

I'VE FOUND A BABY RABBIT

WHAT DO I DO?

Wild eastern cottontail rabbits nest in shallow depressions in grassy areas. It's normal for a mother rabbit to leave her babies alone and hidden in the nest for long periods of time. The mothers come back only a few times a day to feed the babies, who wait quietly hiding from predators. Not sure if they're a wild rabbit or a domestic feral rabbit? Take a picture and call the Animal Helpline for advice.

BCSPCA
SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS



**ARE THERE ANY VISIBLE WOUNDS OR INJURIES?
OR, HAVE THEY BEEN CAUGHT BY A CAT OR DOG?**

NO

YES

**ARE THEIR EARS UP AND ALERT, AND BODY
SHAPE ROUND LIKE A TENNIS BALL?**

YES

These babies
may be small, but
they are okay!

NO

Do they have a “baby hippo” appearance - hairless with dark skin, ears flat back, large ears relative to head, stubby nose?

NO

CAN YOU SEE A NEST?

NO

**CALL THE BC
SPCA ANIMAL
HELPLINE AT
1-855-622-7722**

YES

Put baby back in the nest
and do a parent test.

DO A PARENT TEST

HOW TO TELL IF THIS BABY IS ORPHANED

1. Place pieces of long grass or thin twigs in a grid (tic-tac-toe) over the nest (nothing heavier or synthetic)*
2. Take a picture of the nest with the grid in place
3. Wait 24 hours
4. Take another picture and compare
5. Has the grid been disturbed?

***Do not add food or any extra coverings,
the unfamiliar scent could scare mom away**

YES

BABIES ARE OKAY

Mom has visited and babies are okay.

NO