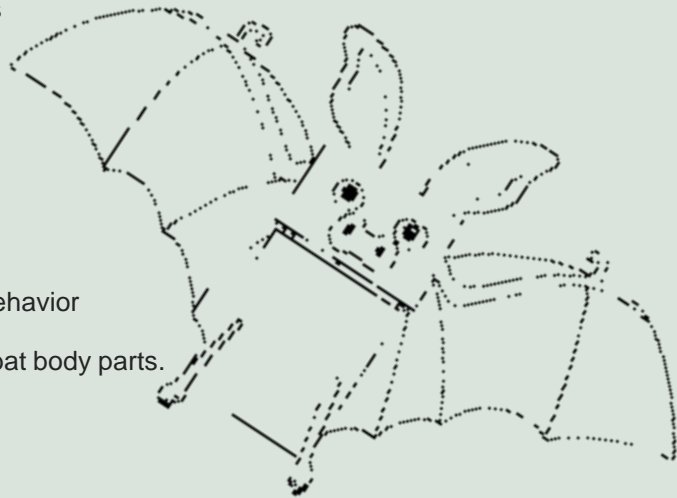
- 1) Make copies of the bat patterns on the following page. Give a copy to each student. Hand out a paper lunch bag, construction paper, scissors, and glue.
- 2) Trace templates onto construction paper, making sure that you trace the correct number of parts (two eyes, two ears, etc.). Cut out parts.
- 3) Using the teacher's finished puppet for reference, have the students glue the bat's body parts in their proper locations. The eyes and the nose are glued to the flap, with the flap acting as a mouth. Do not glue the flap down! Glue the ears on the back of the bag, so they stick up above the head. The feet are glued near the opening of the bag.
- 4) Hand out the students' pre-made bat wings. Have the students glue them in the side folds of the paper bag.
- 5) Students can insert their hands in the opening of the bag, making the bat "talk" by moving their hands in the flap.

## EXTENSION:

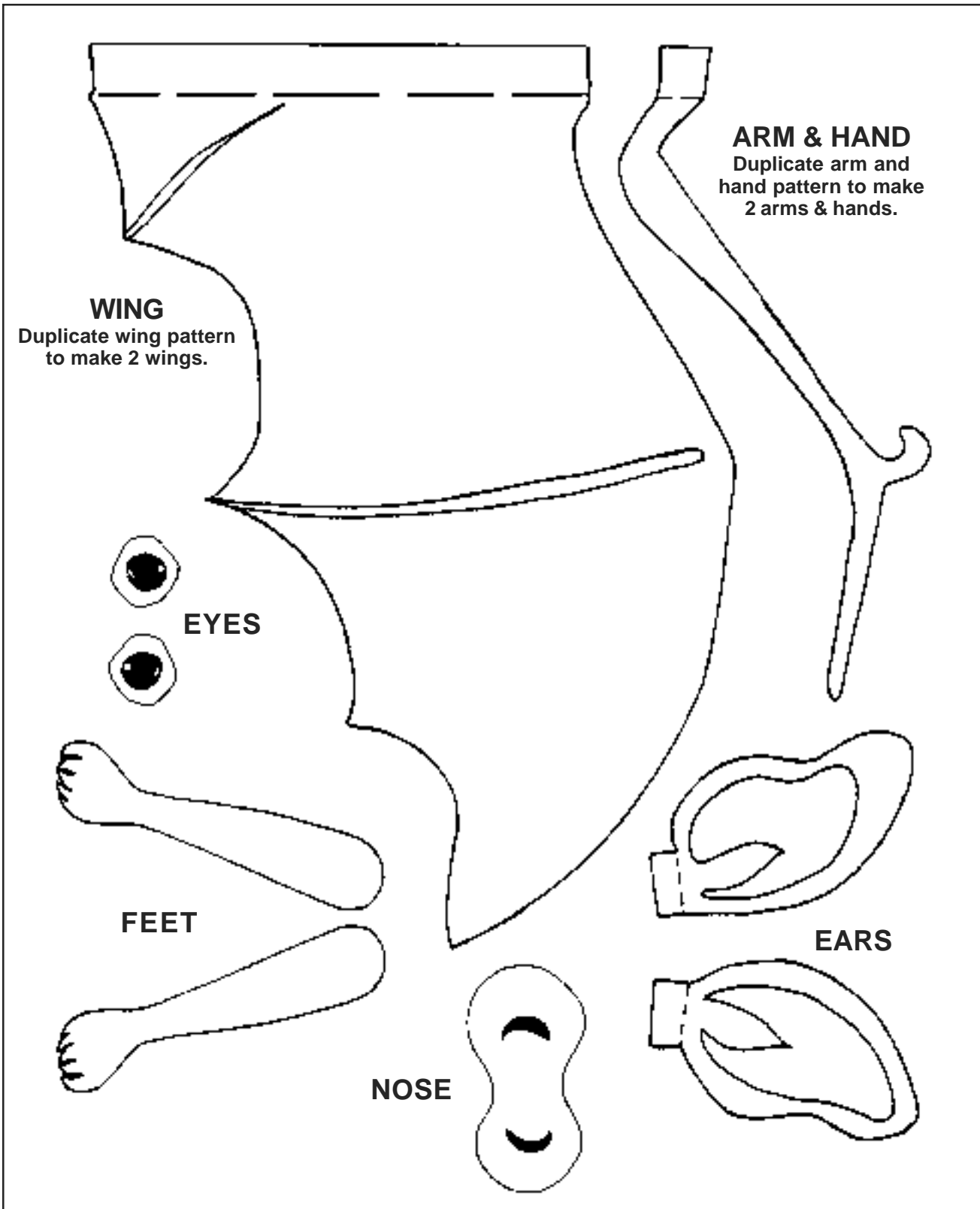
Break the students up into groups and ask them to create short puppet shows about bats. Give each group a certain adaptation or characteristic of bats such as echolocation, eating habits (insectivorous or frugivorous), flying, etc. Students can research their topics or the instructor may provide a discussion for the entire class. Have the students present their short puppet shows using puppets they have made to teach the entire class about their topics. Discuss "old wives tales" about bats with the students. Ask the students what "tales" (bats get stuck in your hair, suck blood, carry rabies, etc.) they have heard in the past and what they think about them now.

## NOTE:

When working with small children, some parts may be difficult for them to cut out. Simplify the shape of the part (a simple triangle for ears, etc.); precut that part for them, or delete the part. Some parts can be drawn by hand or colored instead.



# BAT PATTERN



**WING**  
Duplicate wing pattern  
to make 2 wings.

**ARM & HAND**  
Duplicate arm and  
hand pattern to make  
2 arms & hands.

**EYES**

**FEET**

**NOSE**

**EARS**