



GOING BATTY

Find the **BOLD** words from the paragraph below.

M E F E K F M C E J U F S V R
P V C L T I D T O L M U E A A
Z A K H Y A A G T L O R H M B
S C Q P O N N R J R O C A P I
L G D A I L A R O U N N T I E
V N N L S S O V E I Y S Y R S
M X L I O Y I C G B R L T E L
L O R U W T M H A A I D V B A
P W N Z C O T V E T J H G A N
W D C E G T Y I L S I U T T R
K K S T A B T I U R F O D S U
Q N J B T S O O R B A T N Z T
I M A M M A R Y G L A N D S C
M A M M A L S F O R P Z V P O
U T N T I S J L O X B Q O S N

Did you know that Texas has some amazing animals with **FUR** that **FLY** at **NIGHT** and eat insects, (**INSECTIVOROUS**)? Bats, lots of Mexican free-tailed bats, migrate to South Texas each year to raise their young. Bats are **NOCTURNAL**, active during the evening hours. During summer months, look into the sky just before dark, you'll probably see them. Bats from Bracken Cave, outside of San Antonio, eat 200 tons of insects nightly! These bats use their **EARS** to "see" with. The process of navigating and locating food using sound is called **ECHOLOCATION**. A **BAT** is classified as a **MAMMAL** because it has fur and **MAMMARY GLANDS** to nurse its young. Bats, like Mexican free-tailed, live in a group called a **COLONY** and often **ROOST** in a **CAVE** or even under bridges and in bat houses. Farmers like **FRUIT BATS** because they **POLLINATE** plants by moving pollen from plant to plants while busy eating. **VAMPIRE BATS** make some people fearful but there are none in Texas and the ones in Mexico normally feed on sleeping animals like cows or horses. Should you find a bat, don't touch it! Bats, like most mammals, can carry **RABIES**. To learn cool facts about bats and how you can help keep the environment safe for bats, go to www.batcon.org the website for Bat Conservation International.

