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# Kitten Mom's Corner

## Susan's Tips for Chow Time

Caring for neonatal kittens can make your heart soar! I want your heart to have many soaring moments this kitten season. So, here are my top three hints to help you bottle feed kittens (in no particular order):

- Formula should be fresh: less than 24 hours old, preferably less than 12 hours old. Smell the powder when you open the can to make sure it has not gone bad...even unexpired powder can go rancid if not stored properly. Store powder and mixed formula in refrigerator.
- Formula should be warm – warm the nipple also and keep kitten warm while feeding.
- The nipple should be the right size for the kitten, and the opening should be large enough that formula drips out slowly when the bottle is held upside down.

For more hints and tips, see our “Fast Facts” Top Bottle Feeding Hints information sheet. Also, take a look at some of our other resources!

*Susan Spaulding is known as the 'Kitten Mom' in the shelter and rescue community. She has 25+ years' experience caring for kittens and is widely celebrated for her expertise with neonatal orphans and special-needs kittens who others have given up on. She is also a co-founder of the National Kitten Coalition. For more information on Susan, visit [www.kittencoalition.org/about-us/leadership](http://www.kittencoalition.org/about-us/leadership).*