

Hibernating Bats

Another animal that hibernates is the bat. January is a cold winter month, meaning the bats are in hibernation. They look for a warm place to quietly roost, away from human activities. When bats are hibernating they lower their heart rate, metabolic rate, they slower their breathing and even lower their temperatures. A hibernating bat uses very little of its stored fats and could survive for a long time without any or very little movements.

Items needed:

- 1 Brown construction paper
- 1 clothespin
- brown or black markers
- 2 very small googly eyes
- glue
- 1 brown paper bag (medium size)

Instructions:

1. Have the kids color their clothespins brown or black and set them aside to dry. While the clothespins are drying, trace the bat shape onto brown construction paper and then cut it out.

2. Next step is to glue the clothespin onto the bat body. Now you want to make sure that that clip end is hanging out so that it will hang upside down from the clothesline. And then we glue on the eyeballs.



3. Final part is to bring the wings together in front and glue. I found it a little easier to do by squashing it down on either side, making a slight crease. The kids will need help with this part depending on their age. Our group is between ages 4 and 5.



4. Draw a half circle on the bottom half of the paper bag (only on 1 side) that will be big enough for the bat to be seen. Cut out the half circle. Make sure that when cutting, only one side of the paper bag is being cut.



5. Create a hole on each side of the bag to tape a piece of yarn from one end to another. The yarn will be inside the bag. The bat will be hanging from the yarn inside the bag.

6. Final step is to hang them upside down on the clothesline so they could sleep. The kids can't wait to take this project home!