



Science

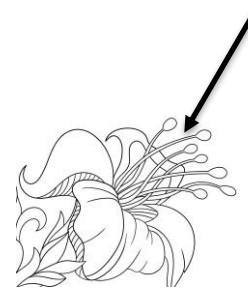
## Bats Pollinate Flowers



By Janet Giel-Romo, Ed.D.

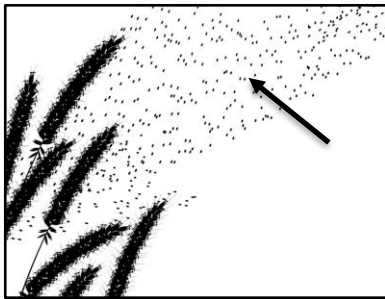


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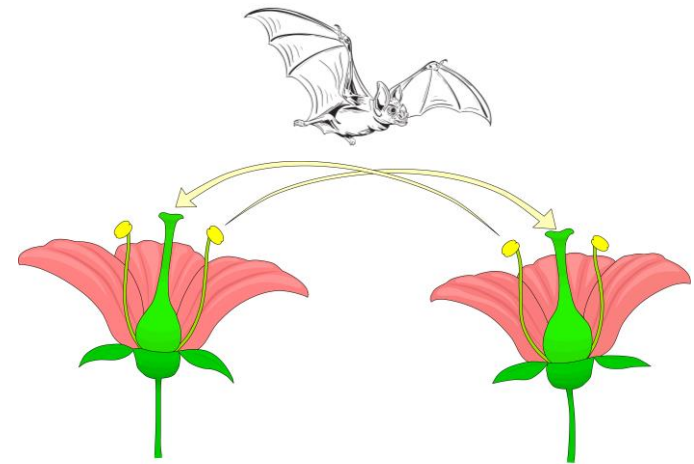


Fruit bats are awake at **night**.  
They look for flowers and fruit.

Fruit bats drink **nectar** from  
flowers. Pollen gets on their  
faces.



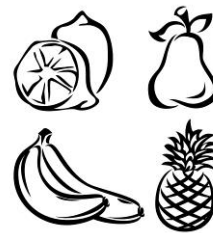
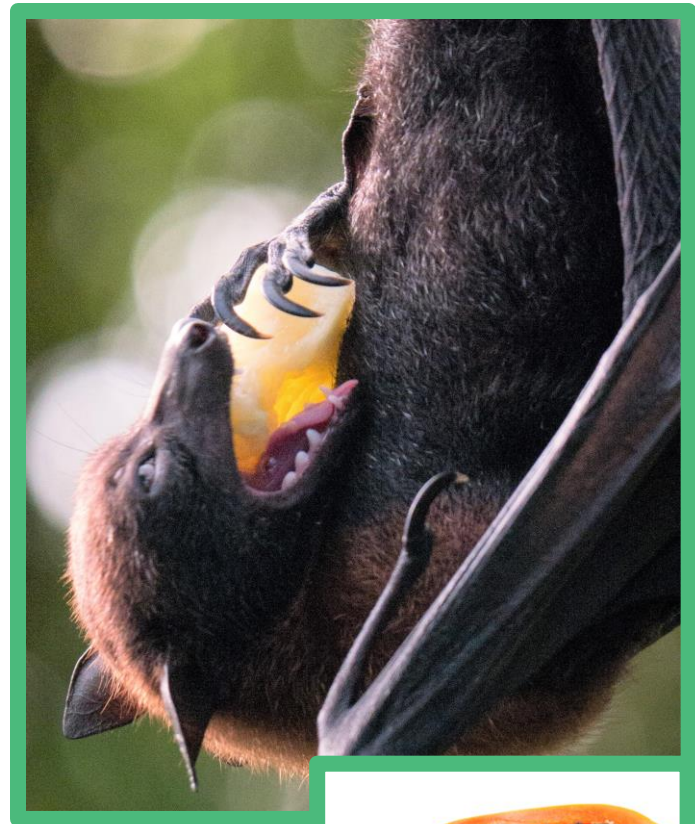
Then the bat flies to another flower. The **pollen** on its face gets in the new flower.



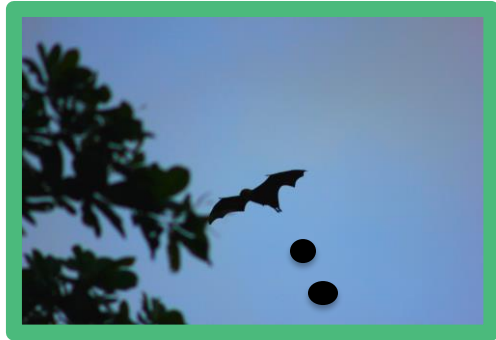
When pollen from one flower gets inside another flower, it **pollinates** the flower.



Some **pollinated** flowers grow fruit. Fruit has seeds in it.



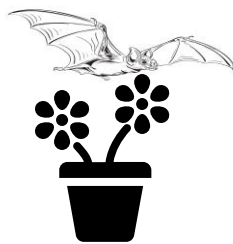
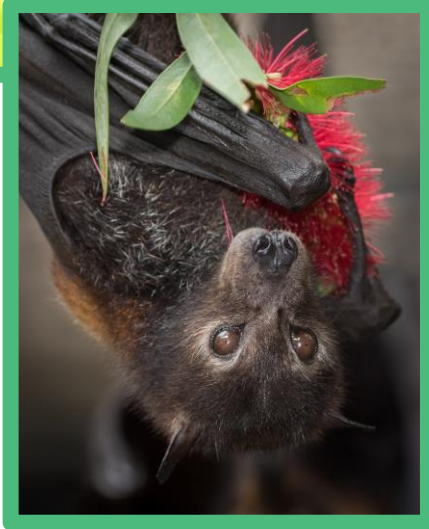
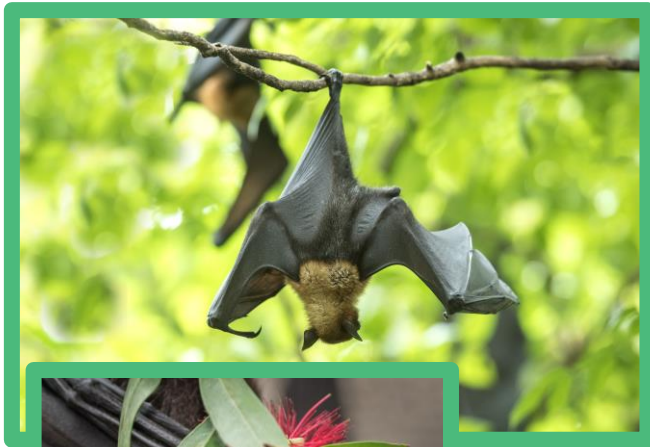
Fruit bats like to eat fruit. They also eat the seeds!



Bats **poop** when they are flying. Seeds from the fruit are in the poop. It lands on the ground.



The seeds in the poop grow new **plants**.



Bats need flowers for nectar.  
Flowers need bats for pollination.  
This is called **mutualism**.



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