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Avian Haven Found Baby Bird Flowchart

Avian Haven

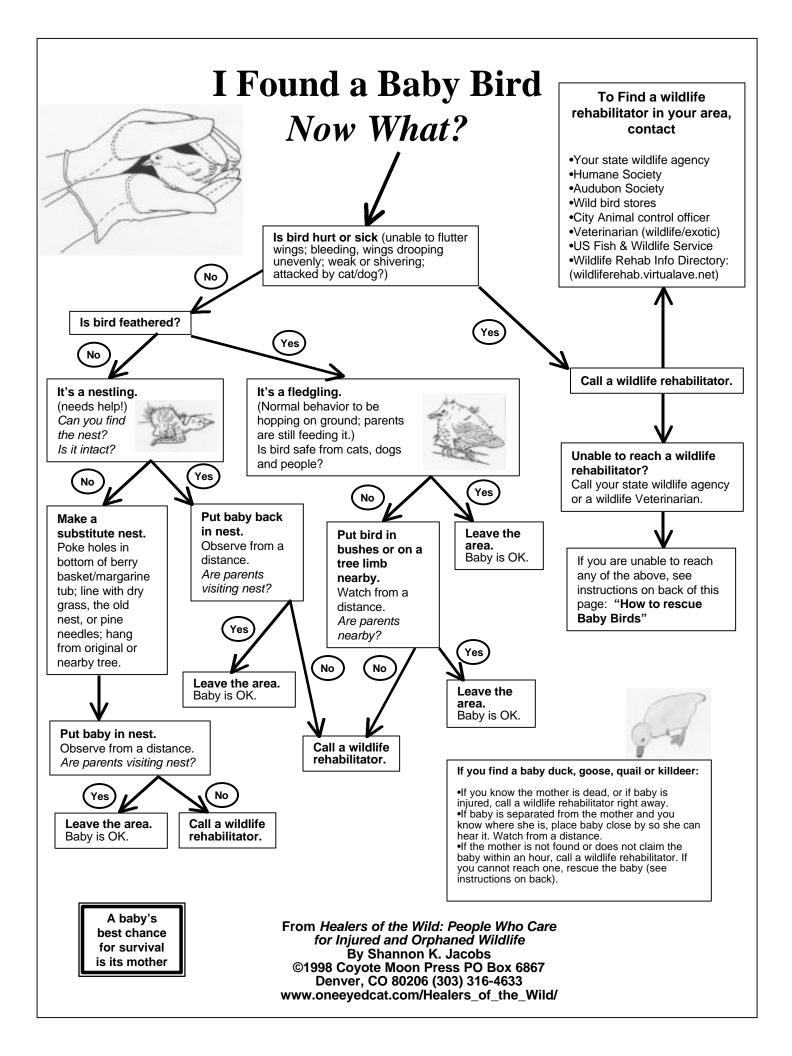
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How to Rescue Baby Birds

(Only adults should rescue baby birds. Before rescuing adult birds, seek guidance from a wildlife rehabilitator.)

- 1. **Prepare a container**. Place a clean, soft cloth with no strings or loops on the bottom of a cardboard box or cat/dog carrier with a lid. If it doesn't have air holes, make some. For smaller birds, you can use a paper sack with air holes..
- Protect yourself. Wear gloves, if possible. Some birds may stab with their beaks, slice
 with their talons (claws) and slap with their wings, to protect themselves, even if sick;
 birds commonly have parasites (fleas, lice, ticks) and carry diseases.
- 3. Cover the bird with a light sheet or towel.
- 4. Gently pick up the bird and put it in the prepared container.
- 5. Warm the animal if it's cold out or if the animal is chilled. Put one end of the container on a heating pad set on low. Or fill a zip-top plastic bag, plastic soft drink container with a screw lid, or a rubber glove with hot water; wrap warm container with cloth, and put it next to the animal. Make sure the container doesn't leak, or the animal will get wet and chilled.
- 6. Tape the box shut or roll the top of the paper bag closed.
- 7. Note exactly where you found the bird. This will be very important for release.
- 8. Keep the bird in a warm, dark, quiet place.

Don't give it food or water.

Leave the bird alone: don't handle or bother it.

Keep children and pets away.

9. Contact a wildlife rehabilitator, state wildlife agency, or wildlife veterinarian as soon as possible.

Don't keep the bird at your home longer than necessary.

Keep the bird in a container; don't let it loose in your house or car.

10. Wash your hands after contact with the bird.

Wash anything the bird was in contact with — towel, jacket, blanket, pet carrier — to prevent the spread of diseases and/or parasites to you or your pets.

11. Get the bird to a wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible.

It's against the law in most states to keep wild animals if you don't have permits, even if you plan to release them.

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By Shannon K. Jacobs
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