

# Bat and Moth



## Number of players:

- 2+
- HINT: for 2 players with 1 adult and 1 child, let the child be the bat first and only switch roles if they are content and engaged.

## Preparation:

- Clear a 5 ft play area of any tripping hazards
- Mark boundaries with rope or soft objects

## Game Play:

- Choose one player to be the bat. They are blindfolded in the center of the play area.
- The other player(s) are moths. They spread out in the play area
- The bat must listen for moth(s), slowly moving around the play area to find and tap them.



HINT: say 'tap' rather than 'tag' and have the child(ren) act out a walking 'tap' as opposed to a running tag

- If the bat claps once, the moth(s) freeze in place and clap 5 times. To alter the challenge level for the bat, adjust the number of response claps the moths do, or the size of the play area.

- Moth(s) are out if they: 
  - Step out of the boundary
  - Forget to freeze in place while clapping
  - Get tapped by the bat

- Once out, moths can help direct the blind bat back to the play area as needed.

- In a 3+ player game, either bat has a set number of claps as their turn, or the last moth remaining becomes bat
- In a 2-player game, the players can switch once bat taps moth, or just play again!
- HINT: to slow the game or for a new challenge, have players crawl on all fours.

## Discussion:

*HINT: Let the children think out loud about the questions. Only share as much information as they seem curious about. Next time you play, ask what they remember and add a little more.*

### When do bats hunt for food?

- Bats are nocturnal and hunt for insects at night (some bats eat fruit)
- One little brown bat can eat up to 500 mosquito sized insects in an hour!

### How do Bats find their food in the dark?

- Echolocation- they send sound waves through the air which bounce off their prey, signaling the prey's location.
- The clapping in the game mimics echolocation

### Who is the predator in this game?

- The bat is the predator, the moth is the prey. Meaning, the bat hunts the moth for food.

### How do moths protect themselves from the predators?

- By being quiet, sneaking, and dodging bats.
- Tiger moths produce an ultrasonic clicking sound that confuses a bats echolocation, making them nearly impossible for bats to locate.