A Cauldron of Bats
Crafting instructions to create hanging bats

Activity Time: Approx. 1 hour, family-friendly, K-6

Materials:
- Table cloth or placemat
- Cardboard tubes (empty toilet paper rolls)
- Craft paint (black, orange, purple)
- Paint brush
- Pencil, sharpie marker
- White paint pen or chalk marker
- Craft glue
- Glitter glue (black)
- Bat wing template (page 3)
- Cardstock paper
- Construction paper (black, orange, purple)
- Pipe cleaners (black, orange, purple)
- Scissors
- Single hole punch
- Googly eyes

Steps to Create Bats:
1. Gather supplies. Cover work space with table cloth or placemat.
2. Use brush to paint the outside of cardboard tube with paint color of choice. On the bottom where the feet will go, paint up an inch on the inside of the roll.
3. While paint is drying, cut out the bat template with scissors. Then using the pencil, trace onto cardstock to create a stencil and cut out.
4. Trace stencil onto colored construction paper of choice, then cut out.
5. Use glitter glue to embellish bat wings such as outlining the bone structure. See example pictured right. It may take several hours to dry (a hair dryer set on low heat will speed up this step).
6. Once cardboard tube is dry, use your fingers to gently push down one side of the tube top. Push other side down to meet in the middle to create bat ears. If needed, use glue to hold flaps down.

Photos by: Morgan Parks, NWF

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7. Use glue to adhere googly eyes to bat face. Draw smile and fangs using paint pen/chalk marker or with paint brush.
8. Take single hole punch and punch two holes inside bottom of cardboard tube where the paint is. This is for the legs.
9. Weave pipe cleaner through holes on backside of cardboard tube. Using the scissors, cut off the last inch of each leg. Use this to wrap around the bottom of each leg about 1.5 inches up to create a “t”. These will be claws. Curl up the remaining middle part of the pipe cleaner to make a circle claw which will be used as a hook for hanging.
10. Apply glue to center of bat wings, leaving the tail clear. Adhere cardboard tube to the glue pressing down firmly on the inside.
11. Make sure the bat is completely dry before hanging. Curl claws around string, wire, or a branch to hang upside down.
12. Go batty for bats! Use this Wildlife Guide to learn more about bats or check out how to Build a Bat House to help provide cover and places to raise young for these unique species.
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Wing Template