

# Bat Citizens: Defending the Ninjas of the Night

## Hoary Bat

**Hoary bats** (*Lasiurus cinereus*) live in much of North and South America. With wingspans of up to 16 inches (40 centimeters), they are the largest bat in Canada. Their long, narrow wings make them strong and fast flyers, which is useful when they migrate long distances each year. They eat mostly moths and prefer to roost alone in trees. The hoary bat gets its name from white-tipped fur that makes it look frosted (*Hoarfrost* is another name for frost).

Most microbats have big **ears** to pick up returning echolocation signals

A bat's **elbow** helps it extend its wing

A bat's wing contains a **forearm** and the same types of bones as a human hand

The wing **membrane** is stretchy and can heal itself if it tears

A bat's **wrist** is less flexible than that of other mammals

A bat's **nose** is very sensitive

Many microbats have tiny, sharp **teeth** for catching moths and other insects

A bat's wing bones are called **fingers**

Bats that use echolocation often have small **eyes**, but they are not blind

The claw-like hook on the **thumb** is used for climbing, holding onto food, and even fighting