## **Lunch Boxes**

By putting together "lunch boxes" you can easily demonstrate to students the variety of foods bats eat as well as show the bats' place in the food web. You can create your lunch boxes using any container. One container should be labeled "What Bats Eat?" and the other one is labeled "What Eats Bats?" Fill the containers with small plastic or wooden items. Below are some suggested items for your "lunch boxes".

What Bats Eat Lunch Box---fruit, a flower (representing the pollen and nectar that bats eat), a chicken (representing the birds that some bats eat and the birds whose blood is fed upon by vampire bats), a cow or sheep (representing the mammals whose blood is food for other vampire bats), a fish, a bat, a lizard, a scorpion, a centipede and a variety of insects.

What Eats Bats Lunch Box-- a snake, a spider, a bat, a bird of prey, a cat (domestic cats injure and kill more bats than any other animal according to rehabbers), a man (representing people who eat bats, people who attack bats and people who disturb roosting bats).

Students enjoy taking turns pulling an item out of the lunch box and showing it to the class and telling what it represents. Another activity you can do with students is put all the items on a table and let the students sort them into the correct "lunch box".