

Bat Mask Activity

California leaf-nosed bat

Materials:

- Heavy paper
- Crayons or color markers
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Elastic band or Popsicle stick

Background Information

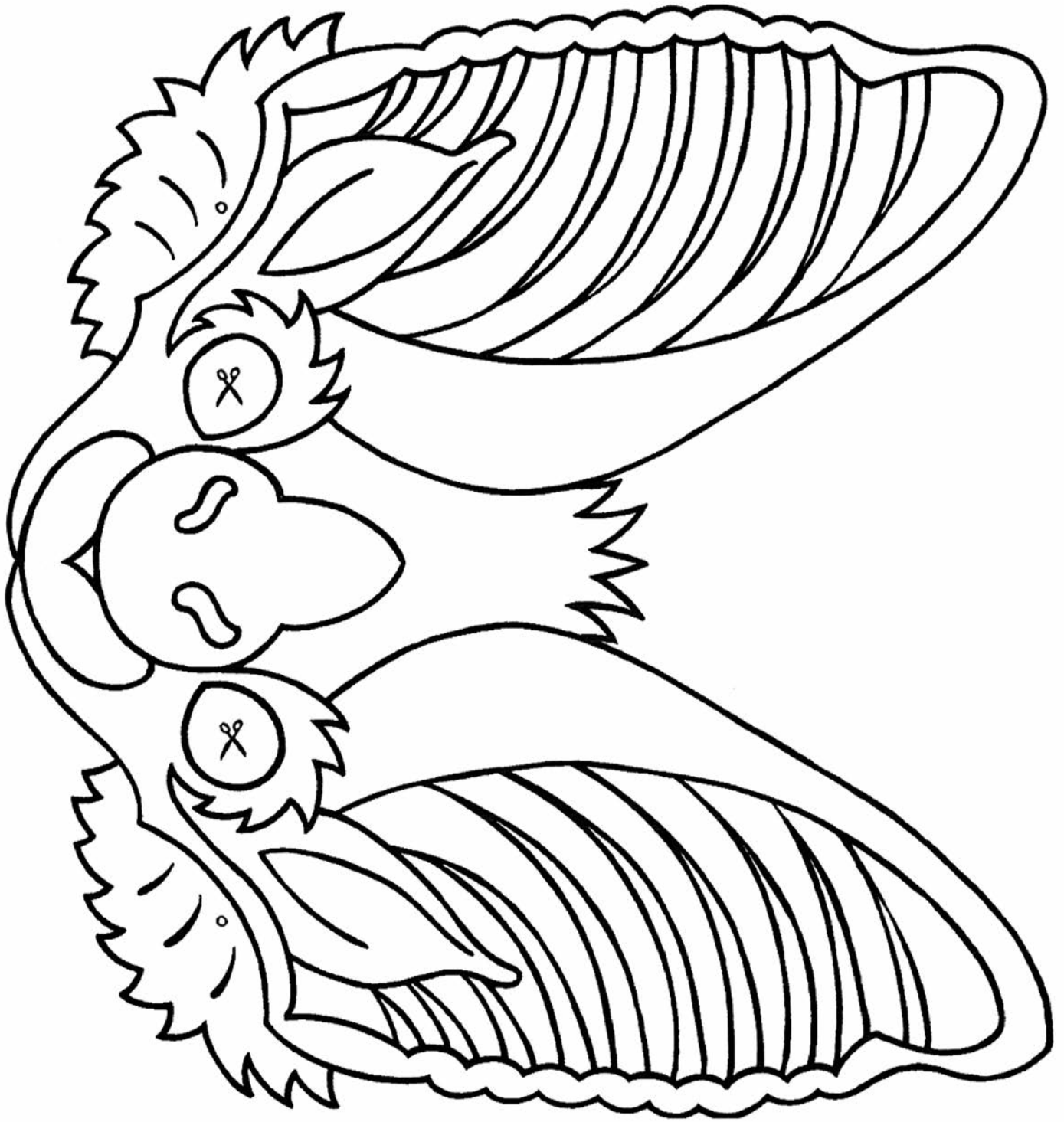
One of the most fascinating aspects of bats is their facial anatomy. The great diversity of face types is due to differences in lifestyle and diet. For example, some bats that feed on nectar need long, thin faces to insert into flowers, while insect-eating bats have shorter muzzles and stronger jaws to chomp down on insects.

Copy the mask on heavy paper or card stock, cut out the bat face, punch holes on both sides and attach elastic band to keep it in place. Or, you can glue Popsicle-type sticks to the inside bottom of the mask so the child can hold it in front of his or her face. Children can use their imaginations when coloring the masks.



California leaf-nosed bat

This bat is called a “gleaner” because it snatches crickets, grasshoppers, beetles, moths and other insects off leaves or the ground as it flies above the desert floor. It has larger eyes than most insectivorous bats. Its huge ears, which give it excellent hearing, enable it to hear even the footsteps of walking insects. The California leaf-nosed bat lives in the western United States and Mexico.



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