

So you found kittens ... now what?

Unless the kittens are in immediate danger (e.g., from traffic, predators, or machinery) or appear critically injured or ill, don't move them right away.



Young kittens stand the best chance of survival when they remain with mom, so you should avoid separating them if at all possible.



Instead, wait several hours to see if mom returns. She may be out hunting, in the process of moving her kittens to a different spot, or right nearby but afraid to approach if a person is near.

If mom hasn't come back after several hours, gently remove the kittens. It's important that they are kept warm and fed. Contact HSCC to make a plan for their care.

Use a heating pad or hot water bottle wrapped in a towel to keep kittens warm. If they can't have mom's milk, kittens will need food specifically formulated for them, KMR (kitten milk replacer) or wet cat food mixed with a little bit of warm water. Very young kittens will need to be fed with a bottle or syringe. **DO NOT** offer kittens cows' milk, soy milk, or any non-dairy milk alternatives.

If mom is **NOT SOCIAL** with people but is caring for her kittens, contact HSCC about TNR options to help keep the whole family safe.

If mom returns and is **FRIENDLY**, you may be able to bring the whole family inside safely and make a plan for their long-term care.

If you are able to care for the kittens until they are old enough to be adopted, HSCC can provide you with guidance and supplies for their care.



Humane
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