

Pop Quiz!

How well do you know our bats?

Fill in the blank.

1. How many mosquito-sized insects can one Little Brown Bat eat in one hour? _____
2. How many mosquito-sized insects can one electric bug zapper kill in one hour? _____
3. Mother bats with babies eat a LOT of food. In human terms, a mother bat eats the equivalent of how many large pizzas per day? _____

Multiple choice. Choose one answer.

4. Which one of the following bat species do NOT live in the U.S.?
 - A. Mexican Free-tailed Bat
 - B. Little Brown Bat
 - C. Vampire Bat
 - D. Big Brown Bat
5. How long do our bats normally live?
 - A. 3-5 years
 - B. 5-10 years
 - C. 10-30 years
6. How many babies do our bats usually have per year?
 - A. 1, every other year
 - B. 1 per year
 - C. Between 3 and 6 per year
 - D. Between 7 and 12 per year
7. How do bats drink?
 - A. They don't – they get all the water they need from their food.
 - B. They drink condensation or rain from tree leaves
 - C. They land on the ground and drink from puddles, streams, etc.
 - D. They drink while flying over water
8. In the winter, where do most of our bats go?
 - A. Belfries
 - B. Attics
 - C. Caves & mines
 - D. Tree cavities
 - E. Mexico
9. Little Brown bats are very particular about where they have their babies, especially with regard to temperature. What temperature do mother bats prefer to give birth and raise their babies?
 - A. 70-80 degrees F
 - B. 80-90 degrees F
 - C. 90-100 degrees F
10. Bats are most closely related to...
 - A. Mice
 - B. Lemurs
 - C. Moles
 - D. Flying squirrels
11. Scientists have discovered a powerful anticoagulant in Vampire Bat saliva that is used to treat stroke and heart attack patients. What is the name of this anticoagulant?
 - A. Chiropterin
 - B. Lepirudin
 - C. Draculin

12. Merlin Tuttle, the founder of Bat Conservation International, the world's leading bat research & conservation organization, recently stated that _____ is 'the worst wildlife crisis documented in North America in the last century'*.
- A. Bat declines due to loss of habitat
 - B. Bat deaths due to White Nose Syndrome (WNS)
 - C. Bat declines due to the use of pesticides
 - D. Bat deaths due to being disturbed while hibernating
13. First spotted in February 2006 in New York State, WNS has killed how many bats?
- A. Just under 10,000
 - B. Around 100,000
 - C. 500,000 - 1,000,000
14. What is the mortality rate of bats at hibernation sites affected with WNS?
- A. 25-50%
 - B. 50%-75%
 - C. 75%-100%

Choose *all* the correct answers:

15. What do our local bats eat?
- A. Berries and Fruit
 - B. Moths
 - C. Earthworms
 - D. Mosquitoes
 - E. Beetles
 - F. Bees/Wasps
 - G. Caterpillars
 - H. Flies
16. In the summer, where do our bats sleep during the day (besides bat houses)?
- A. They hang from tree branches
 - B. On the bark of live trees
 - C. Under the bark of dead trees
 - D. In tree cavities
 - E. In caves
 - F. In cliff/rock crevices
 - G. In bridge crevices
17. What are the most important features of bats' winter roosts?
- A. Temperature above 50 degrees F
 - B. Temperature between 34 and 50 degrees F
 - C. High humidity
 - D. Low humidity
 - E. Close to water

*This is a very serious situation:

“White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) is a devastating disease of hibernating bats that has caused the most precipitous decline of North American wildlife in recorded history. Since it was first discovered in 2006, WNS has infected six species of insect-eating bats in the northeastern and southern U.S., causing declines approaching 100% in some populations; estimated losses have exceeded one million bats over the past three years. **If the spread of WNS is not slowed or halted, further losses could lead to the extinction of entire species and could more than quadruple those that are federally listed as endangered in the U.S. Such losses alone are expected to have unprecedented consequences on ecosystem health throughout North America, with unknown economic consequences.** Most bat species in North America feed on night-flying insects, of which many are pests of forests, agriculture, and garden crops or pose risks to human health. The number of insects consumed annually by one million bats is staggering—equivalent to 694,456 tons—emphasizing the extraordinary value of these bats to the normal function of both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Establishment of a national comprehensive research program is urgently needed to identify underlying mechanisms causing WNS and to develop sound management solutions.” – Consensus statement from 5/28/09 WNS Science Strategy meeting in Austin, Texas.
http://www.caves.org/WNS/Hearing_090604/testimony_tuttle.pdf

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