

As generous, kind-hearted humans we may consider rescuing baby birds that appear to need our help.

UNFORTUNATELY, THIS, it is NOT always the best thing to do.

When a baby bird is obviously injured or has been attacked by a cat, it SHOULD BE RESCUED and taken to a wildlife care facility as soon as possible.

However, if the baby bird looks HEALTHY

RESCUE should be the VERY last option you consider

The very BEST option for baby birds is to allow them to be raised by their parents.

When considering rescue, there is a risk that YOU could end up kidnapping a baby bird which it is simply waiting for its parents to bring back food

Different types of birds have different development paths, BUT none of them hatch and can fly well straight away.

Just like human teenagers, baby birds need to be taught the basic life skills by their parents

For many species, a baby bird will spend 2 to 3 weeks as a teenager, on the ground or hopping in low branches, learning these life skills.

When they leave the nest, before they can fly properly, parents are often forced to leave them alone while they search for food.

So, if you see a healthy, fully feathered, baby bird alone, hopping on the ground,

The best thing you can do is to Place it as high as possible, in a dense part of a nearby tree or bush to keep it safe

It is MOST probably SIMPLY waiting for its parents to return with food

If the baby bird you find still needs a nest OR it is injured OR you are just unsure, get help as soon as possible.

Locating your nearest Vet or wildlife care facility is made easy by downloading the WildCare Helpline app.

And, by the way, handling a baby bird does NOT prevent the parent bird from taking that baby back into care.

Baby birds need very specialised care and need to be with their parents or qualified carers as soon as possible.

Injuries can easily be missed by kind-hearted, unqualified people trying to help by keeping baby birds themselves.

Baby birds, especially wild ones, have very specialised feeding requirements, and the wrong food can cause deformities or even death.

Many wild birds also carry diseases which can be transmitted to humans, particularly children.

So, there are occasions when it is appropriate to rescue baby birds.

But, Remember to act quickly and get the right help, to be sure the baby bird has the best chance IT CAN TO SURVIVE.