

I found a kitten! Now what?



Spay/Neuter is the only humane way to prevent unwanted litters. Visit sbanimalservices.org to find out how YOU can be part of the solution!

Are the kittens visibly sick, injured, or malnourished?

NO

YES

[Please contact SBCAS](#)

Are the kittens old enough to be separated from mom?



For tips on aging kittens visit www.kittenlady.org/age

NO, THEY ARE NOT YET 6 WEEKS OLD

Do you see a nest or hiding spot?

NO

YES

If in danger, move to a safe spot close by and watch for mom

Gently return kittens to their hiding spot

YES, THEY ARE 6 WEEKS OR OLDER



Are the kittens friendly?

NO

YES

Click for tips on socializing kittens under 12 weeks www.kittenlady.org/orphaned-1

Click for tips on finding homes www.kittenlady.org/advertising

Time to get mom and babies spayed/neutered!



Don't take her babies.

If the kittens are:

- Warm
- Clean
- Plump
- Quiet

Mom is doing her job. She'll be back shortly.

Can't foster?

Santa Barbara County Animal Services can help find foster homes for orphaned kittens. For details, please visit: www.sbanimalservices.org

Mom might be missing...

If the kittens are:

- Cold
- Dirty
- Skinny
- Noisy

Kittens can't regulate their body temperature, so a kitten that is both cold AND skinny, noisy and/or dirty might be orphaned. Look for sunken bellies, visible bones, or pale skin to confirm mom needs your help.

Click link for tips on caring for newborn kittens. www.kittenlady.org/kitten-care or a downloadable booklet <http://www.kittenlady.org/booklet>

I need a hero!



Step 1: A kitten's best chance for survival is with her mother. Assess the kittens to confirm mom is providing care.

➔ Are the kittens plump, clean, warm, and quiet? Mom is doing her job and likely just out getting dinner. It's safe to leave her kittens in their nest. When kittens are 6 weeks old, contact SBCAS at **805.934.6119 X7** to get them spayed/neutered.

➔ Are the kittens skinny, dirty, cold or noisy? Mom might not be around. Time to help her out and intervene. Advance to step two.

Step 2: You're a new parent! Don't worry, we're here to help.

Visit www.sbcanimalservices.org for resources and support raising your new kitten(s).

➔ Can't care for the kittens? Be a hero and keep kittens safe in homes by finding someone who can foster until they are old enough to be spayed/neutered and adopted.

Still have questions? Please call SBCAS at **805.934.6119X7** and we will support you in becoming a foster parent.



www.sbcanimalservices.org

Santa Barbara County Animal Services
548 West Foster Road
805.934.6119 X7
SBCAnimalServices.org



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