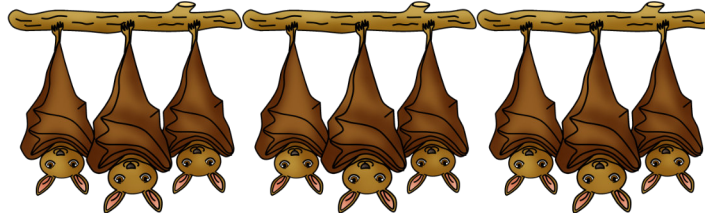


A Year in the Life of a Bat

January - February

Bats are all huddled together hibernating in their roosts.



March

Bats will start to emerge from their hibernation and go hunting for food. If there is a cold spell they will go back into a light form of hibernation.

April

Bats will now be moving between nesting sites and hunting for food.



May

The females will start to form colonies and search for suitable nursery sites together. The males roost in a separate site away from the females.

June

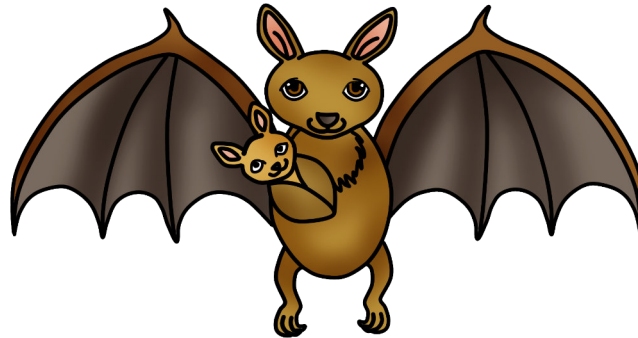
Female bats usually give birth to one pup. They feed the pup on their milk. Pups are very small with thin grey fur. They huddle together in the nursery while their mothers go hunting. The males are not involved in raising the pups.



A Year in the Life of a Bat

July

The pups are still drinking their mothers' milk and are either clinging to their mother or huddled together in their nursery.



August

The pups will start learning to fly and begin to hunt for their own insects.

September

Mating season begins and the bats start building up their fat supply for hibernation. Although bats mate in the autumn they only fall pregnant in the spring once they awake from their hibernation.

October

Bats continue building up their fat storage and start searching for roosting sites for the winter months.

November - December

Bats go into hibernation and should stay asleep until March.

