



FREE WILDLIFE

RESCUE • REHABILITATE • RELEASE

Found a baby bird – now what?



Is it injured or sick?

(Unable to flutter wings, bleeding, wings drooping unevenly, weak or shivering, attacked by dog/cat)

NO

YES

What does the baby bird look like?

Eyes closed, no feathers
HATCHLING

Eyes open, some feathers
NESTLING

Fully feathered, hopping around, fluttering wings
FLEDGLING

Can you find the nest?
Is it intact?

NO

YES

Make a substitute nest out of a small margarine tub. Poke holes in the bottom and line with dry grass and/or the old nest. Hang from original or nearby tree. Observe from a distance for an hour. Do the parents come to feed it?

YES

NO

Leave the area.
The baby will be OK.

Place the baby back in the nest. Observe from a distance for an hour. Do the parents come to feed it?

YES

NO

Gently move the nest to a small dark box with breathing holes. Place in a warm, quiet place. Contact or take the bird to **FFW** a.s.a.p. Do NOT give anything to eat or drink.



It is normal behaviour to be hopping on the ground – its parents will be feeding it. Is it safe from dogs, cats and people?

NO

YES

Gently herd the baby bird back to the bushes or nearby shelter or place on limb of a tree nearby. (If necessary, keep pets inside or block off area.) Observe from a distance – are the parents nearby?

NO

Leave the area.
The baby will be OK.

Contact or take the baby to
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