

BAT MOBILE

EXPLORING THE DIVERSITY OF BATS

There are over 1,400 species of bats in the world, from large fruit-eating bats to small bats, the size of a bumblebee, that feed on insects. Bats live in different habitats around the world except in very cold areas like the Arctic and Antarctic. Bats play important roles in deserts, forests, agricultural lands, and other environments by pollinating plants, controlling insects that feed on people or crops, and moving seeds to new places. Some plants are only pollinated by bats!

Bats, people, and other animals need healthy environments to survive! Sometimes people are afraid of bats because they've heard that bats spread disease or suck blood. But only three types of bats of the over 1400 types in the world feed on blood and they usually eat blood from animals. Most bats in the world feed on insects, fruit, leaves, or nectar. Although bats and people can share some diseases, it usually happens when bats are forced out of their normal habitat and into contact with people. In addition to being unique and fascinating animals, bats bring amazing benefits to our world. Protecting bats and their habitats protects people too!

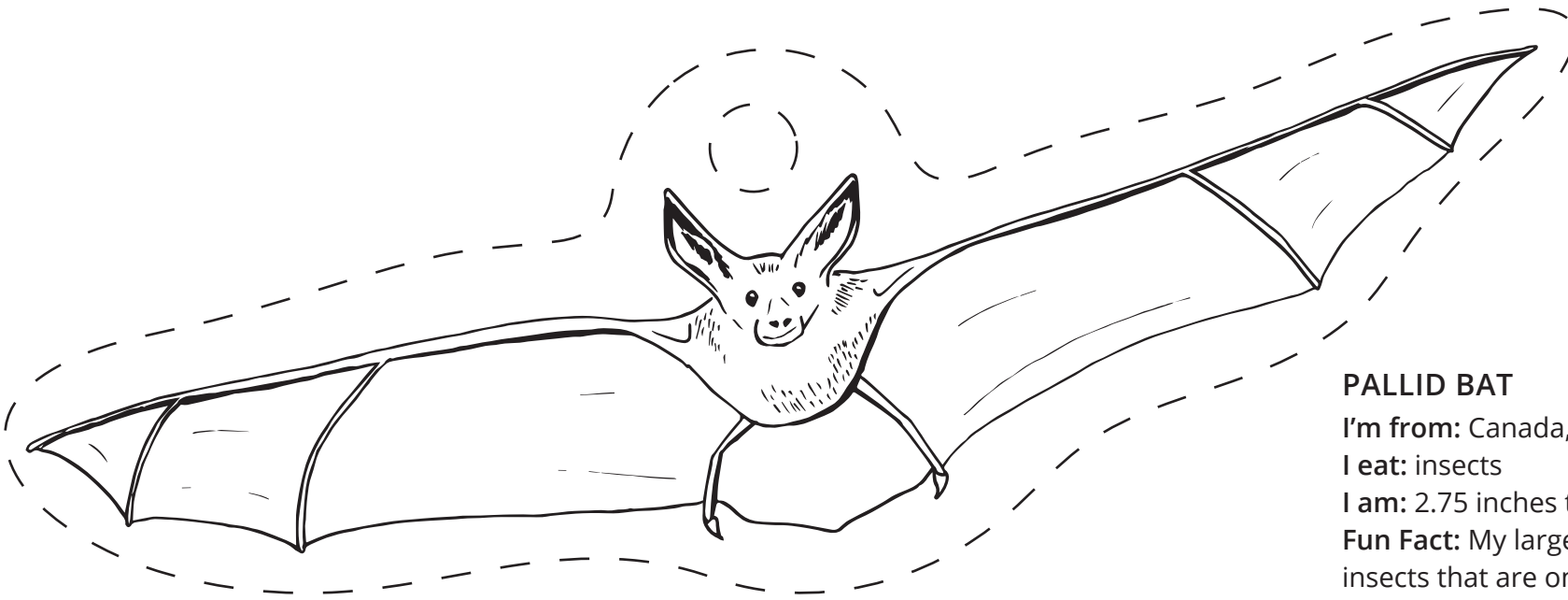
SUPPLIES YOU MIGHT NEED

- 1 found object for the tying and hanging the mobile. (this could be a stick, a clothes hanger, or any anything else you would like to use.
- 8 pieces of string of various lengths for hanging your bat pictures
- 1 piece of string for hanging your mobile
- Scissors
- Hole punch (or pencil)
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, or paints

ONE WAY TO MAKE A MOBILE

1. Color the bats and learn more about each bat by reading their descriptions.
2. Cut along the dotted line around each bat.
3. Use a hole punch or a pencil, to punch out the circle near each bat.
4. Tie string to the hole you made on each bat.
5. Tie the other end of the string from each bat to the mobile hanger that you have chosen.
6. If your chosen hanger object doesn't already have a way to hang, tie one string at the top so that you can hang your mobile.
7. Feel free to explore and be creative! You could make bat ornaments, send a bat picture to a friend, or create something new.





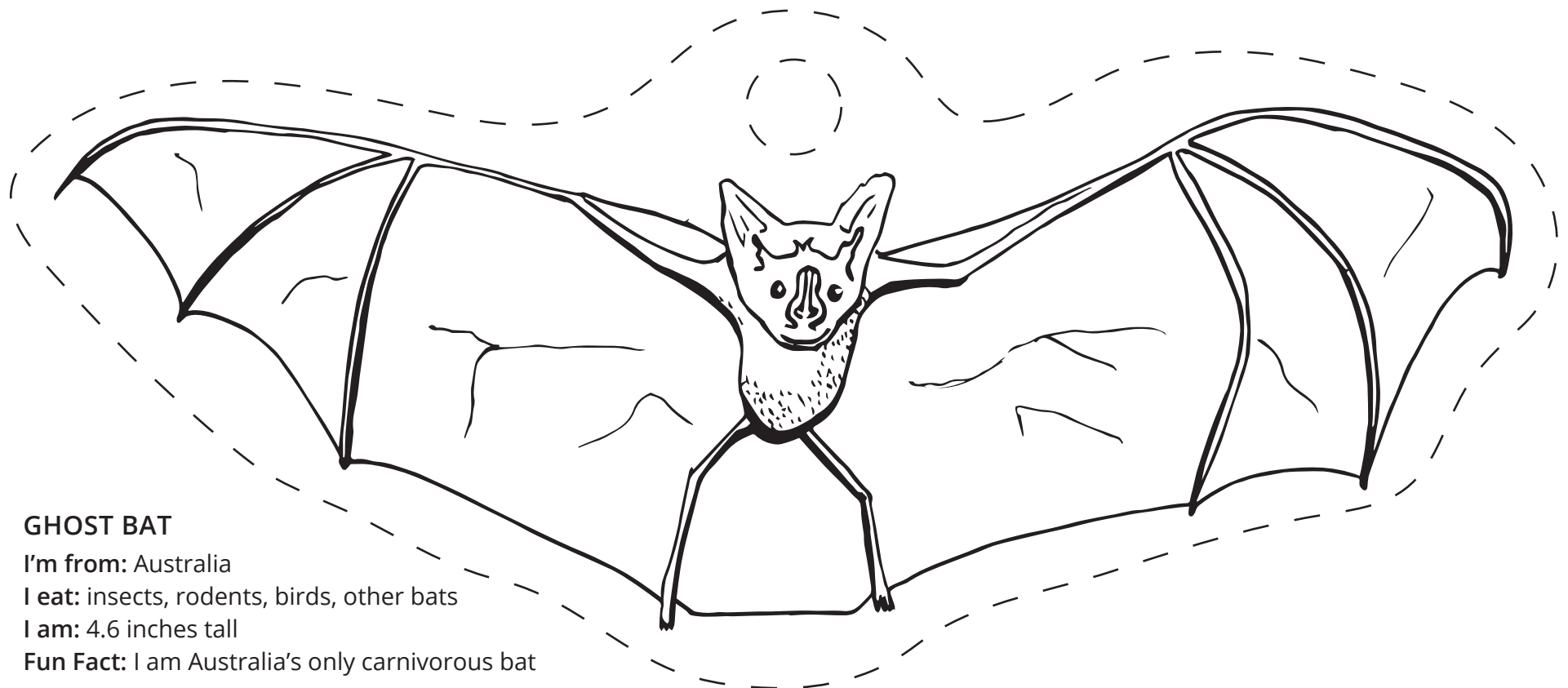
PALLID BAT

I'm from: Canada, United States, Mexico

I eat: insects

I am: 2.75 inches tall

Fun Fact: My large ears help me hear insects that are on the ground



GHOST BAT

I'm from: Australia

I eat: insects, rodents, birds, other bats

I am: 4.6 inches tall

Fun Fact: I am Australia's only carnivorous bat

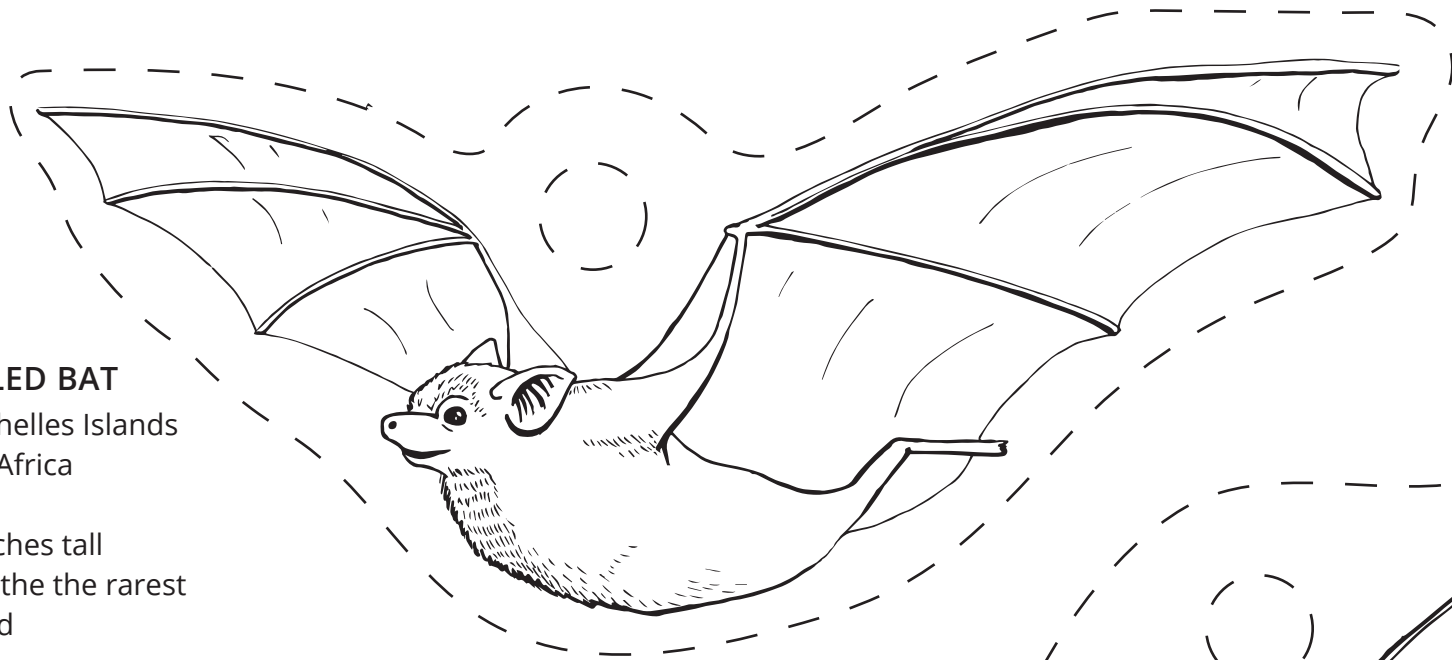
**SEYCHELLES
SHEATH-TAILED BAT**

I'm from: Seychelles Islands
off the cost of Africa

I eat: insects

I am: 2 - 2.5 inches tall

Fun Fact: I am the the rarest
bat in the world



**KITTI'S HOG-NOSED BAT
(A.K.A. BUMBLEBEE BAT)**

I'm from: SE Burma and areas west of Thailand

I eat: insects

I am: 1 - 1.3 inches tall

Fun Fact: I am the world's smallest mammal

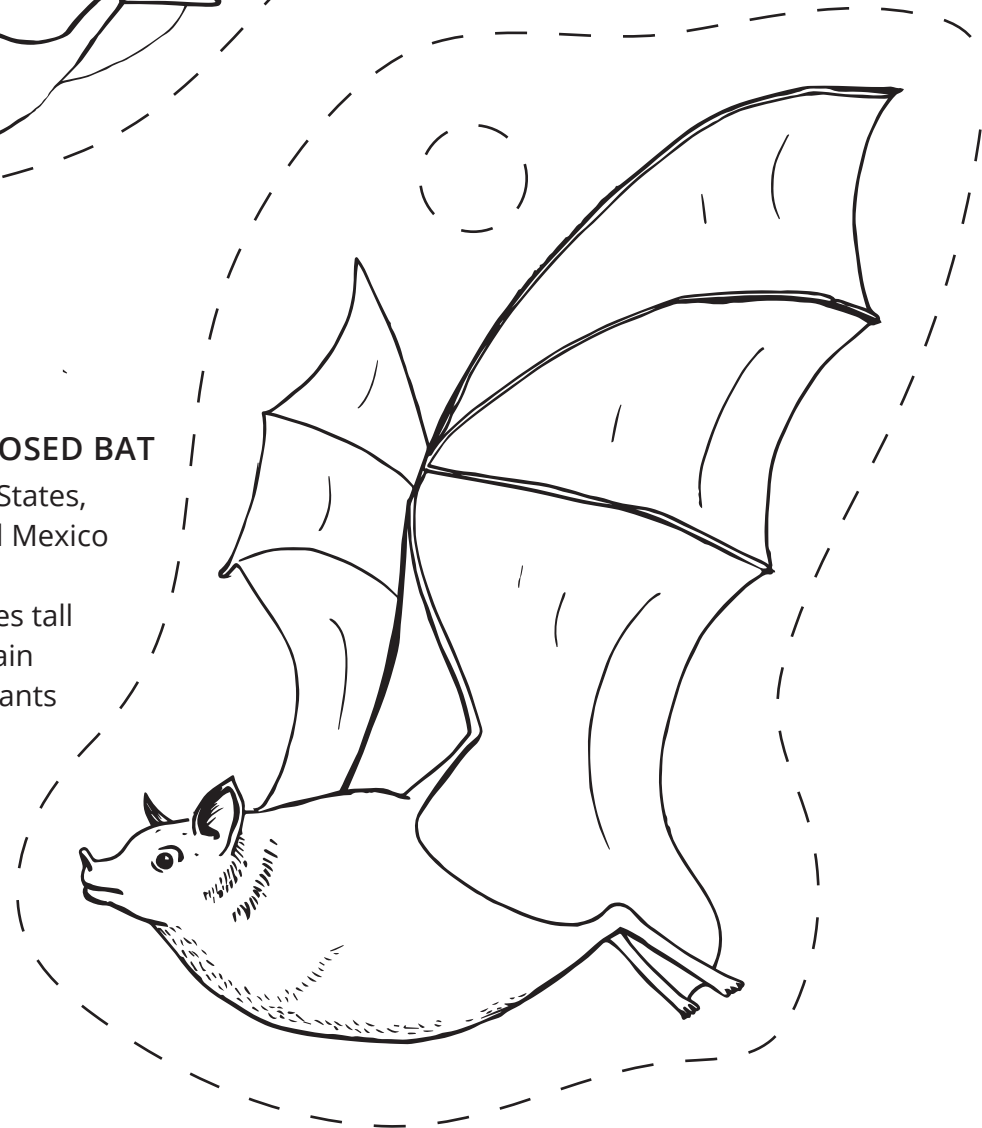
MEXICAN LONG-NOSED BAT

I'm from: SW United States,
Northern and Central Mexico

I eat: nectar

I am: 2.75 - 3.75 inches tall

Fun Fact: I am the main
pollinator of agave plants



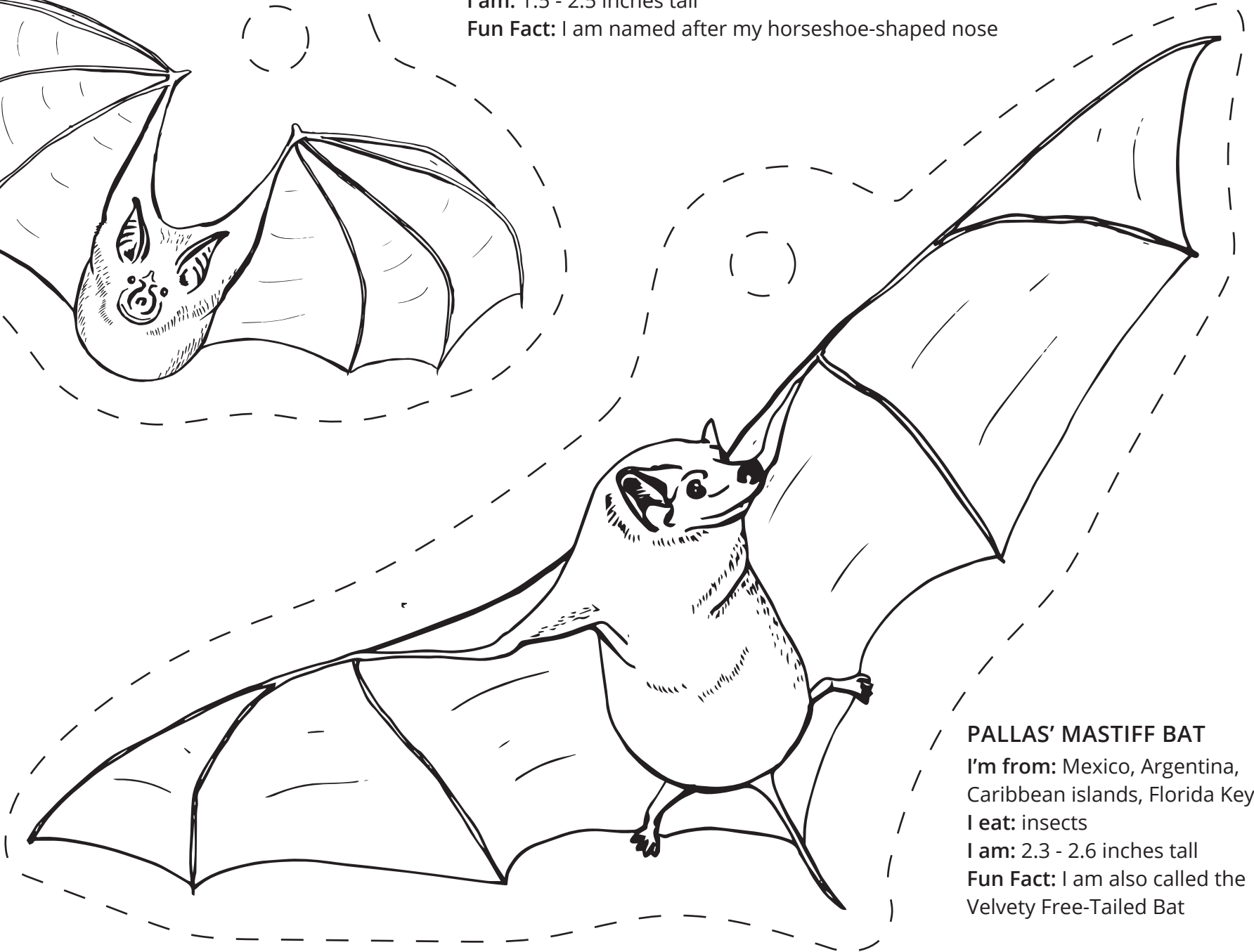
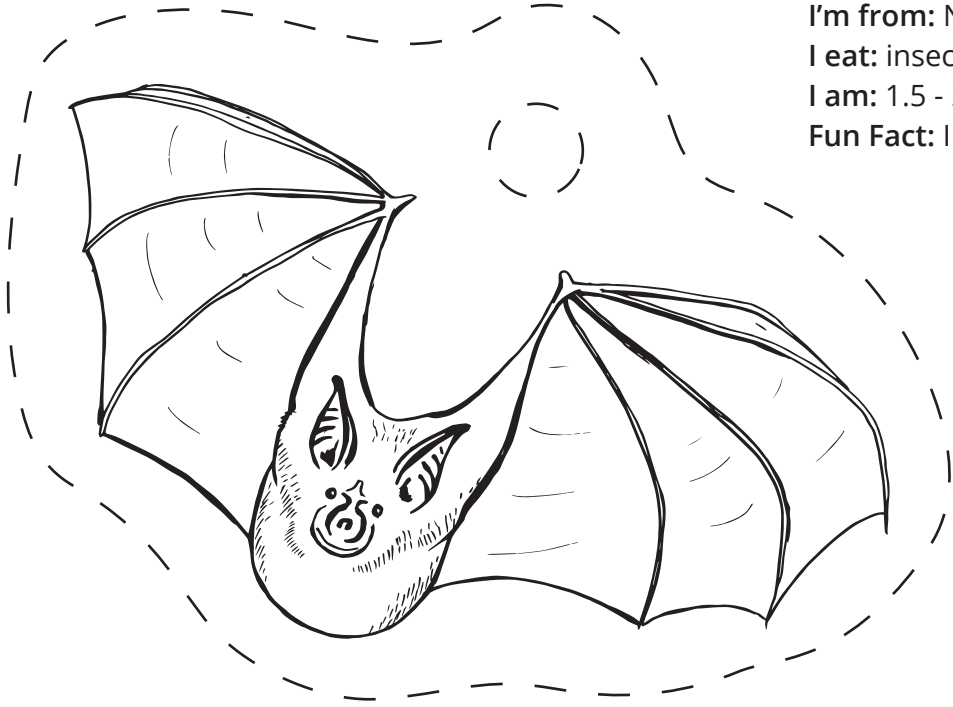
HORSESHOE BAT

I'm from: North Africa, Southern Europe, SW Asia

I eat: insects

I am: 1.5 - 2.5 inches tall

Fun Fact: I am named after my horseshoe-shaped nose



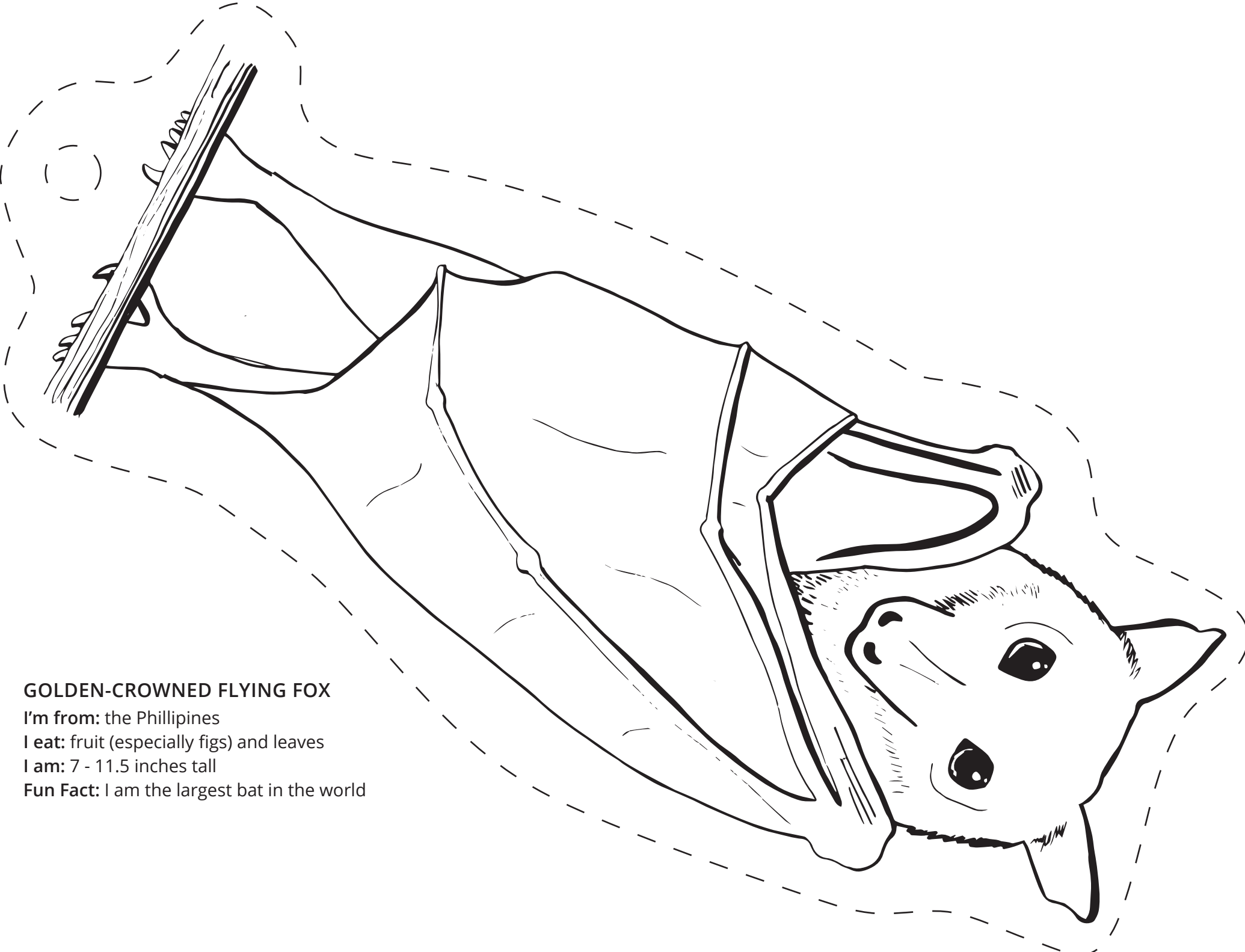
PALLAS' MASTIFF BAT

I'm from: Mexico, Argentina,
Caribbean islands, Florida Keys

I eat: insects

I am: 2.3 - 2.6 inches tall

Fun Fact: I am also called the
Velvety Free-Tailed Bat



GOLDEN-CROWNED FLYING FOX

I'm from: the Phillipines

I eat: fruit (especially figs) and leaves

I am: 7 - 11.5 inches tall

Fun Fact: I am the largest bat in the world