

Fruit-eating bat



Insect-eating bat

South Asian Bats Colouring Book



Credits

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Publishers: Zoo Outreach Organisation ZOO & Chiroptera
Conservation and Information Network of South Asia CCINSA

Sponsor: Bat Conservation International BCI

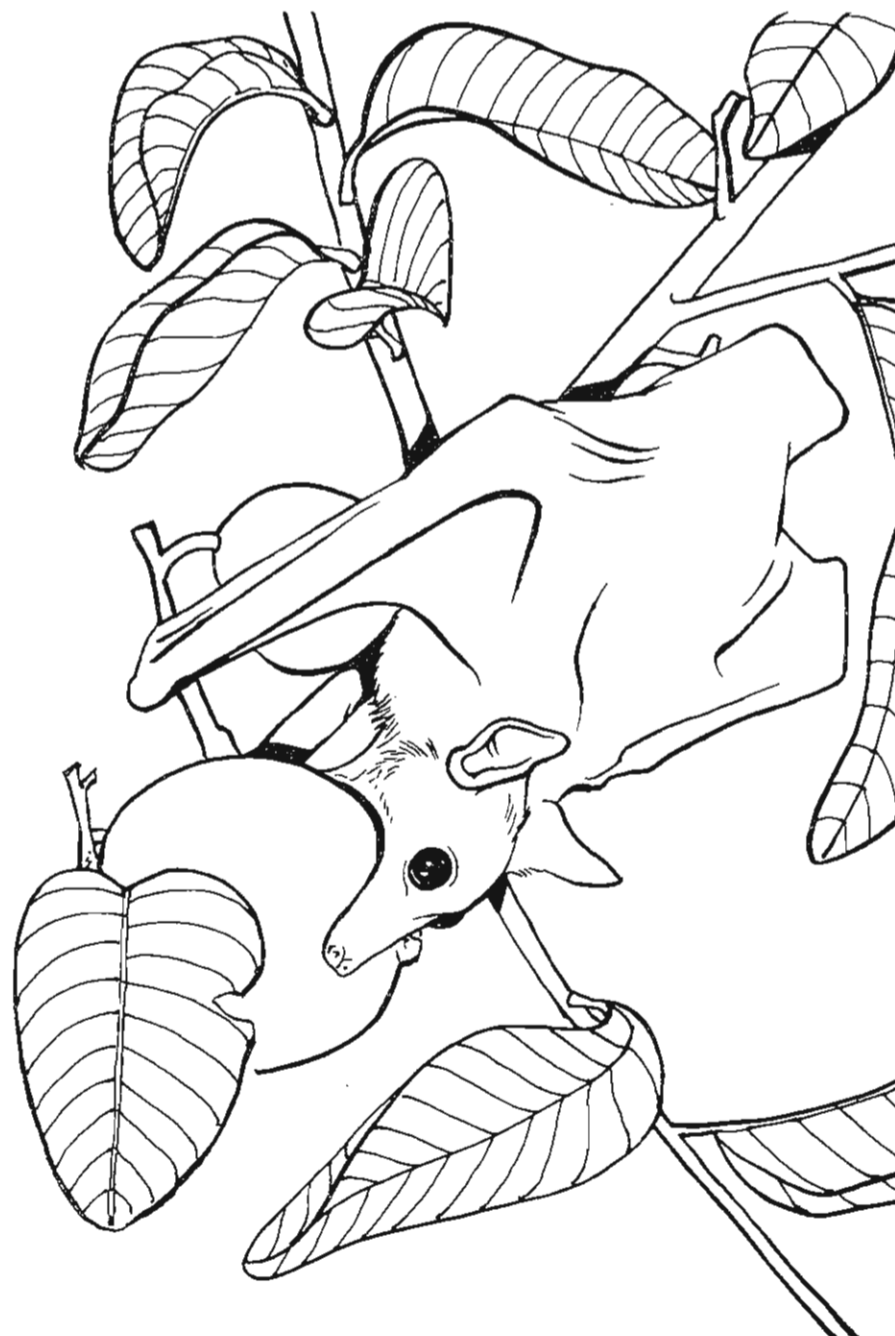
ZOO's Education Booklet number: 25

Publication date: May 2008 (Revised)

Colour instructions

Bats come in an amazing diversity of shapes, sizes and colours. They are mostly black or brown, but they can also be bright orange, yellow, silver, white or grey. Some have spots and stripes on their body or wings.

Read the colour code given for the bat and use it to colour that bat on the same page. Also colour the background.



Hi kids !

This book means to do two things:

1. to teach you about South Asian bats
2. to help you have a lot of fun learning

There are two major kinds of bats:

Fruit-eating bats (Megachiroptera) and
Insect-eating bats (Microchiroptera).

You can learn about them in this book.



South Asia is a region that contains these countries:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal,
Pakistan and Sri Lanka. All of them have bats. The scientific
name for "bat" is Chiroptera which means 'handwing' in Latin.

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Fruit-eating bats

Megachiroptera -- 'Mega' means BIG and 'Chiroptera' means Bats.

Look at the fruit-eating bats on the next few pages. See, they
are named in different ways. These names are given by scientists

Can you count the ways? List them here

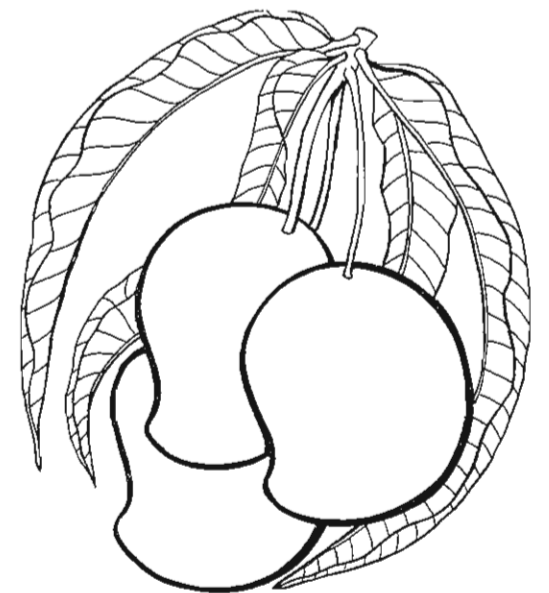
Bats have two names.

1. A scientific name
2. A common name -- look for these names
beside the drawings of the bat. Colour all
these bats and the background.

Try to remember their names.

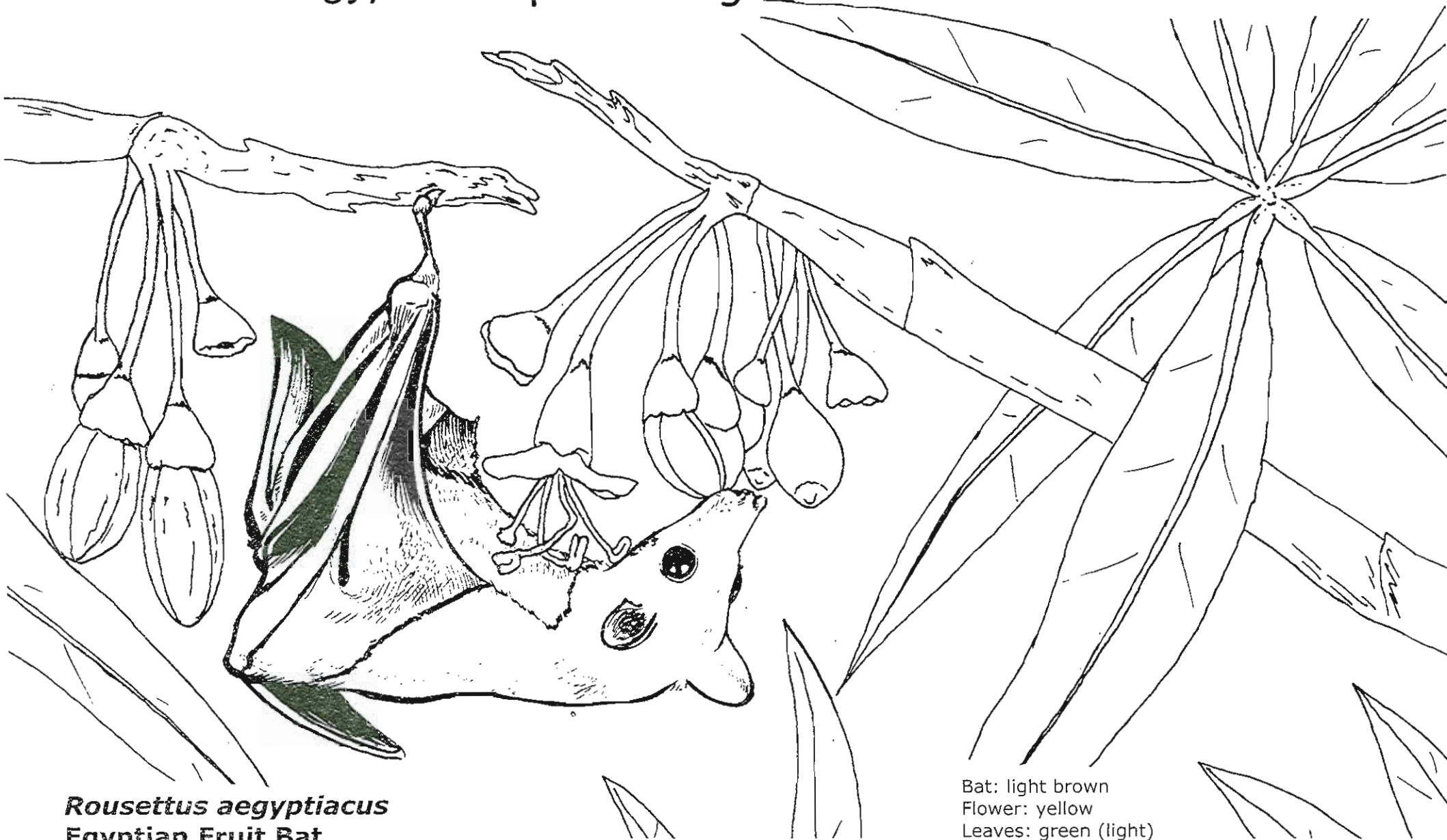
Fruit-eating bats feed primarily on plant
materials. They eat either fruit, nectar or pollen.

In South Asia there are 13 kinds or species of fruit-eating bats.



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Bats play a major role in pollination. See below
Rousettus aegyptiacus pollinating the flower of Silk cotton tree



Rousettus aegyptiacus
Egyptian Fruit Bat

Bat: light brown
Flower: yellow
Leaves: green (light)
Branch: brown

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Fruit-eating bats
sometimes seem like
they are consuming our
food but this is not so...

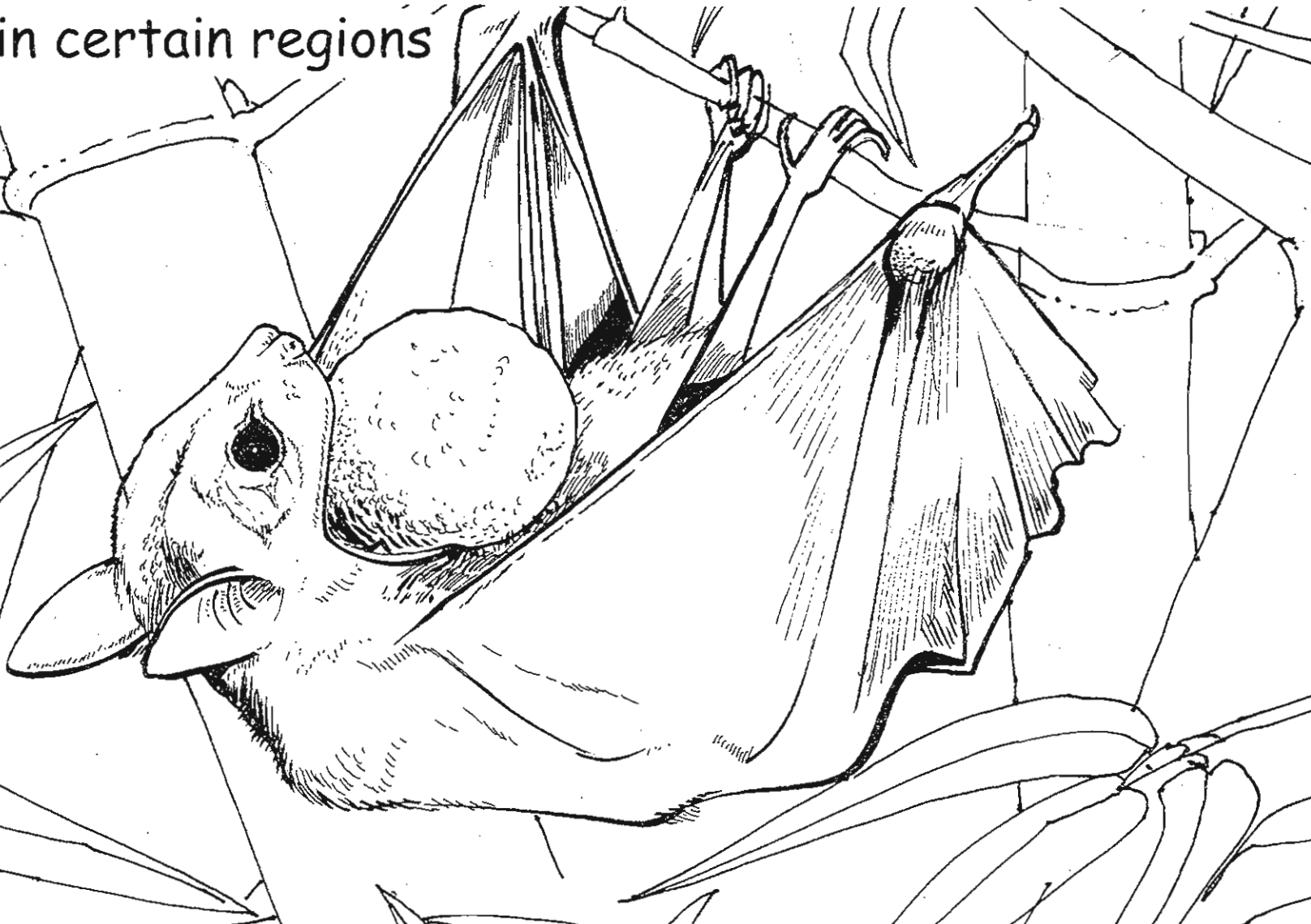
They consume very
little food compared to
the amount of food
they make possible by
pollinating food plants

Cynopterus sphinx
Short-nosed (Indian) Fruit Bat

Bat: light brown; Banana: green
Stem: light green; Inflorescence: yellow & maroon
Leaves: dark green

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Some bats are called endemic species since they are found **ONLY** in certain regions



Bat: light brown
Fruit: red
Bamboo: yellow
Leaves: green

***Latidens salimalii* (Salim Ali's Fruit Bat)**
Endemic to Western Ghats

Bats pollinate and disperse seeds. They are essential for the survival of plants and animals

Bat: light brown
Fruit: red; Bamboo: yellow
Leaves: green



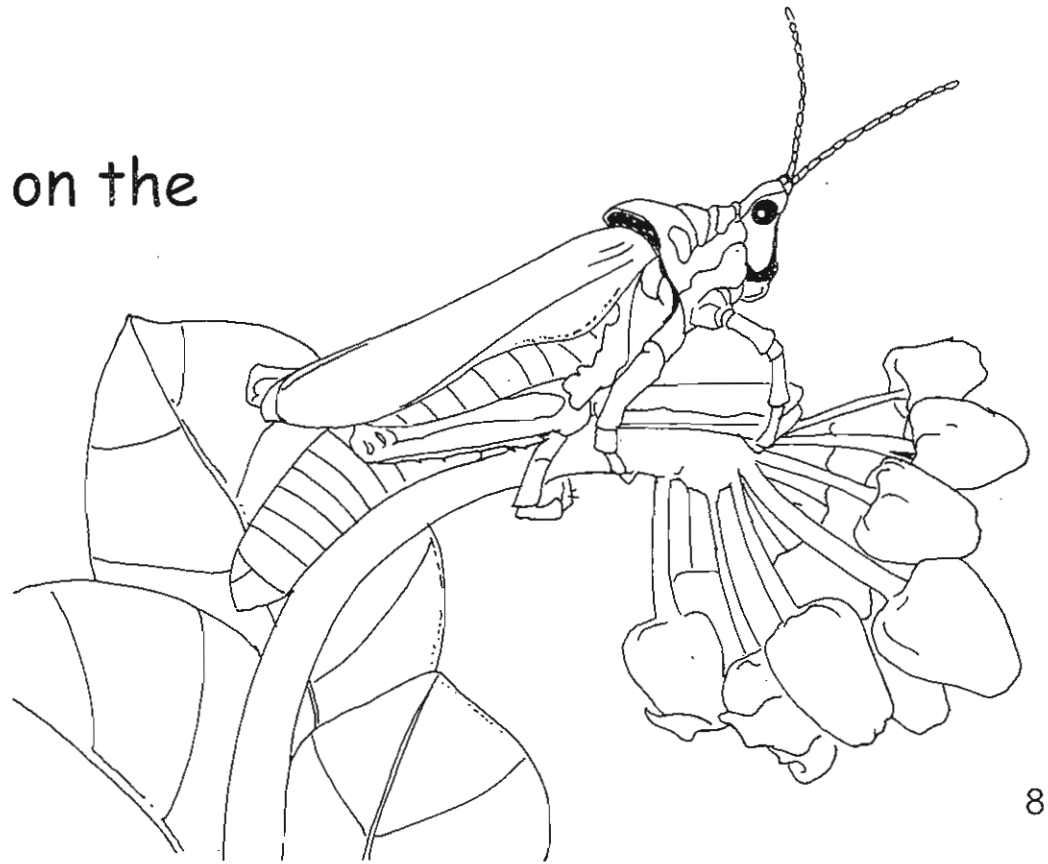
Insect-eating bats

Microchiroptera -- Micro means SMALL and Chiroptera means Bats. These bats feed on insects like mosquitoes, bugs & beetles. They echolocate to navigate and they have large ears. Echolocation means determining the location of something by measuring the time it takes for an echo to return from it. These bats use their ears to "see"

Look at the Insect-eating bats on the next few pages

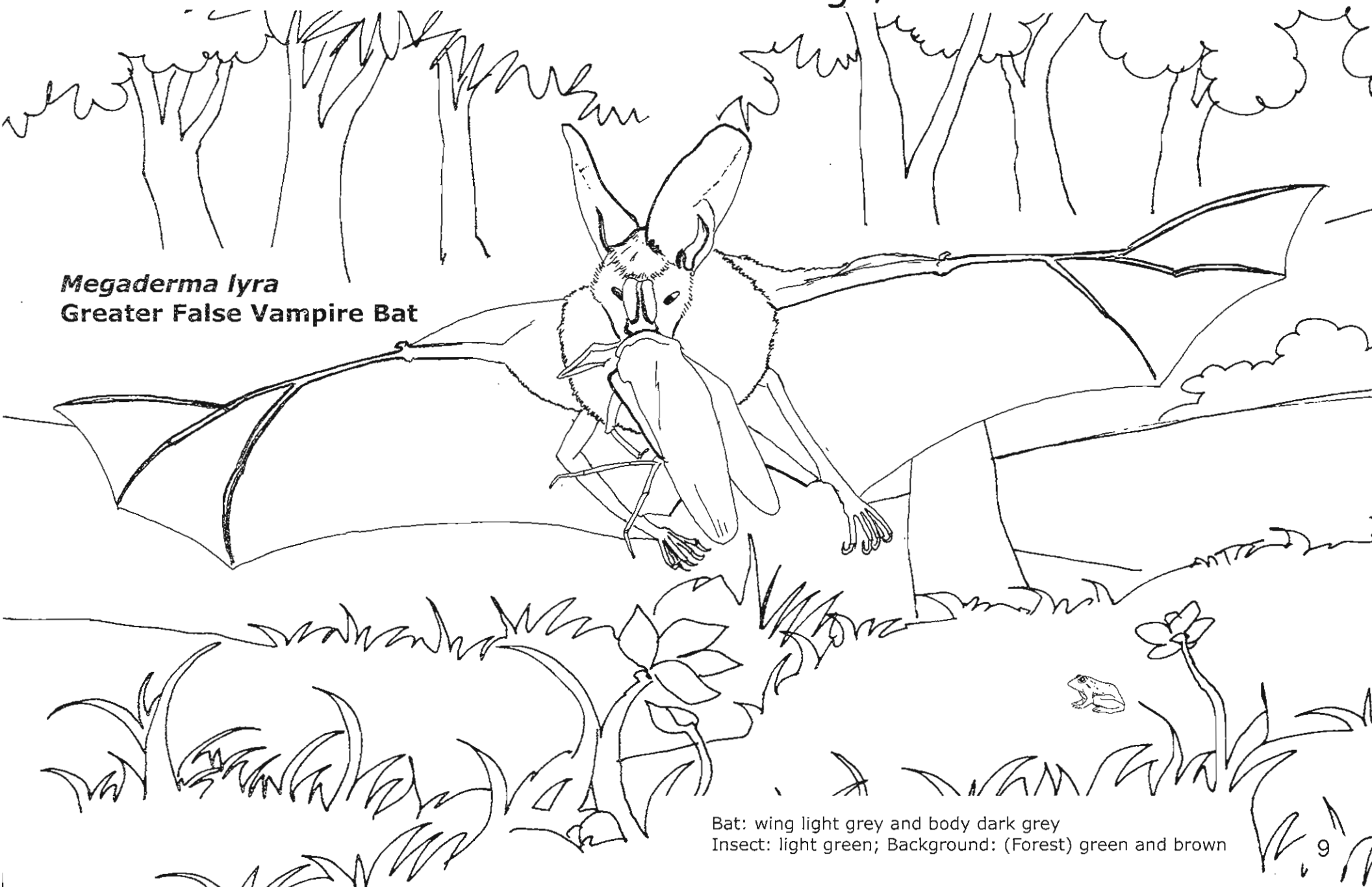
Colour all these bats and the background

Try to remember their names



8

Insect-eating bats control many insect pest. Some of the same bats also feed on small animals like frogs, mice & rats



Megaderma lyra
Greater False Vampire Bat

Bat: wing light grey and body dark grey
Insect: light green; Background: (Forest) green and brown

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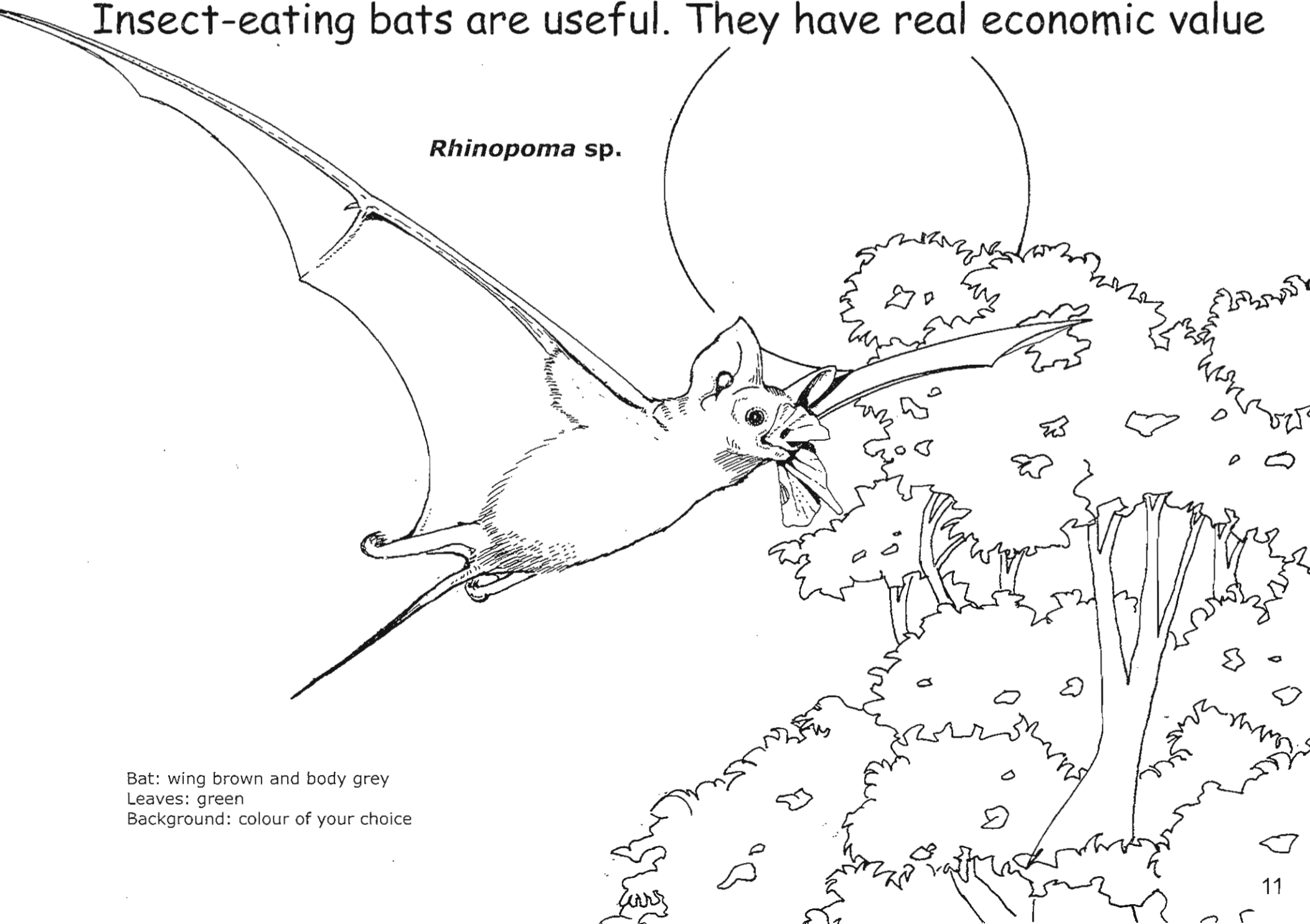
Some bats live in man-made structures like buildings, temples, etc.



Bat: light brown
Background: temple
(add colour of your choice)

10

Insect-eating bats are useful. They have real economic value

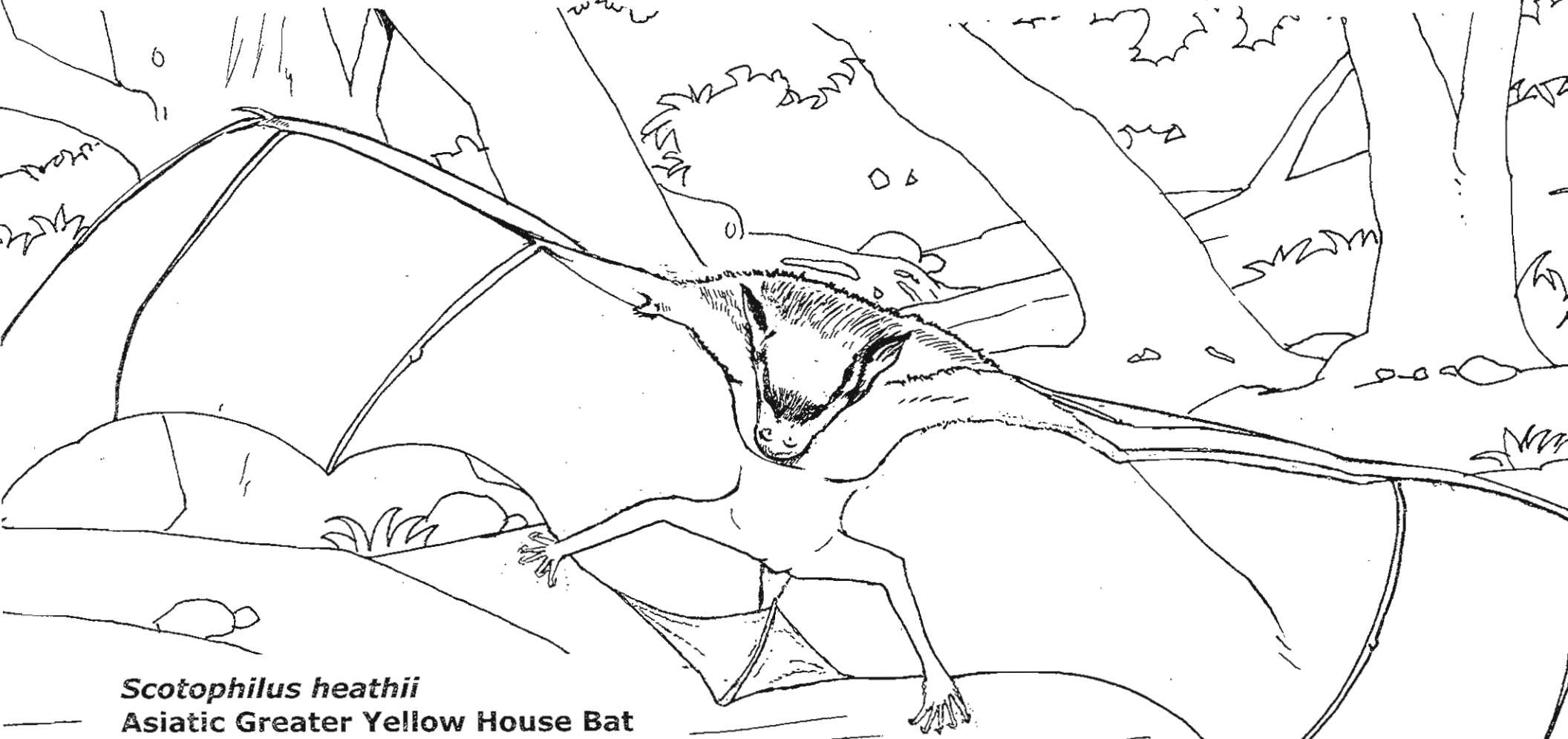


Rhinopoma sp.

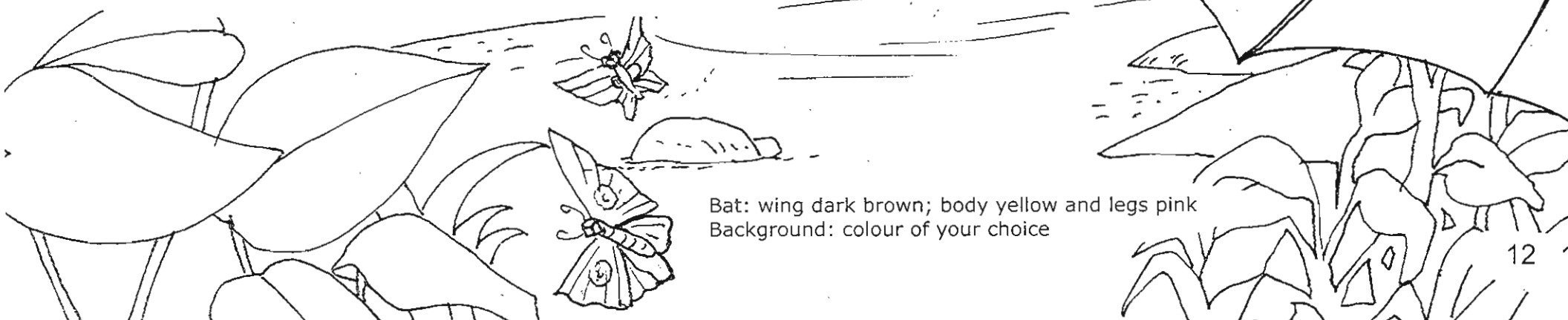
Bat: wing brown and body grey
Leaves: green
Background: colour of your choice

11

Some bats are colourful. The abdomen of this bat is yellow in colour



Scotophilus heathii
Asiatic Greater Yellow House Bat



Bat: wing dark brown; body yellow and legs pink
Background: colour of your choice

12

Some insect-eating bats eat insects half their body weight

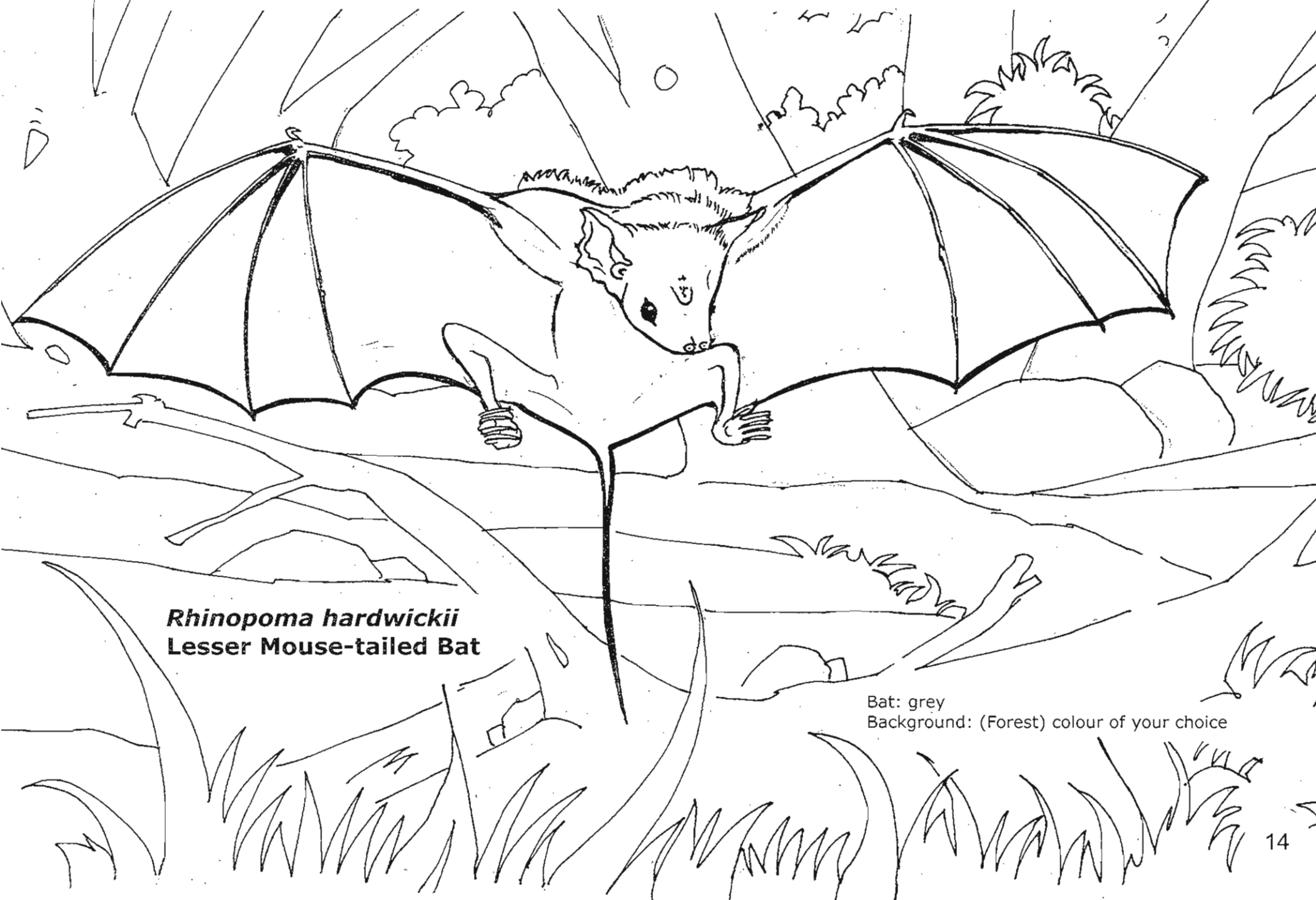


Bat: wing grey
Insect: wing orange and body brown
Background: colour of your choice

Taphozous perforatus
Egyptian Tomb Bat

13

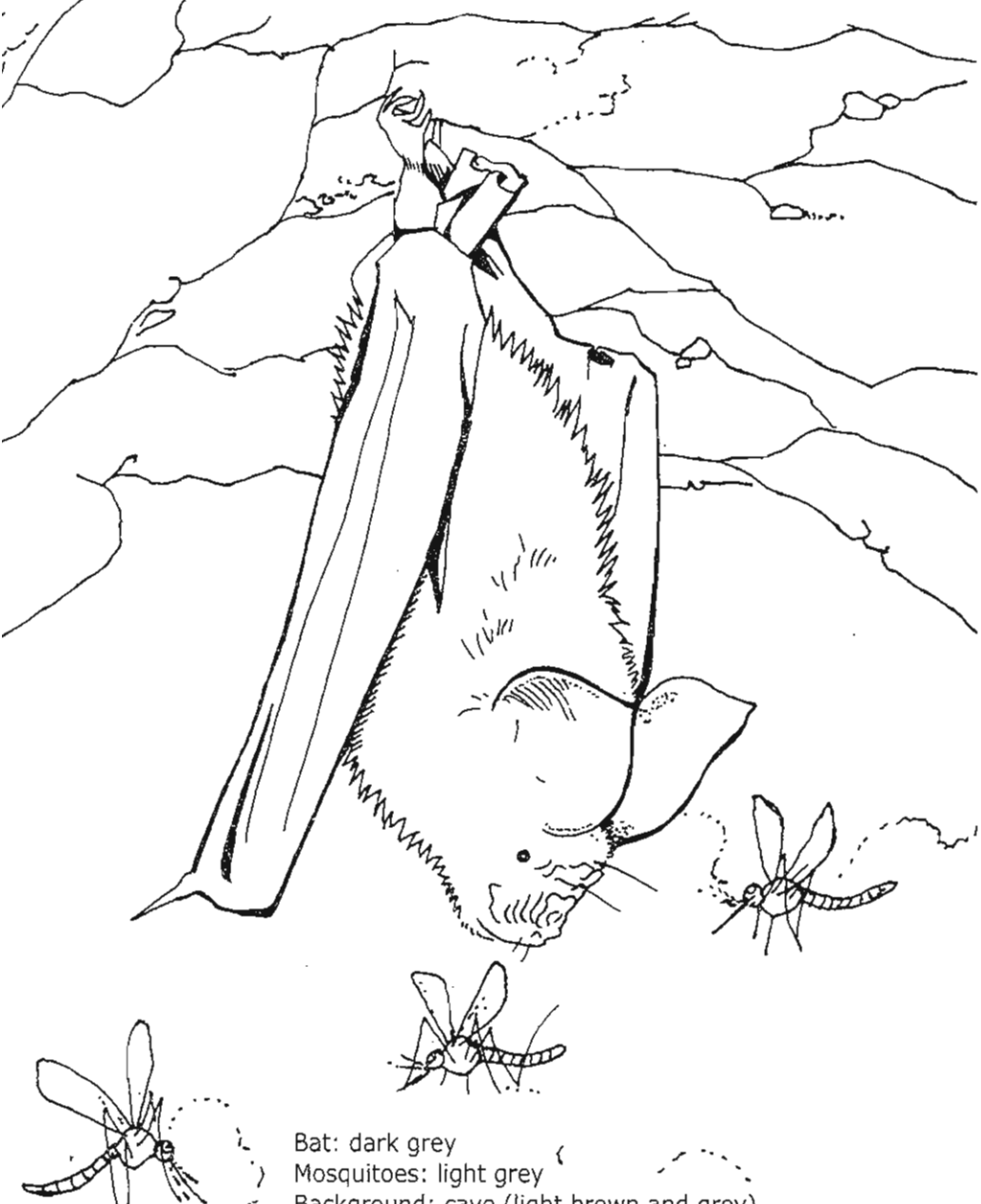
Some bats have a tail and in some the tail is absent



Rhinopoma hardwickii
Lesser Mouse-tailed Bat

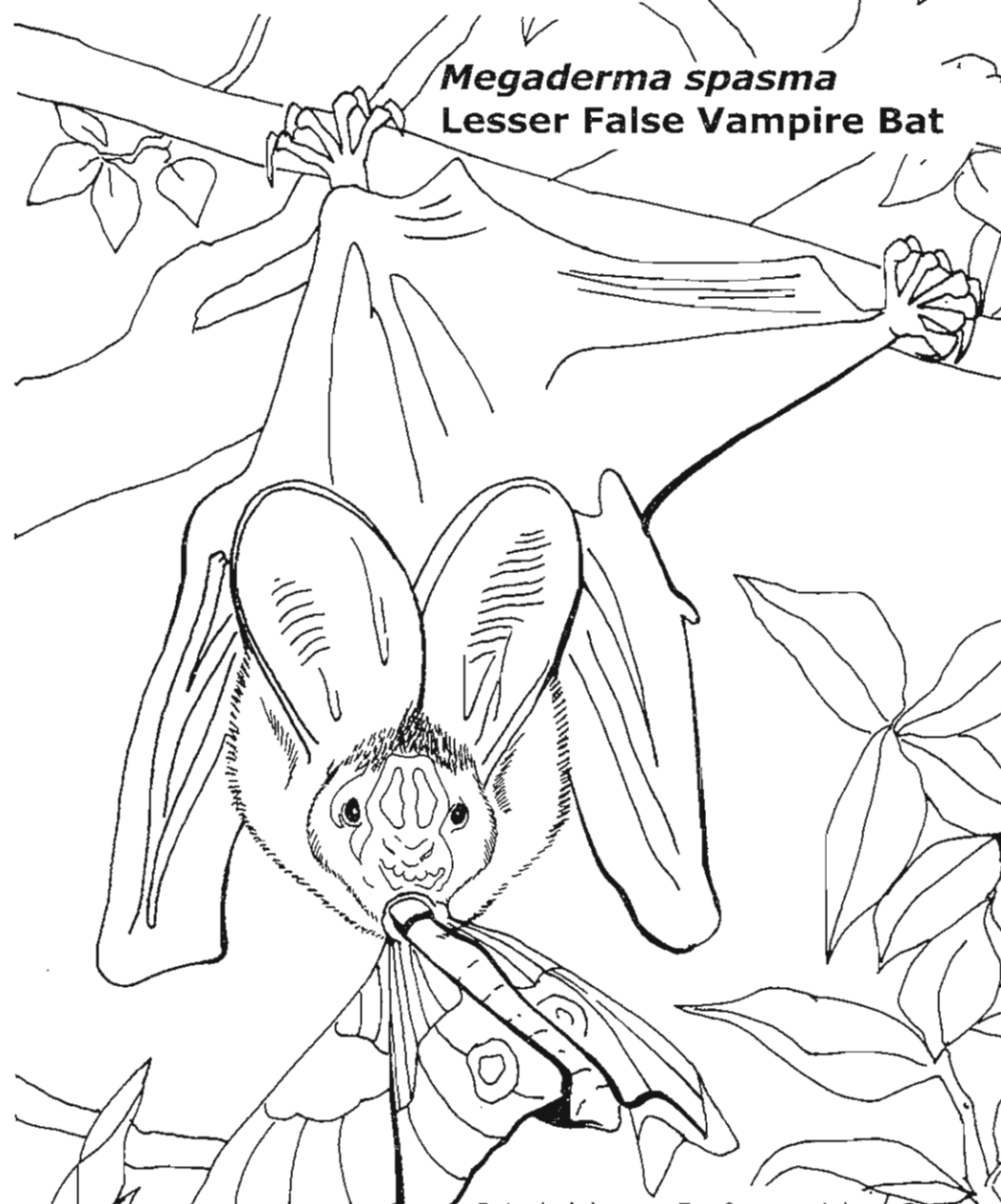
Bat: grey
 Background: (Forest) colour of your choice

For some bats, caves are their natural habitat



Bat: dark grey
 Mosquitoes: light grey
 Background: cave (light brown and grey)

Hipposideros speoris
Schneider's Leaf-nosed Bat



Megaderma spasma
Lesser False Vampire Bat

Bat: dark brown; Ear & nose pink
 Branch: brown; Leaves: green
 Moth: brown and red
 Background: colour of your choice

All these bats are different. Why is that important?

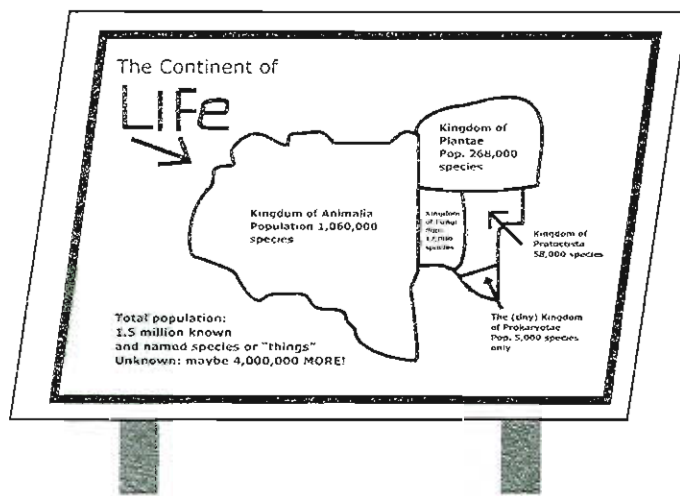
Because of BIODIVERSITY!

Did you ever hear that word?

"Bio" means living things! "Diversity" means different! So Biodiversity means different living things! Many many many different things.

So bats are part of Biodiversity. Biodiversity means millions, may be kazillions of different kinds of living things.

And why is that important? Because from all these living things, scientists find cures for illnesses. Also, we get products for our safety and comfort, instructions for doing things better and clean air, good food, houses, pets, etc. All good things in life come from Biodiversity.



Scientific name (Pronounced as)

Rousettus aegyptiacus (Roo set us | ee gip te ak us)

Cynopterus sphinx (Sy nap tur us | ssss finks)

Latidens salimalii (Laa tee dens | sal eem ah lee)

Megaderma lyra (Meh gaa der ma | lie rah)

Scotophilus heathii (Scot oh fil us | hee thee iiiii)

Taphozous perforatus (Tah fo zo us | per for ah tes)

Rhinopoma hardwickii (Rii no po mah | hard we ke ee)

Hipposideros speoris (Heh po sih der us | spee oh ris)

Megaderma spasma (Meh gaa der ma | spaz mah)