

# Tips for when you find kittens



**START HERE:** Are the kittens injured or critically sick?

**YES** →

**Call Animal Control**

↓ **NO**

## ESTIMATE THE AGE OF THE KITTENS



**0-2 WEEKS OLD**

Eyes closed or barely open



**2-4 WEEKS OLD**

Eyes open and alert; becoming mobile



**4-6 WEEKS OLD**

Very mobile and often talkative; can eat food



**6-8 WEEKS OLD**

Very active and playful; around 1-2 pounds



**8+ WEEKS OLD**

Very active and playful; 2 pounds or more

**STOP!** Can you see the mom cat OR a nest?

**YES** ↓

**NO** ↓

### DON'T KIT-NAP!

A kitten's best chance of survival is with mom. Leave the kittens where they are.

If you want to help, make sure mom has access to shelter, food, and water.

### ARE YOU SURE?

Mom may be off hunting or not want to come around if people are present. Watch the den from a distance for 24 hours.

*PRO TIP:* Leave a ring of flour around the kittens. Check in a few hours if you see mom's foot prints in the flour!

If the kittens are friendly, utilize social media and your personal network to try and place them in homes that will spay/neuter them.

You may interfere, however bringing them to an animal shelter puts them at significant risk of death. Shelters do their best to support these extremely fragile populations, but without their mother they need 24-hour bottle feeding and are at high risk for disease. Be prepared for the receiving shelter or rescue to ask you to foster the kittens in your home. Supplies, support, and guidance are provided.

↑ **MOM CAME BACK**

→ **STILL NO MOM**

Visit [BDAR.ORG](http://BDAR.ORG) for more resources.