

I FOUND A BAT!



WHAT DO I DO?

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A BAT:

Contain the bat where others cannot come into contact with it (close windows and doors to the room). If possible, place a heavy box or bucket over the bat. If the bat is dead, wear gloves and use a shovel or other tool to double-bag the bat.

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CAPTURE
INFO



Identify any students or staff who may have had contact with the bat. Record the details of each possible exposure to share with your local health jurisdiction. These details will be important in determining if an exposure occurred.

Provide basic first aid immediately if needed. Wash any wounds thoroughly with soap and running water. Refer to the “Animal Bites and Scratches” section of the Infectious Disease Control Guide for School Staff

SCAN FOR
GUIDE



Contact your local health jurisdiction to determine if the bat needs to be tested for rabies and if any student or staff should receive post-exposure treatment.

SCAN FOR
CONTACT
INFO



Department:

Phone #:

Consider notifying parents that a bat was discovered at the school, if their student may have had contact with the bat, or if the bat is being tested for rabies to encourage them to ask their children if they touched a bat at school. Your local health jurisdiction can help you with this determination.

ABOUT RABIES

- Bats in Washington can carry rabies. People can get infected with rabies by being bitten or scratched by an infected bat.
- If a person does not receive the appropriate medical care after a potential rabies exposure, infection with the virus is almost always fatal. Timely treatment after an exposure prevents rabies infection.
- Any potential human exposure to a bat requires careful assessment as a bite wound can go unnoticed due to bat's tiny but sharp teeth.
- Bats that are captured can be humanely euthanized, if needed, and tested for rabies to inform treatment decisions.