

Wild Bird Care

If you find a baby bird on the ground, be sure it has truly been abandoned before you take it away for care. Look for the parent birds and the nest. If you cannot find the nest, get a shoebox, put leaves in the box, and attach it to the nearest tree with the baby bird in the box - birds will not abandon their young if a person touches the baby bird. If you do find the nest, place the baby back into the nest. Be sure the baby is warm and uninjured. If a parent bird does not appear within 1-2 hours, the baby can be considered orphaned.

Keep the bird in a warm, quiet place. Offer fruit (grape halves, watermelon, berries) to rehydrate after 1-2 hours.

Food on an emergency basis can be canned dog or cat food, or soaked pellets of dried cat food. Many baby birds will gape or peep for food, and you can drop small pellets of food into the back of the mouth easily. Baby birds need to be fed often; a good general rule is every 30 minutes from 7 am to 7 pm.



Contact a veterinarian for the name of a wildlife rehabilitator. In most cases it is illegal for non-rehabilitators to possess wildlife. Rehabilitators have experience in raising wildlife and will offer that bird the best chance of growing up and being released back into the wild. Identification of the type of bird is important in determining what to feed it, and a wildlife rehabilitator will know how to feed all different types of birds. Do not

be tempted to raise the bird yourself - that is not in the best interests of the bird. -
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