



NJSLA Research Simulation Task

Grade 5 Reading

Lesson 1: Introducing the EBSR and TECR

Rationale

- The format of the test items for NJSLA’s Research Simulation Task (RST) is a significant change from previous standardized tests. This lesson will present students with an overview of the selected response and constructed response items of the assessment.

Goal

- To familiarize students with the format of NJSLA’s RST evidence-based selected response (EBSR) and technology-enhanced constructed response (TECR) questions.

Task Foci

- **CCSS RI.5.1:** Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- **CCSS RI.5.2:** Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text.
- **CCSS RI.5.3:** Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text.
- **CCSS RI.5.4:** Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 5 topic or subject area*.

Objectives

- Students will know what to expect from the evidence-based selected response and technology-enhanced constructed response items.

Materials

- Informational Text
- EBSR/TECR questions

Procedures

- Tell students that today they will explore the types of questions they will encounter on NJSLA's assessments.
- Distribute the text. Read it as a class or have students read it independently.
- Distribute the sample EBSR.
- Explain to students, **“There are two formats that the questions on NJSLA’s assessments take. One is the evidence-based selected response. This type is similar to the multiple-choice questions you’re used to seeing on tests. However, the difference is that these are two-part questions. The first part resembles the traditional multiple-choice question. The second part will often ask you to select the best evidence to support your answer to the first part.”**
- Direct students to look at the EBSR question. Discuss Part A.
- Ask students what is similar and what is different between Part A and traditional multiple-choice questions.
- Discuss Part B.
- Distribute the sample TECR. Introduce the technology-enhanced constructed responses: **“These questions are probably very different from what you are used to seeing on a test. The layout for these questions will vary. Some may ask you to drag and drop quotations from the text, rearrange plot points into a summary list, identify causes and effects...”**
- Discuss the TECR question with the class. Make sure students understand what the question is asking them and what they need to do.
- Work through the sample TECR as a class.

Bats at Carlsbad Caverns National Park

The most famous of Carlsbad Cavern's mammals are the bats. The New Mexico park hosts 17 different bat species. The large colony of Brazilian Free-tailed Bats wow visitors every evening from spring through fall with its spectacular outflights. Two other species have also been found regularly in Carlsbad Cavern-Cave Myotis and Fringed Myotis Bats. They typically roost in a different part of the cave and their exit flight is typically later in the evening than that of the Brazilian Free-tailed Bats.

Bats are mammals, which means that they give live birth to their young (do not lay eggs), are warm-blooded, have fur (not feathers), and baby bats or pups are fed breastmilk (not insects) by their mothers. Bats are the only true flying mammals. All the adult bats in the area around Carlsbad Caverns National Park eat bugs, which means they are insectivores. The Brazilian Free-tailed Bats weigh about $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, which is equivalent to the weight of three nickel coins. Their wingspan is approximately 11 inches.

Bat Flights at Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Prior to the evening bat flight, a program is given at the cavern entrance by a park ranger. Programs may be canceled in the event of inclement weather. Bat flight programs are scheduled from Memorial Day weekend through mid to late October. There is no charge for the bat flight program. In late October or early November, the bats migrate to Mexico for the winter; they return in April or May, depending on the weather.

Best Flights

The best bat flights normally occur in July and August. At this time baby bats, born in early summer, join the flight along with migrating bats from colonies further north.

Return Flights

The daily pre-dawn return of the bats is different from the evening exit flights but are just as impressive. Early risers (approximately 4 - 6 a.m.) can see the bats as they re-enter Carlsbad Cavern with spectacular dives from heights of hundreds of feet. Individual bats diving in from every direction may reach speeds of 25 mph or more.

Bat Flight Breakfast

Every summer the park invites the public to rise early and join park rangers in watching the bat's return flight. In 2014, the event will be held on Saturday, July 19 from from 4:30-7:00 a.m. Breakfast is available for purchase at 4:30 a.m. at the gate near the east parking lot. You will be able to carry your breakfast with you and enjoy it at the Bat Flight Amphitheater. The first 120 visitors will have the opportunity for free tickets for a lantern-lit ranger tour down the Main Corridor. Tickets will be available at the gate near the east parking lot on a first come-first served basis. A climbing demonstration will occur at 7 a.m. at the mouth of Carlsbad Cavern. Carl S. Bat will also make a special appearance.

For Your Comfort and Safety

All electronic devices including cameras of any kind, and cell phones, are NOT permitted during the bat flight program. Several scientific studies, along with the observations of many bat researchers from around the world, have documented the disturbance caused to bats by lights, especially white light such as that in flash photography.

Besides the risks to the bats, it is very difficult to get good quality photos of a bat flight under any circumstances, and the risks simply aren't worth the results that most visitors get. Photography or other filming at bat flight may be done under a special use permit obtained from the park at least two weeks in advance.

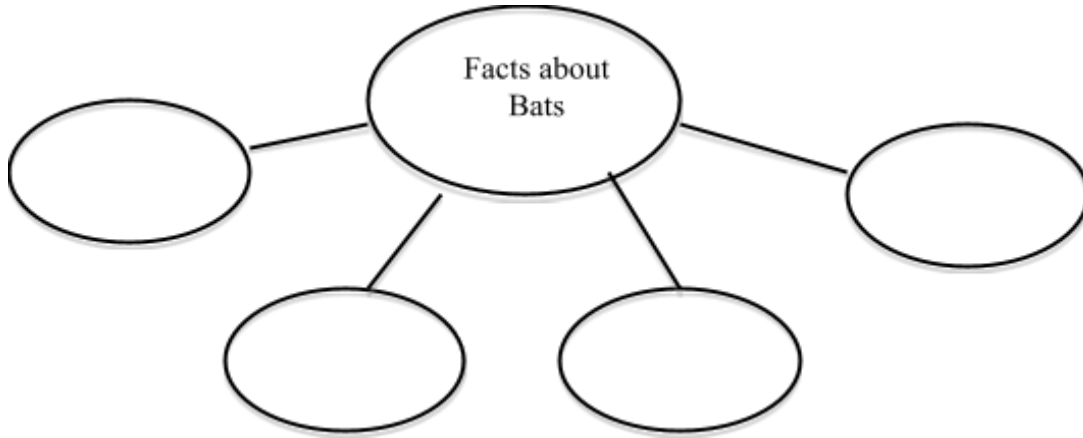
1. **Part A:** If you wish to photograph bats during a bat flight you must:

- A. not use flash photography.
- B. obtain a permit in advance.
- C. bring your cell phone.
- D. arrive early to get a good spot.

Part B: Which sentence from the article best supports the answer in Part A?

- A. “Photography or other filming at bat flight may be done under a special use permit obtained from the park at least two weeks in advance.”
- B. “Prior to the evening bat flight, a program is given at the cavern entrance by a park ranger.”
- C. “All electronic devices including cameras of any kind, and cell phones, are NOT permitted during the bat flight program.”
- D. “Several scientific studies, along with the observations of many bat researchers from around the world, have documented the disturbance caused to bats by lights, especially white light such as that in flash photography.”

2. The article “Bats at Carlsbad Caverns National Park” provides several facts about bats. Insert the facts about bats into the chart.



A. Bats are the only flying mammals.	B. Bats give live birth to their young.
C. Bats are all nocturnal.	D. Bats feed their babies insects.
E. Bats have fur and feathers.	F. The bats at Carlsbad Caverns are insectivores.
G. Bats weigh approximately ½ pound.	H. Bats are warm blooded.

Answer Key

1. B

A

2. A, B, F, H