

KIDS

and

bats

don't mix!



Bats and flying foxes play a key role in the ecosystem and are protected in Australia. They are sometimes found lying on the ground or hanging low in trees, and may carry germs that can make you very sick, especially if they bite or scratch you.

What should you do if you come across a bat?

- **Do not touch a bat** – even if it looks hurt! Sometimes bats might look dead but are still alive, so never touch any bats.
- Move away from the bat so you don't frighten it.
- Tell your parents, a teacher or another adult so they can get help for the bat by calling: *Bats Queensland 0447 222 889*.



What to do if you get bitten or scratched by a bat:

- It is very important to tell your parents, a teacher or an adult. You will not get in trouble.
- An adult can help you wash the area with soap and running water. This should be done for at least 15 minutes.
- You will need to see a doctor, who will treat you to stop the germs making you sick.
- You or your doctor will need to contact the Gold Coast Public Health Unit for treatment. ☎ (07) 5667 3200 (Monday-Friday)

For after-hours assistance contact ☎ 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84)

NO TOUCH, NO RISK

<http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/217/10/australian-bat-lyssavirus>