

Bat Classification & details (Big brown bat)

Scientific classification

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Mammalia
Order: Chiroptera
Family: Vespertilionidae
Genus: Eptesicus
Species: *E. fuscus*

Binomial name

Eptesicus fuscus



Scientific Name:
Eptesicus fuscus

Feeding Type:
Carnivore

Statistics: Height: 1
1/2- 2 1/2 in.

Weight: 12 – 20
grams

Kingdom: Animalia

The bats belong to the kingdom animalia. There are several species of bats. Included in this kingdom are birds, sponges, fish, and people. Bats are the only true flying mammals, eight species are found in. Some use buildings as alternate refuge.

Phylum: Chordata

The phylum chordata is a group of bilaterally symmetrical animals that have a notochord during at least one phase of development. Chordates include birds, fish, reptiles and mammals.

Class: Mammalia

Mammals are hairy, warm-blooded, milk-producing animals.

Group: Eutheria

This is one of the three groups of living mammals. Eutherian mammals are also known as placental mammals, because they give birth to live young, which are nourished before birth in the mother's placenta. This group includes insectivores, rodents and primates.

Order : Chiroptera

Bats are the only flying mammals. With nearly 1,000 species, bats account for approximately one quarter of all living mammalian species.

Bats are divided into two different Taxa:

Microchiroptera

Microchiroptera in general navigate by echolocation. They usually have short faces, well-developed tails, and do not have a claw on their second finger. These bats live all over the earth except for the Polar Regions. Contain 930 species in 17 families found from the tropics into temperate regions worldwide

Description

The big brown bat has glossy light brown hair, which comes in different shades. It also has a dark band across its squashed looking face. Its belly is pale, with very soft hair. The bat has very elegant, leathery looking wings.

Range

The tip of Alaska to southern Florida, southern and western Canada, Mexico, the West Indies, most of Central America and northern Colombia

Habitat

The big brown bat lives in cool, dry, dark places. Originally a forest dweller, the bat has had to adapt to human encroachment on its habitat and roosts in attics and barns. It sometimes hangs from trees or large cacti. During the winter, it roosts in abandoned tunnels and mine shafts or migrates to avoid winter temperatures.

Longevity

Wild - 15 years .Captive - 25 years

Prey/predator

Prey to nocturnal birds, snakes and humans. Predator to insects.

Diet

Mostly insects, it often gains a third or more of its weight in fat before hibernating.

Status

Many other species of bats are endangered or threatened with endangerment due to cave destruction and other environmental damage. Forty-three species of bats in North America are endangered or under consideration for listing as endangered. That is 53 percent of all North American bats.

Special notes:

The big brown bat comes in contact with people more than any other species of bat. Bats are the only true flying mammals. They have a remarkable homing ability; some individuals were released 250 miles from roosts and returned, averaging 50 miles each night. These hardy bats hibernate with body temperatures as low as 29 degrees Fahrenheit.

Baby bats are called "pups." A group of bats is called a "hanger."

The hanger of bats in caves facilitates the preservation of a body after death. The water that drips inside caves is heavily impregnated with minerals, slowing the rate of decay, and eventually forming a deposit over dead bats, so that dead bats become fossil deposits.

Big brown bats possess tails, while many other bat species do not.

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