

Name: _____

Date: _____

Flying Bats



The bats head back to the cave after a night of feeding. There is one bat in the lead, followed by two bats in the next row, followed by three bats in the third row. There are 8 rows in all.

- What is the pattern in the way the bats line up to fly back to the cave?
- How many bats will be in the 8th row?
- How many bats in all are flying back together to the cave?

Explain your best mathematical thinking using numbers, words, tables, and/or pictures.

Name: Possible Solution

Date: _____

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row	bats
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8

+1

+1

36

ANSWERS

- The pattern is that there is one more bat in each row. Actually, the number of bats in each row is the same as the row number.
- I continued the pattern. As the table shows, there will be 8 bats in the 8th row.
- I added up the bats column to find the total number of bats flying back to the cave. There were 36 bats in all flying back to the cave.