



# Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary

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## SWAN LAKE BAT PROGRAM

The traveling bat program is a one-hour presentation that can be delivered in your classroom or at Swan Lake.

### In your classroom please provide:

- a) large easy-to-read student nametags
- b) student seating place for initial group presentation (carpet ideal), along with chair and desk or small table for adult presenter
- c) 2 station areas: These could be a set of desks, or a large table. One of these stations will also need space to prop or set up 4 large posters.

## GOALS

The goals of this program for your students are to:

- a) appreciate and respect bats, and the role they play in the environment.
- b) understand some of the biology of bats: their food, behaviour, unique structure, basic classification
- c) compare their body to that of a bat.

## INITIAL PRESENTATION 30 minutes

(1) The Naturalist will present a **dialogue** between a human and a bat (puppet). Ideally we will have a volunteer with us to do the human script, but if this is not possible, we ask that you, or another adult do this job. Mostly, it is a matter of the human asking the bat questions from the prepared script. If this is necessary, we will provide a copy of the script ahead of time.

(2) **Student Dress-up:** Various parts of bat anatomy will be explained as a selected student is dressed.

(3) **Bat Grab Bag:** Students will pull an article from the bag, and the Naturalist will help them see how the object relates to bats.

## STATIONS - 30 minutes

Please have your class divided into three groups. Each group will visit all three stations. All students will have their own *Comparing Bats to Me* booklet to record information

- Station 1:     Compare bat wings to human hands  
                  Learn about the sizes of some bats  
                  Look at bat pictures and books

- Station 2: Learn what bats eat  
Sample some "bat fruit" (Dole brand juice, containing pineapple, orange, banana and lemon juice)  
The students weigh themselves, and learn how much food they would eat daily if they were a bat
- Station 3: Examine some boxed freeze-dried bat specimens  
Examine some bat skulls  
Learn about echolocation with a tuning fork

At **no** time will any bats be handled. We will address this issue in our presentation. All our specimens are kept in the freezer, in plastic see-through boxes.

### **Payment**

An invoice will accompany the confirmation letter you receive. **Payment** is due at the time of the program, and cheques should be made out to **Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary** and given to the programmer. **VISA or MC** can be phoned in.

**Receipts** will be sent by mail the week following your program date.

### **Change of Dates and/or Times**

If you wish to change the date or time of your program please contact **Scott Mair at 250.479.0211** or at [programs@swanlake.bc.ca](mailto:programs@swanlake.bc.ca). We will do our best to accommodate your request, depending on available times and dates.

If you have any questions or comments about the program don't hesitate to contact me; we always welcome your feedback.

Scott Mair  
Program Manager

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