

# Don't cat-nap the kittens!

## Found newborn kittens? Wait!

### **In most cases, removing the kittens isn't the best response.**

Mother cats may leave their kittens for several hours at a time. If the kittens are warm and don't appear sick or in distress, their mom is likely nearby, searching for food (or hiding from you).

When kittens are very young, their best chances of survival are with their mom. Her milk is much better quality than kitten milk replacement. She's able to keep them warm, stimulate them to pee and poop, and help them learn to be cats.

If the kittens are in an unsafe location, appear distressed or mom hasn't returned after several hours, first make sure they're warm, and then reach out to your local shelter or rescue group for help.

## Learn more

- Get tips for monitoring and supporting a mom cat and kittens (and the steps to take after the kittens are weaned) at [humaneworld.org/found-kittens](https://humaneworld.org/found-kittens).
- Find detailed guidance (with videos) on caring for young kittens at [kittencoalition.org](https://kittencoalition.org) and [kittenlady.org](https://kittenlady.org).