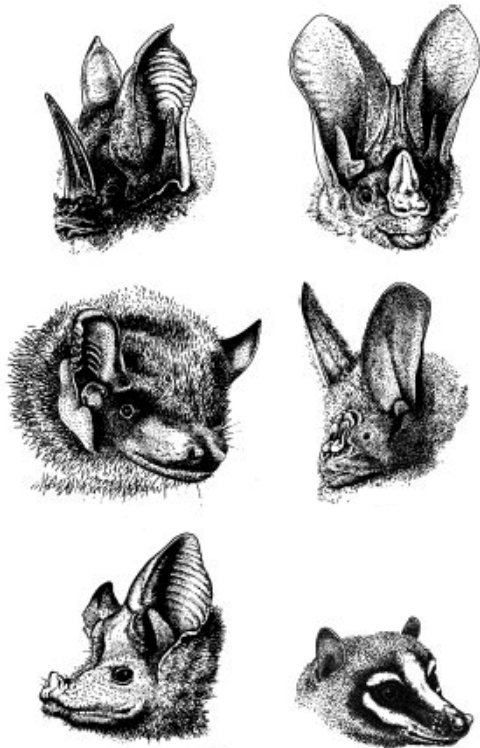
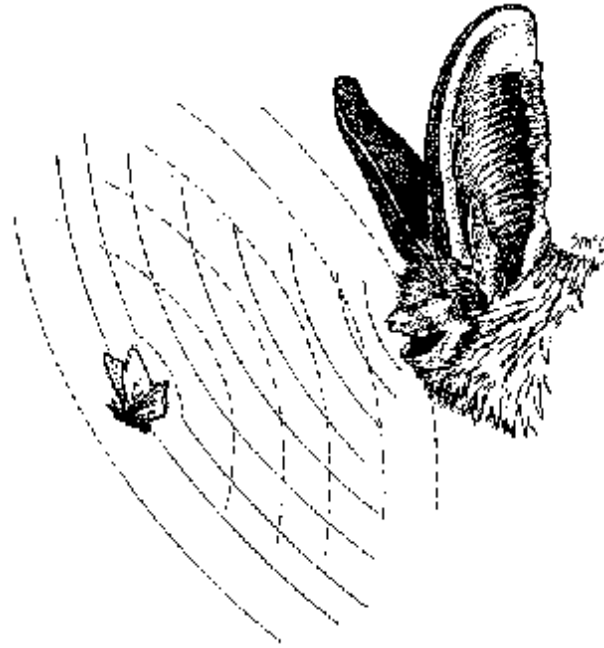
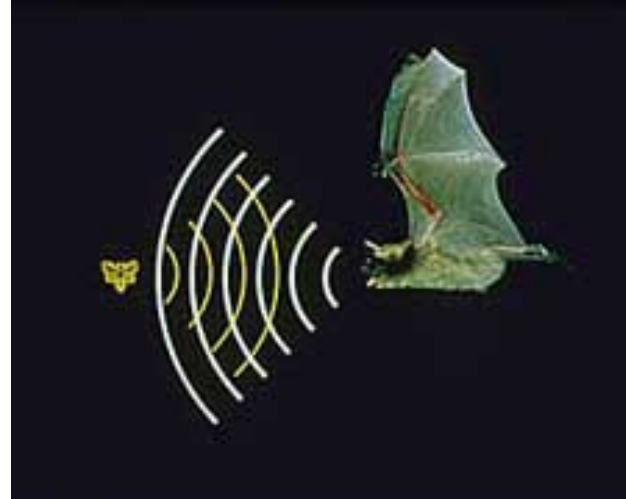


ECHOLOCATION IN BATS



The figures on the left show both actual photographs and artists' renditions of various types of bats' ears. Many (though not all) bats use echolocation to locate sources of food (such as insects).

The figures above demonstrate how a bat uses echolocation to: (a) spot an insect; (b) determine its size; and (c) calculate how far away it is. Using its sonar-like echolocation abilities, a bat can "see" its prey even when there is little or no light. Since most bats are nocturnal (that is, they hunt at night), echolocation is an invaluable tool for spotting and seizing the unsuspecting creatures such as insects, lizards, and other animals that make up most of a bat's daily diet.