

Protective *fur*

What is fur for? Only mammals have fur, and this distinguishes them from birds, reptiles and amphibians. Fur covers their skin and is useful for many reasons.

The most important reason is to keep the body warm, but it also helps with the sense of touch: think about cats' whiskers or eyelashes. In some animals, the color of the fur serves as camouflage. And what do you think hedgehog and porcupine quills are made of? Fur!!



Night flyers

Many animals fly by day when the sun is shining. Are there any that fly by night? Bats are mammals, just like you and me, but they are also so incredible that they have wings. They cannot see very well, but they have no problem getting around at night thanks to their acute sense of hearing. They hunt moths and mosquitos which come out to fly as the night settles in. Owls, which are birds, also hunt by night. They are guided by their huge eyes and keen sense of hearing.



Lightning and thunder: **Storm**

Sometimes, either before or during a storm, the sky is lit up with the bright light coming from lightning. After a little while, we hear the deafening sound of thunder. What happened? Lightning is light a giant spark that travels from the clouds to the ground. This journey is very, very quick, so quick that as it travels down to the ground, the lightning actually splits the air in two. The thunder is the noise that this “spark” makes when it splits the air.

