

Originally appeared on News-Journal Online at

<http://www.news-journalonline.com/NewsJournalOnline/News/WestVolusia/wvIWEST02062609.htm>

[Print
This
Page](#)
[Close
This
Page](#)

Daytona Beach News

June 26, 2009

Health Dept. seeks boys who handled rabid bat

By ANNE GEGGIS
Staff Writer

The Lee County Health Department put out a statewide alert Thursday for three of five boys who were seen playing with a rabid bat on Fort Myers Beach.

These boys -- thought to be between the ages of 10 and 12 -- were seen playing and kissing a Brazilian free-tailed bat about 4 p.m. on June 15.

The bat they were playing with was retrieved and sent to a state laboratory for testing. The bat has been found to be rabid, so the boys seen handling the bat need to start rabies vaccinations, authorities said.

Authorities said the family was visiting the Fort Myers Beach Pier. If anyone knows the identity of the boys or how to contact them, the Fort Myers Health Department has set up a hot line: 239-332-9501.

anne.geggis@news-jrnl.com

© 2009 News-Journal Corporation. ® www.news-journalonline.com. Do not republish or distribute without permission.