

## **Hanging Bat Crafts – Easy to create and full of character!**

Night falls, the shadows lengthen over the Fraser River, and nocturnal critters come out to play! Did you know that there are 16 species of bats that call British Columbia home? Many of them live right here in the Basin!









Bats are fascinating but sadly misunderstood creatures, often seen as creepy or scary. In fact, they play an important role keeping the Basin's insect population under control!

To celebrate our winged bat buddies this Halloween, we have put together a simple and engaging craft activity that everyone can try out!

With just a few materials, you can create as many bats as you like!



### **Here's what you need:**

-  **Cardboard Tube** – A kitchen roll cut in half or an empty toilet paper roll would work great!
-  **Black or brown Tempera paint and a paintbrush**
-  **Black or Brown construction paper**
-  **Black Pipe Cleaner**
-  **Scissors**
-  **A Single Hole Punch**
-  **Glue stick**
-  **Googly eyes**

## Let's Get Started!

### 1. Paint your cardboard tube

The tube will be the **body** of our bat, so we want to make sure we paint it an appropriate colour! For this guide we're suggesting black or brown paint, but if you're feeling adventurous you can go online and look up photos of real-life bats for inspiration!



### 2. Draw some bat wings on your construction paper.

This is good to do while you're waiting for your cardboard tube to dry. Make them as wild or as simple as you like, but **make sure they fit the cardboard body!**

Once you're happy with your wing design, **carefully cut them out with your scissors** and glue them to the back of your tube.



### 3. Cut some little triangles from your construction paper

**These will be your bat ears!** If you want to try to make your ears look more realistic, you can always research real bats for inspiration – but triangles will do nicely otherwise!

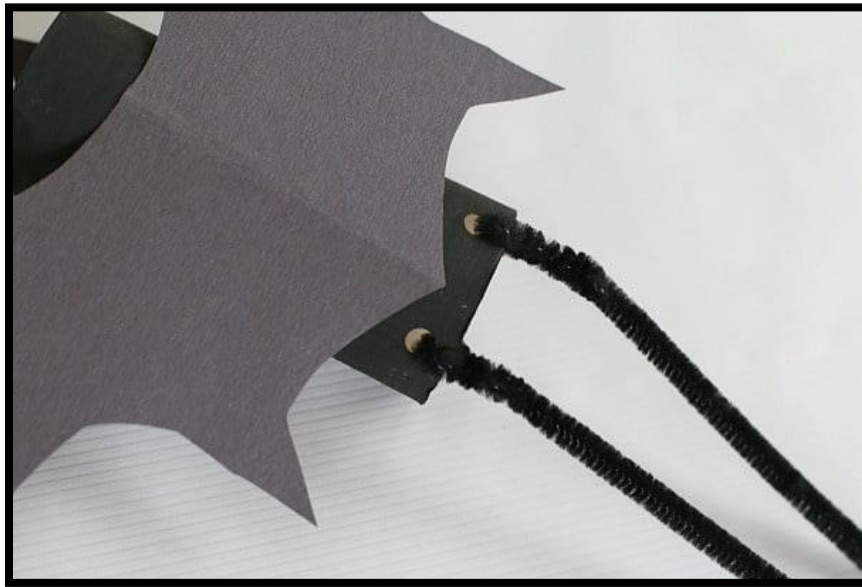
### 4. Glue the ears and google eyes onto your bat's body, and draw a mouth with your marker.



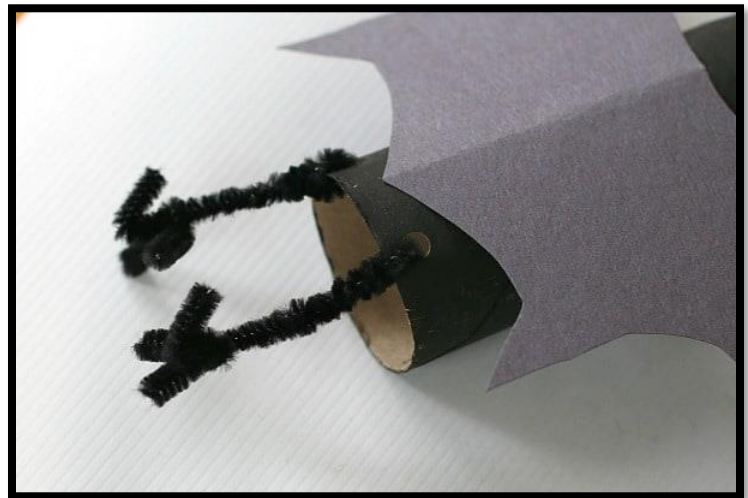
### 5. Use the hole punch to create two evenly spaced holes in the bottom of your tube.

These will be where you thread your pipe cleaner through to create your bat legs, so try to make them as even as you can! Don't worry if it isn't perfect – you can adjust your pipe cleaner to make the legs the same length.

**6. Cut a black pipe cleaner in half, and twist one end of each pipe cleaner through each hole in your tube.**



To make the feet, snip the last inch of each leg and wrap these one-inch pieces of pipe cleaner around the bottom of each leg. Adjust the bat's feet so that they will hook onto something and hang upside down.



Now your bat is ready to hang!

Let us know how your crafting went! Share your Wild Crown online and tag us @thefrfdc to help us find you!

Stay safe and happy crafting!

