

# I found a baby mammal...Now what?

If you find a baby animal in a questionable situation, use this guide to find the right course of action.



Is the animal hurt or sick?

(Attacked by domestic pet, bleeding, vomiting or signs of illness, shivering)

Yes

Call a wildlife rehabilitator

- Your state wildlife agency
- Humane Society
- US Fish & Wildlife Service

No

Can you find the nest or den?

Yes

Place baby in nest/den

No

Place baby in shallow box close to where it was found

Keep it warm but out of sun

Watch for mother for 4-6 hours

Stay completely out of sight. Mothers won't return if *any* people or pets are present.

Did the mother return?

Yes

Leave the area

Baby is OK

No

Call a wildlife rehabilitator

If you find a fawn

- Mothers normally leave their babies to feed, and the fawn will usually bed down and wait for its mother to return (as pictured above).
- If baby looks cold, hungry, diseased, or confused, or if dogs, other animals, or people threaten its safety, call a wildlife rehabilitator.
- Otherwise, leave the baby alone and leave the area. The mother will not return if people or pets are present.

If you find baby bunnies

- If their nest has been damaged it can be repaired. Look for a shallow depression lined with grass/fur. Place babies in nest with light layers of grass to hide them. Leave the area, or the mother won't return (Mothers return only at dawn & dusk).
- If you find healthy bunnies that are 4-5 inches long, able to hop, with eyes open and ears up, they do not need help. They are able to survive on their own. Leave them alone. Questions? Call a wildlife rehabilitator.



**Wildlife In Need Center**

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[www.helpingwildlife.org](http://www.helpingwildlife.org)

A baby's best chance for survival is its mother

Connecting People and Wildlife through Rehabilitation, Education, and Research since 1994

