Bottle Baby Certificate Course Animal Humane New Mexico

Feeding Guidelines for Orphaned Neonatal Kittens and Puppies

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Indications

- Arrived at the shelter as orphan
- Became orphaned
- Under 3 weeks of age
- Older than 3-5 weeks of age but having difficulty weaning

*Kittens and puppies should receive at least 2-3 days of mother's milk

*Surrogates are preferred over bottle feeding





Gathering Supplies

- Scale and log sheet
- KMR (Kitten Milk Replacer) or Esbilac for puppies
- Zip Lock bag or sealable container
- Bowl of hot water
- Bottle and variety of nipples (try 1st)
- Miracle Nipple & 3 ml syringe
- Cotton balls or baby wipes
- Heating pad on low, heat disc, rice bag, microwavable ice pack
- Bin with sides if feeding from a countertop or table
- Might need: thermometer, karo syrup



When to Feed

When baby is warm; > 95 degrees F

Preferably when baby wakes hungry

Following stimulation to replicate mother's nurturing and grooming

According to timeline based on age

• Up to 1 week of age Every 2 hours

And can usually go 4 hours overnight without eating

Feeding Timeline

• 2 weeks of age to weaning Every 4 hours

And can usually go 6 hours overnight without eating

- * This can vary; crying and suckling on littermates are signs of hunger that should not be ignored.
- * If suckling on genitals of littermates continues, babies must be separated!

Housing Orphaned Neonates

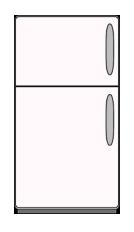
- Create a covered nesting box such as a pet carrier covered with a towel
- Provide a heating pad that doesn't cover the entire floor of the carrier
- Cover the heating pad in something made of thin fabric such as a pillowcase
- Supplement humidity when possible
- Add stuffed animal to nesting box



Handling Milk Replacer Formula



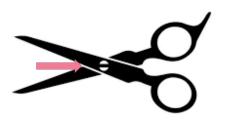


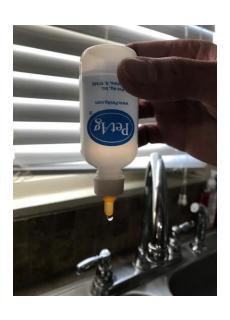






- Store dry powder in the freezer (up to 6 months once opened)
- Only mix enough liquid formula for a 24-hour period and store in fridge for up to 24 hours.
- Formula left at room temperature for more than 1 hour should be discarded
- Liquid formula cannot be microwaved
- Follow strict hygiene measures for hands and all feeding equipment

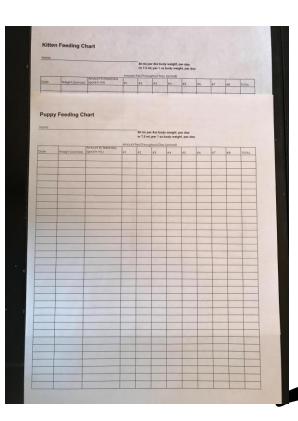




Testing Your Supplies

- For a new nipple, cut a "+" across the tip of the nipple using the inside of the scissor's blades closest to the screw-small scissors
- Then add water to the bottle and hold upside down. Without squeezing the bottle, there should be no more than a drop per second
- If a stream of fluid is seen, discard the nipple
- Have a variety of nipples on hand but consider length: baby size
- Miracle Nipples do not require adjustment
- * Never pair a Miracle Nipple with a bottle!





Calculating Amount to Feed

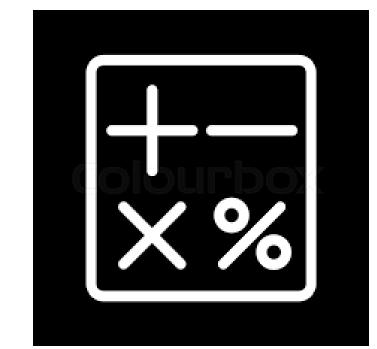
- 1) Weigh baby & record weight
- 7.5 ml of liquid formula X bodyweight in ounces =

Amount to feed each pet for a 24-hour period

3) Divide by the # of feedings per day

This is the amount (in ml) to feed each

pet each feeding



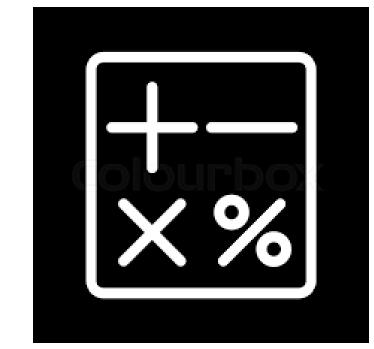
Calculation Example #1

Your 2-day-old kitten weighs 95 grams (g):

- 1) 95 g / 28 = 3.4 ounces (oz)
- 2) 7.5 ml X 3.4 oz = 26 ml per day
- 3) 24 hours / 2 = 12 feedings per day

{When baby is 2 days old, he will need to be fed every 2 hours and can usually go up to 4 hours overnight without eating. This will eliminate one meal. Then you will have 11 feedings per day.}

4) 26 ml per day / 11 feedings per day= 2.4 ml per feeding



Calculation Example #2

Your 3-week-old puppy weighs 800 grams (g):

- 1) 800 g / 28 = 29 ounces (oz)
- 2) 7.5 ml X 29 oz = 218 ml per day
- 3) 24 hours / 4 = 6 feedings per day

{At 3 weeks of age baby needs to be fed every 4 hours and can go for up to 6 hours overnight without eating. Waiting 6 hours overnight will not affect our calculation.}

4) 218 ml per day / 6 feedings per day = 36 ml per feeding

How Much Formula Should I Mix Up for My Bottle Babies?

When formula is mixed in the ratio of 1 part powder to 2 parts warm water:

{A part can be a teaspoon, tablespoon, cup, etc.}

- 1 teaspoon of powder will yield
- ~ 8 ml of liquid formula
- 1 tablespoon of powder will yield
- ~ 34 ml of formula
- 1 cup of power will yield
- ~ 585 ml of formula

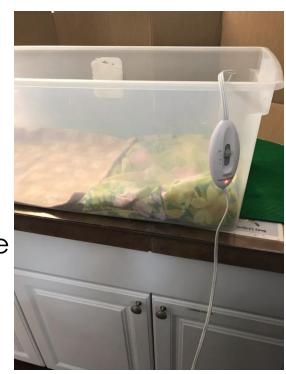
How Do I Mix the Formula?

- Decide how much liquid formula you will need for all of your bottle babies for the next 24 hours
- The powder can be added to a Zip Lock bag or sealable container such as a mason jar
- The hot water can come from the tap or be water can be heated in a mug in the microwave
- Combine the powder and hot water into the sealable container
- Gently mix. Do not use a blender.
- Be sure that there are no clumps of powder remaining
- To maintain the temperature of your liquid formula or rewarm, place your sealed container of formula in your bowl of hot water.
- You can use a syringe or funnel to transfer your liquid formula to your bottle(s) or it can be drawn
 up using your Miracle Nipple syringe. Then place them into the hot water bowl to keep warm

Puppy and Kitten Positioning

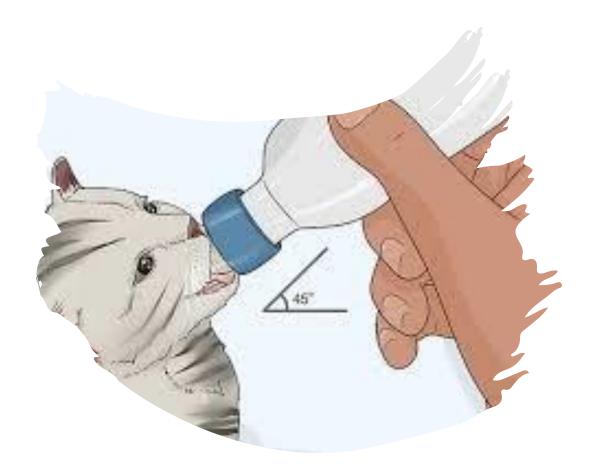
- Remember to either feed on the floor or if on a countertop or table, the babies must be in a container with sides to prevent falls
- Keep baby on a heating pad or heat source (on low)
- Baby should be in a natural "standing" position
- Gently support their heads with your fingers under either side of the jaw
- Rooting and kneading with their front legs is normal, so they may choose to support themselves with their back legs only & arms outstretched





Proper Bottle Use

- Be careful not to screw the lid too tightly onto the bottle
- Notice the graduations on the side of the bottle before you begin feeding so you can keep track of the amount of formula each pet ingests per feeding
- Always test formula temperature on wrist first
- The bottle must be held at a 45-degree angle, or wider depending on the amount of formula inside
- It is important that the angle of the bottle is adjusted as baby ingests formula to avoid air being swallowed
- Never squeeze the bottle







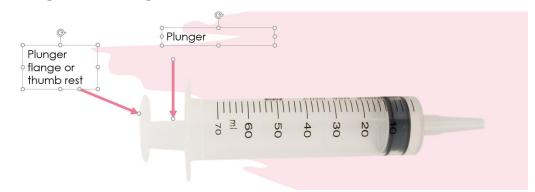






Proper Miracle Nipple Use

- Pair Miracle Nipple with 3 ml syringe only
- Be sure that there is no air in the syringe
- Always test formula temperature on wrist first
- Baby should pull the plunger as he eats,
 rather than moving the plunger for them
- If giving single drop, your thumb should never be on the plunger flange / thumb rest







Special Considerations

 For cases of starvation, missed meal, following an instance of fading:

Feed 50% volume for first feeding

Gradually increase to normal volume over the next 4 feedings

Diarrhea:

Dilute formula to 1 part powder to 4 parts warm water for the first 4 feedings (1:4)

Then 1:3 for the following 4 feedings

Lastly return to the 1:2 ratio

Prolonged diarrhea:

Mix powder with unflavored Pedialyte instead of water for 24 hours

Ask for an alternate milk replacer brand

Troubleshooting: Baby Won't Eat

Try burping baby

Try stimulating to urinate or defecate prior to feeding (details in later slide)

Check temperature of formula-be sure to continue to rewarm formula in bowl of hot water

Check temperature of baby

Bottle cap screwed on too tightly?

Nipple hole not large enough?

Clog at nipple opening caused by clump in the formula?

Try coating nipple in karo syrup

Try adding karo syrup to the formula

Have you snuggled baby and simulated mother's grooming?

Wait 30 minutes and try again

Try carefully giving one drop via the Miracle Nipple-did baby swallow? Eye droppers and syringes are last resort.

Is baby weak, cold to the touch, limp? Initiate Fading Kitten / Puppy Protocol and don't feed yet!



Other Issues

- Over feeding: diarrhea, constipation (no feces for 48 hours), white or very pale stools
- Underfeeding: dehydration, potential to fade, delayed development
- URI (upper respiratory infection) signs: difficulty feeding



After Feeding

- Stimulate to urinate and defecate
- Burp
- Clean their faces or anywhere formula is left on the body
- Record the amount each kitten ate on a log
- Clean all feeding supplies with hot water and dish soap after each feeding and sanitize items every 24 hours.





Accidents



 Baby is accidentally given a large mouthful of liquid formula at once:

Immediately tip baby upside down with his nose to the ground

Try to clear any remaining liquid from the mouth with a cotton ball or tissue

Be sure that the mouth is clear and baby is breathing normally before continuing to feed

Monitor for changes in breathing and call FC office if seen

 Milk is coming from baby's nose while feeding:

Baby is likely eating too fast

When to Contact the Foster Care Office

- Baby is not feeding for 6 hours
- Inadequate weight gain for a 2-day period or weight loss
- Fading neonate: weak, head-bobbing, wobbly, limp, cold, twitching-Initiate Fading Kitten / Puppy Protocol
- Diarrhea for 48 hours
- No feces for 48 hours or straining to defecate
- Red or ulcerated genitals
- URI or any other signs of illness
- Breathing changes
- Injury

Mentorship Program

Want a bottle baby buddy?

Or maybe you would like to be the buddy to a bottle baby foster parent?

