



Teacher's Notes: Bat Festival

General Tips: The goal is to build background knowledge while leading an engaging discussion on any and all information that can be talked about on a given page. The items that you choose to bring up or focus on can be modified for the students you are working with. For example, if you have a student who can point to something in the picture, answer yes/no questions be sure to incorporate a lot more of that as you go through the book. On the same token, be sure to ask a lot of comprehension questions and critical thinking questions at the level appropriate for students working on those skills. There is something for everyone.

Addressing problem solving: Throughout the e-book, help students identify the problems that are involved and choice making opportunities throughout the article.

Page 1: Austin is a city in Texas. It's a big city. One of the things that they are known for are bats. They have a million of them **Point:** Your state, Texas, Austin, bats **Questions:** What is a bat? What city do you live in? What city do these bats live in? Why do you think the bats live there in the summer? **Connect:** Have you been to Texas? What is the weather like in the summer?

Page 2: The bats sleep under the bridge that is in Austin. Bats sleep in the day. They sleep upside down. **Point:** bat, where they would sleep under bridge, bridge, water **Questions:** Where do the bats sleep? When do they sleep? What city is that bridge in? **Connect:** When do you sleep? Why do we have bridges? Do we have any in our town?

Page 3: Bats sleep all day, and then when it starts to get dark they wake up. When they wake up they fly away to go look for insects to eat. There are a million of them, so they are fun to watch fly out from under the bridge. **Point:** bats, sky, bridge, people **Questions:** Would you like to see the bats fly from under the bridge? Do people like to watch it? Why? **Connect:** What other animals fly?

Page 4: There is a festival to celebrate the bats in Austin. A festival is like a big event where there are a lot of things to do. It is on August 18th. **Point:** Month of August, 18th, bats, buildings, boat, trees, water. **Questions:** What day is today? Is the festival coming up, or is it over? **Connection:** Have you ever been to a festival?

Page 5: At the festival, people come to watch the bats Some are standing on the bridge, some are sitting down looking at the bridge. **Point:** bridge, buildings, people, grass, bats **Questions:** What do the people want to see? Why? Where are they standing? Where are they sitting? **Connect:** Have you watched something at a festival before? Would you like watching bats fly?

Page 6: Some people at the festival like to ride a boat to see the bats fly out in the evening. You can buy a ticket to do that. **Point:** ferry boat, flag, people, bridge, bats, people standing on the bridge **Questions:** What are some people riding on? What is a tour? Would you rather be on the boat or the bridge? **Connect:** Have you been on a boat ride?

Page 7: You can buy food at a festival. People bring food trucks or have a tent with food. You can buy it. **Point:** tents, food, umbrella, people, flags **Questions:** Was there more in her ear? Did the doctor get all the roach out? **Connect:** What do doctors do?

Page 8: Sometimes people wear bat costumes to the Festival. You do not have to, but it is fun. **Point:** boy with mask, batman symbol, girl with costume bat statue, buildings, gloves **Questions:** why are they wearing a costume? Do you have to wear a costume? **Connect:** Have you ever worn a costume? What costumes have you seen people dress up as for Halloween?

Page 9: The bats live in Austin in the summer. In the winter they leave because it is too cold. They fly south for the winter. In the spring they fly back to Austin again. The bats fly down to Mexico or further. **Point:** Map, arrow showing where the bats fly, bats in the sky **Questions :** Why do the bats leave Austin for the winter? When do they come back? Where do they live when they get to Austin? **Connect:** Have you ever been to Mexico?