



Kitten Tutor™: Help! I Found a Kitten, Now What?

So what is the best course of action when someone finds neonatal kittens?

This question is an important one, and here are a few key points:

- Prepare ahead of time for the possibility of finding kittens in the field - or recently delivered in the trap with momma. This includes having staff and volunteers properly trained on kitten care and equipped with necessary supplies such as a basic "kitten care kit". One of the greatest immediate needs is often for warmth and safety, so a carrier or other container with bedding and a pre-heated SnuggleSafe or other device for warmth is essential. Remember, kittens cannot regulate their own body temperature until about 4 weeks of age.

- If kittens have been without food for several hours, they will need to have a source of energy provided to them. Although you should never feed a kitten that is unstable (too hot or cold, unresponsive, etc.), you can put some Karo Syrup on its gums to provide some immediate calories and glucose.

- Then, always be sure to have the kitten examined and provided with appropriate medical and foster care.

- If the kittens' momma has been trapped, they can be reunited if safe handling and appropriate housing and care protocols are in place for her as well. Otherwise, the kittens can be hand-raised by a trained bottle-baby foster parent.

Information about [kitten care kits](#) that can benefit feral and foster kittens is available on our website, and check out our [Programs](#) page to learn more about bringing a training workshop to your location. Thanks for all you do to save kittens!

NKC offers Kitten Tutor™ handouts free to anyone interested in saving kittens. We are a 501(c)(3) and teach shelters, rescues, foster families and the veterinary community how to save more kittens. To learn more, visit: www.kittencoalition.org. © 2020 National Kitten Coalition