I Found a Baby Bird
Now What?

Is bird hurt or sick (unable to flutter wings; bleeding; wings drooping unevenly; weak or shivering; attacked by cat/dog?)

Is bird feathered?
No

It’s a nestling.
(needs help!)
Can you find the nest?
Is it intact?
No

Make a substitute nest.
Poke holes in bottom of berry basket/margarine tub; line with dry grass, the old nest, or pine needles; hang from original or nearby tree.

Put bird back in nest.
Observe from a distance.
Are parents visiting nest?
Yes

Put baby in nest.
Observe from a distance.
Are parents visiting nest?
Yes

Leave the area. Baby is OK.

No

If you find a baby duck, goose, quail or kilddeer:
• If you know the mother is dead, or if baby is injured, call a wildlife rehabilitator right away.
• If baby is separated from the mother and you know where she is, place baby close by so she can hear it. Watch from a distance.
• If the mother is not found or does not claim the baby within an hour, call a wildlife rehabilitator. If you cannot reach one, rescue the baby (see instructions on back).

No

Leave the area. Baby is OK.

Put bird in bushes or on a tree limb nearby. Watch from a distance. Are parents nearby?

Yes

Put bird in bushes or on a tree limb nearby. Watch from a distance. Are parents nearby?

Leave the area. Baby is OK.

No

Leave the area. Baby is OK.

Call a wildlife rehabilitator.

Call a wildlife rehabilitator.

To Find a wildlife rehabilitator in your area, contact
• Your state wildlife agency
• Humane Society
• Audubon Society
• Wild bird stores
• City Animal control office
• Veterinarian (wildlife/exotic)
• US Fish & Wildlife Service
• Wildlife Rehab Info Directory:
  (wildliferehab.virtualave.net)

If you are unable to reach any of the above, see instructions on back of this page: “How to rescue Baby Birds”

A baby’s best chance for survival is its mother

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By Shannon K. Jacobs
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