



**ESSEX**  
Wildlife Trust

Brown  
Long-eared  
Bat



GlaxoSmithKline

## Creatures of the night ~ Bats



Bats are small, flying mammals, with furry bodies and leathery wings. There are almost 1000 types of bat in the world, 17 of those live in Britain. All British bats are nocturnal, which means they are active at night and rest during the day. They use high pitched sounds to find their way around their habitat and catch flying insects for food.

## BAT CALENDAR - WHAT ARE BATS DOING NOW?

<b>JANUARY</b> Who says never sleep on a full stomach? Bats hibernate in winter using fat stores for fuel.	<b>FEBRUARY</b> Hibernating - please do not disturb Fat reserves running low.	<b>MARCH</b> Midnight munchies and nocturnal nibbles Signs of limited activity. Small numbers of bats feeding at night.	<b>APRIL</b> Feed Me! Active and hungry, but will retreat to their roost again if too cold.
<b>MAY</b> Broody Bats Now fully active, females are in search of a suitable nursery site.	<b>JUNE</b> New Arrivals! Baby bats (pups) are born.	<b>JULY</b> Rock a bye baby on a tree top Mothers suckle their young.	<b>AUGUST</b> The luv bat Females leave their nursery sites and seek males.
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> Snug as a bat in a tree trunk. Mating takes place. Bats build up fat stores for winter.	<b>OCTOBER</b> Mating continues and seeking hibernation sites.	<b>NOVEMBER</b> A quick forty winks Bats take longer naps and begin hibernation.	<b>DECEMBER</b> The big sleep Too cold now so bats go into hibernation.



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Visit us at  
[www.essexwt.org.uk](http://www.essexwt.org.uk)



We are celebrating our 50th birthday and you can join in the fun. Send us a list of 50 different types of wildlife you can find in your garden along with your name, age and address and we will send you a prize.



### YOU CAN HELP BATS— in towns or in the countryside

- Buy or make a bird box to put up in your garden.
- Put plants in your garden that attract night flying insects such as moths.
- Help to conserve bat habitats in Essex.
- Tell everybody what you have learnt about these amazing creatures.

## Come out and go wild with Essex Wildlife Trust



You can join us on a mini beast hunt, come crabbing or pond dipping, or create amazing pieces of art. Contact your nearest EWT visitor centre for activities in your area.

Abberton nr Colchester 01206 738172  
 Bedfords Park nr Romford 01708 748646  
 Chafford Gorges nr Thurrock 01375 484016  
 Fingringhoe nr Colchester 01206 729678

Hanningfield nr Chelmsford 01268 711001  
 Langdon nr Basildon 01268 419103  
 Thorndon nr Brentwood 01277 232944  
 General enquiries 01621 862991

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