

Welcome to Girl Scout Troop 1727's Animal Trail! This is post number 3/8.

### **Big Brown Bat (Eptesicus Fuscus)**

The big brown bat is a mammal, and is the most common type of bat in South Carolina. It is about four inches long, and is covered in light brown fur. Its ears and wings are darker than its body. They love to eat beetles, but they also eat other insects and pests. Big brown bats are *nocturnal*, which means that they sleep during the day, and come out to find food at night. You can normally spot them in the sky about thirty minutes after the sun sets!

*Big brown bats flap their wings to fly and move around. You can pretend that you are a big brown bat by flapping your arms!*

Big brown bats are very important to the ecosystem here in Tega Cay and all over the country! They help out by eating nasty pests, such as the cucumber beetle, which eats crops like corn. They also eat mosquitos, so that less of them can bite you!

*Fun Fact: Big brown bats can eat fifteen mosquitos in just one minute!*

Overall, big brown bats are a very interesting and helpful species. See if you can spot one tonight!

