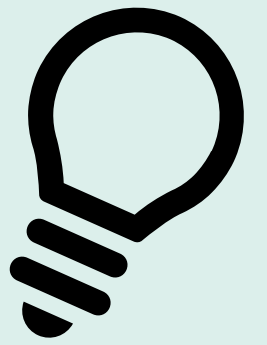




Bottle Feeding for Beginners

So you want to foster bottle kittens...



Here are some things to consider:

- Time
 - How long do you keep them and how often do you feed them?
- Location
 - Where will you keep them?
- Family Pets
 - What do you need to consider for your pets at home?
- Failure to Thrive

How to Prepare

- Carrier
 - Depending on their age, kittens can be kept in a top open carrier, play pen or bathtub
- Fleece blankets
- Kitchen scale and notebook to monitor kitten growth
- Heating Disc or Heating Gel
- Kitten Milk Replacement
 - KMR
 - Breeder's Edge
- Bottles/ Syringes
- Miracle Nipples
- Tissue or cotton pads / Litter and shallow litter pan
- Small plush toys
- Wet food/ dry food



OC Animal Care's foster program is based off of donations. Staff will send supplies while it lasts to help get you through a few nights including but not limited to a cardboard carrier, heating source, KMR, bottle, blanket, tissue, wet/ dry food and toys.

Kitten Assessment

- Kittens Age and Overall Health
- Log Growth



TEENY TINIES

The tiniest, most vulnerable kittens require gentle and frequent care.

NEWBORN		1 WEEK		2 WEEKS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• pink in color, umbilical cord attached, eyes closed• 97 degrees; can't regulate temp.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• eyes closed, ears folded, no umbilical cord• eyes open at 8-12 days		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• eyes completely open, blue color• wobbly on their feet

TEENY WEANIES

As kittens age, you'll help them reach important developmental milestones.

3 WEEKS		4 WEEKS		5 WEEKS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• incisors emerging, ears unfolded• discovering litterbox		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• canines emerging• walking confidently & exploring their surroundings		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• premolars emerging• weaning slowly onto wet kitten food

BIG KIDS CLUB

These social, independent, and coordinated kittens are almost ready for adoption.

6 WEEKS		7 WEEKS		8 WEEKS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• molars emerging• coordinated; like a miniature cat		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• all milk (deciduous) teeth have emerged• transitioning into adult eye color		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• once 2 pounds, kittens can be spayed/neutered and placed in their forever home!

Weight and Feeding

Kitten Bottle Feeding and Stomach Capacity Chart

Estimated Kitten Age (weeks)	Kitten Weight (lbs, oz)	Kitten Weight (grams)	Daily Caloric Requirement*	Amount of Formula Per Day (ml)**	Amount Per Feeding (ml)*	Approximate Number of Feedings Per Day***
< 1 week	2 oz	57 g	11 kcal	15 ml	2 ml	7
	3 oz	85 g	17 kcal	23 ml	3 ml	7
	4 oz	113 g	23 kcal	31 ml	5 ml	7
1 week	5 oz	142 g	28 kcal	38 ml	6 ml	7
	6 oz	170 g	34 kcal	46 ml	7 ml	7
	7 oz	198 g	40 kcal	54 ml	8 ml	7
2 weeks	8 oz	227 g	45 kcal	61 ml	9 ml	7
	9 oz	255 g	51 kcal	69 ml	10 ml	7
	10 oz	283 g	57 kcal	77 ml	11 ml	7
3 weeks*	11 oz	312 g	62 kcal	84 ml	12 ml	6-7
	12 oz	340 g	68 kcal	92 ml	14 ml	6-7
	13 oz	369 g	74 kcal	100 ml	15 ml	6
4 weeks*	14 oz	397 g	79 kcal	107 ml	16 ml	5
	15 oz	425 g	85 kcal	115 ml	17 ml	5
	16 oz (1 lb)	454 g	91 kcal	123 ml	18 ml	5
5 weeks*	1 lb, 1 oz	482 g	96 kcal	130 ml	19 ml	4
	1 lb, 2 oz	510 g	102 kcal	138 ml	20 ml	4
	1 lb, 3 oz	539 g	108 kcal	146 ml	22 ml	4
5 weeks*	1 lb, 4 oz	567 g	113 kcal	153 ml	23 ml	4

Image Source: [Maddie's Fund](#)



kitten weight and feeding chart

AGE	WEIGHT	AMOUNT PER FEEDING	SCHEDULE
0-1 week	75-150 grams	2-6 ml	Every 2 hours
1-2 weeks	150-250 grams	6-10 ml	Every 2-3 hours
2-3 weeks	250-350 grams	10-14 ml	Every 3-4 hours
3-4 weeks	350-450 grams	14-18 ml	Every 4-5 hours
4-5 weeks	450-550 grams	18-22 ml	Every 5-6 hours
5-8 weeks	550-850 grams	(weaning; offer ample wet food)	Every 6 hours

Image Source: [KittenLady.org](#)

Kitten Care

- Stimulate
- Bottle Feed
- Clean Faces and No Fleas Please!
- Monitor, Log... and Repeat!



Stimulating



- Use tissue to gently rub the kitten's genitals
- Healthy Poop- brownish/yellow and solid
- Diarrhea is deadly- dehydrates kittens and may be the source of an underlying issue
- Litter training- leave a litter box out at 3 weeks old

Feeding



- Always feed kittens on their stomach
- Never feed a kitten when they are cold
- Nipple flow
- Formula consistency and temperature
- Amount
- Never use cow's milk or dairy products

Keeping Clean



- Always wipe kittens' faces after feeding them
- Make sure to clean kittens well after stimulating
- Young kittens cannot get flea treatment
 - Flea comb
- Quick and warm baths
 - Followed by heat source

Vet Care



- OC Animal Care provides medical care
- URI (cold), deworming, vaccinations, ringworm, scabies, ear mites, etc
- Routine Care Timeline:
 - Routine FVRCP and dewormer every 2-3 weeks
 - Spay/Neuter at 2 lbs and 2 months old

