

# SONAR

The older brother tells his baby brother that "bats will send us messages". Sonar is how bats communicate. Read more about it below to decide if the brothers could really receive messages from bats.

Bats are the only mammals capable of sustained flight and most of that flying is done at night-time in the dark. Unlike humans, they can't see very well during the night and instead rely on sonar to help them find things.

Just like dolphins or whales, bats emit high-pitched sounds that are too high for humans to hear. These sounds travel through the air and bounce off objects such as trees, insects, or other animals. When the sound waves bounce back to the bat's ears, they can determine the location of objects and how far away something is based on the time it takes for the sound to return to their ears. If the sound comes back quickly, it means the object is close. If it takes longer, the object is farther away.

Bats are so highly skilled at using sonar that they can detect if there's a tree in front of them or if there's a bug flying nearby. With their sonar abilities, bats can even catch insects while they're flying.

1 In your own words explain how bats use sonar to find things?

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2 Do you think the brothers could communicate with bats in the future?

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Uses comprehension strategies to expand content knowledge.

