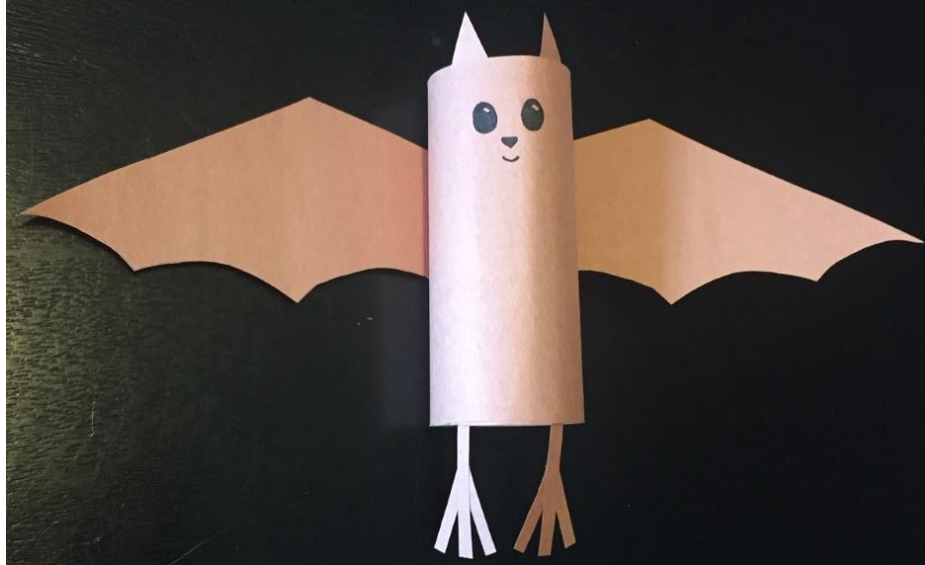


## Bat TP tube craft



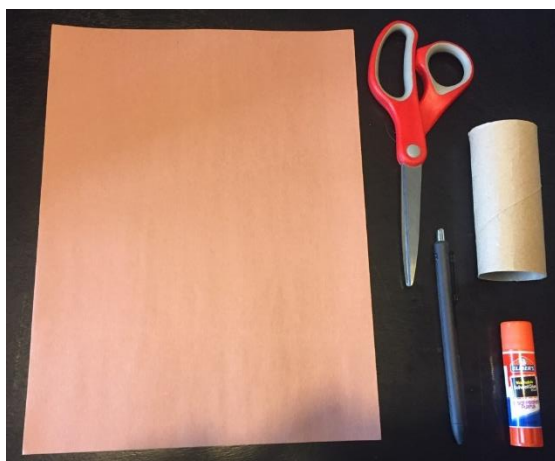
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First, a little background on bats. Bats are really important parts of their ecosystems. Some bats, like Stellulara from the story we read yesterday, eat fruit. Fruit bats disperse the seeds of the fruit that they eat so that more fruit trees can grow. Other types of bats eat nectar. Nectar eating bats move pollen between the flowers that they are eating from, so they are pollinators, just like bees. Bats that live in our local area eat insects, helping to control the insect populations.

Bats are nocturnal, meaning they are awake at night, so they are generally dark in color. Many bats are brown or black to help them stay hidden in the dark.

Now that we know a little more about bats, we can make our own bats!

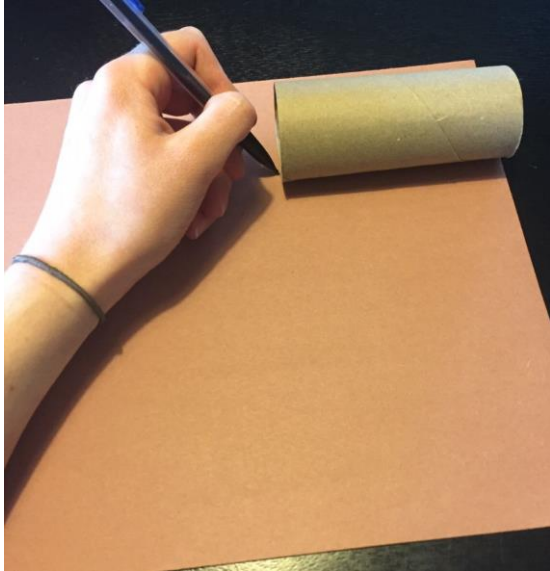


### Materials:

- A toilet paper tube
- 1-3 colors of construction paper (or white paper to color)
- 2 pipe cleaners or strips of paper you can make into feet
- Scissors
- Tape or glue
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers



Our bat starts with the body. Find a piece of paper that is the color you want and cut it to be the same height as your TP tube. This will make up your bat's body. If you don't have colored paper, use white paper and color it in. If you want to model your bat after the bat from our book yesterday, you should use brown paper for your body.



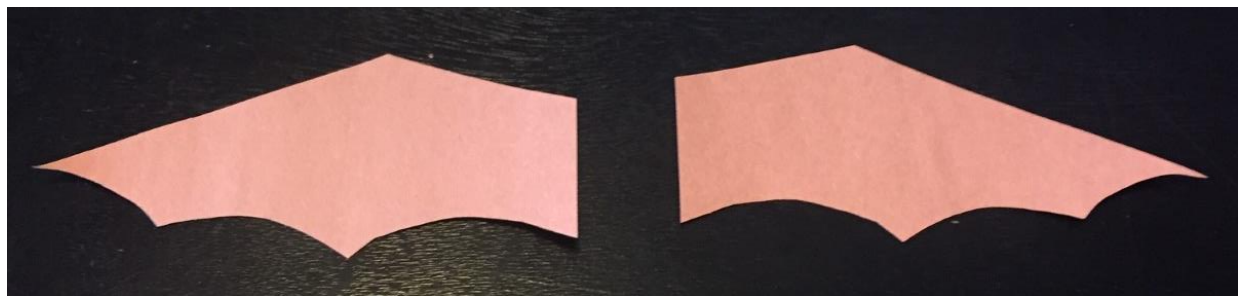
Glue or tape your paper around your TP tube.



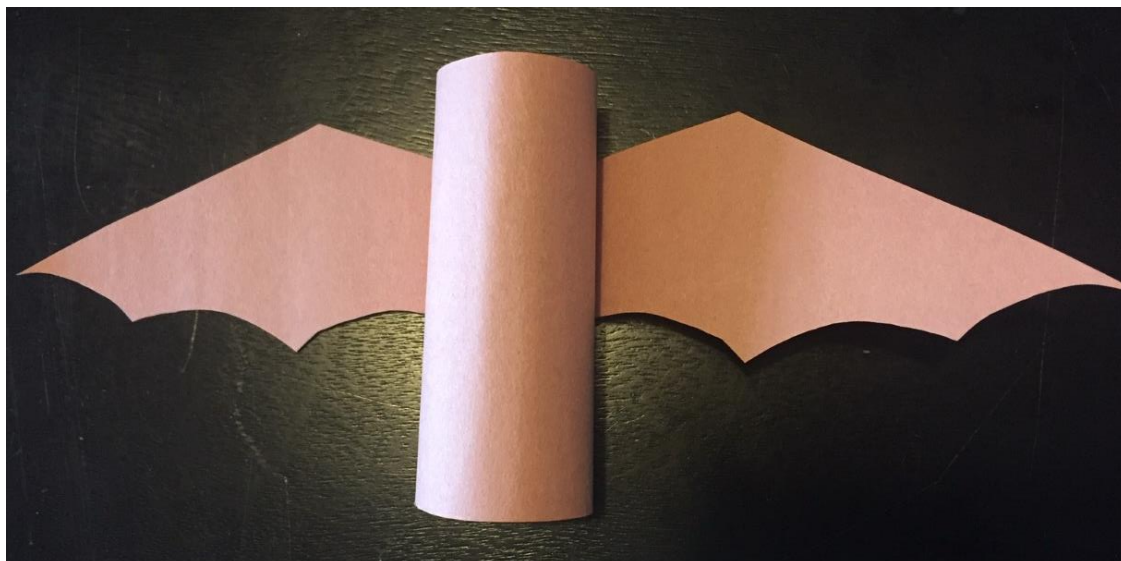


Next, we need to cut out some wings for our bats. Choose a color paper or use white paper and color it whatever color you want your bat's wings to be. If you are modeling your bat after the bat from our book yesterday, you should use brown paper for your bat's wings. Fold your paper in half and draw a wing shape on it like the one pictured below.

Cut out this shape with the paper folded to give you two mirrored wings.



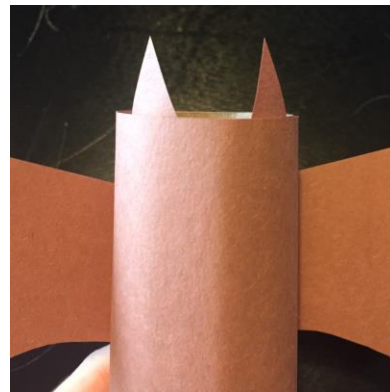
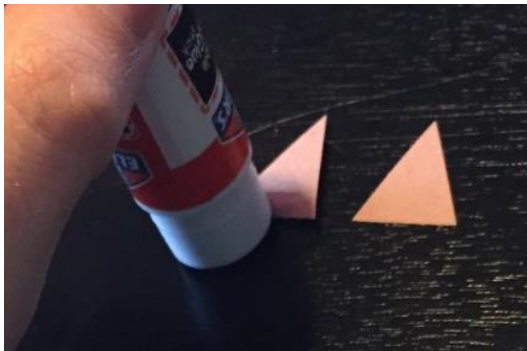
Glue or tape these wings to the back of your bat's body.



Now, we need to give our bat some ears. Choose a color of paper for your bat's ears, you will probably want this to match your bat's wings. Cut out two small triangles for the ears.



Glue or tape your ears on the inside of your tube so they poke out the top of the bat's body on the front side. Make sure to draw your bat a face as well.

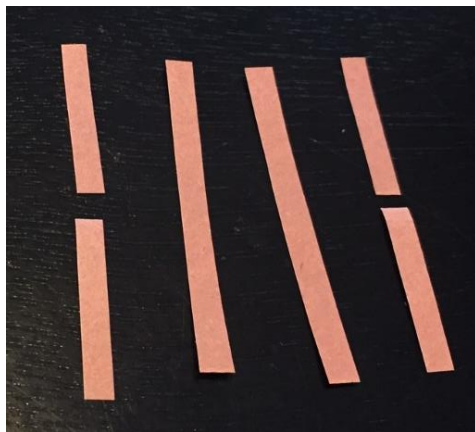


We're almost done!

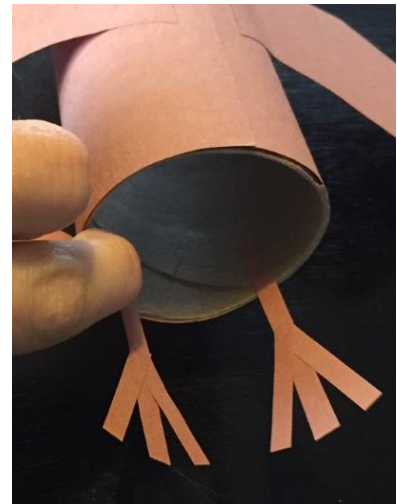
Last, we need to give our bat some feet. If you are making a bat like the one from our story yesterday, you should use brown pipe cleaners or paper for your feet.

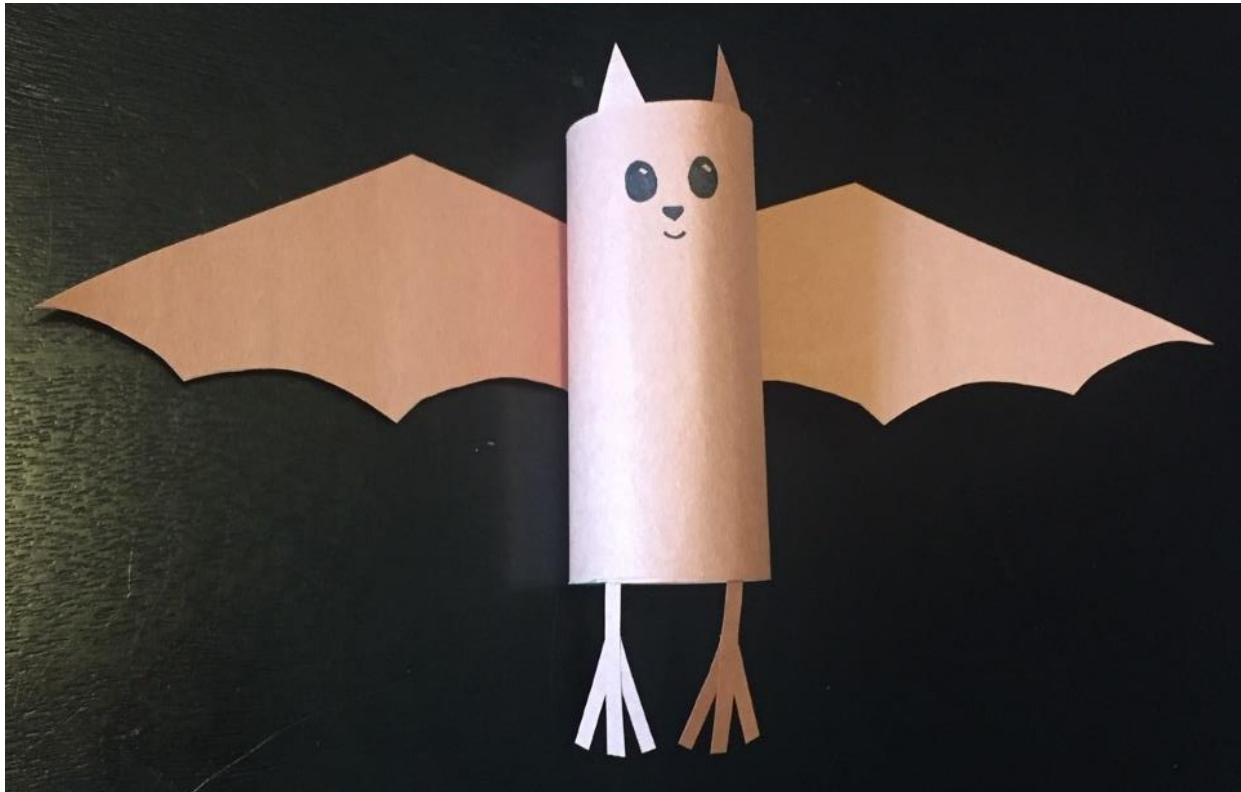
If you are using pipe cleaners, cut four pieces that are about 2 inches long. Take one of those, fold it in half and wrap the middle around the middle of one of the other pieces you just cut, so three end of pipe cleaner are pointing down and one is pointing up. Repeat this for the other foot.

If you are using paper cut two strips that are about 2 inches long and four strips that are about 1 inch long. Glue or tape two of the 1 inch pieces onto one of the 2 inch pieces about halfway up, as pictured below. Repeat this for the other foot.



Glue or tape the top part of your bat's feet into the tube of its body so that the bottom part with the three toes on each foot are still sticking out.





You did it! Congrats on finishing your very own bat TP tube! Now you can have it act like a bat. You could try flying with your bat around your house, or hang it upside down like a bat would sleep!

If you have forgotten what the bat in the book did, feel free to watch the reading again at [senecaparkzoo.org/zooprojects](https://senecaparkzoo.org/zooprojects)