

Bottle Feeding Workshop

A presentation on how to properly feed and care for orphaned neonates.



WELCOME!

 A little about me..

 What is involved in fostering neonates?

- *Commitment*
- *Time*
- *Patience*
- *Lack of sleep*



DEVELOPMENT



NEONATE – FEEDING SCHEDULES



Need to be fed every 2 hours for the first three days of life



Need to be fed every 4 hours from 4 days - 7 days.



Need to be fed every 5 hours from 7 days - 14 days.



Need to be fed every 6 hours from 14 – 21 days of life.



Supervised feeds from 21 days (weaning process)



NEONATE – BIRTH TO 3 DAYS



Need to be fed every 2 hours for the first three days of life



Cannot regulate body temperature



Mobility is low



Cannot urinate or defecate on their own, stimulation required



Eyes and ears are closed – eyes and ears will begin to open around 8-10 days of age, fully open by 14 days; it is important to never pry them open



They can touch and taste



TRANSITIONAL – 4 DAYS - 2 WEEKS



Need to be fed every 4 hours from 4 days - 7 days.



Need to be fed every 5 hours from 7 days - 14 days.



Kittens and puppies will start to have their eyes and ears open from 8-10 days, fully opened by 14 days.



Will be wobbly on their feet.



Stimulating for urination and defecation required



TRANSITIONAL – WEEKS 2 TO 4



Need to be fed every 6 hours from 14 – 21 days of life.



At 4 weeks of age they can now regulate their own body temperature



Stimulation for urination and defecation may be required until 4 weeks

KITENS:

- start discovering litter box
- teething (incisors and canines emerging)
- walking confidently at 4 weeks
- vision improving

PUPPIES:

- teething (incisors and canines emerging)
- stand, sit and start walking
- wag tail and bark
- responds to sounds and loud noises
- vision improving



Their co-ordination is developing, and they will begin to support themselves more (however they will still stumble)





NEWBORN



1 WEEK OLD



2 WEEKS OLD



NEWBORN



1 WEEK OLD



2 WEEKS OLD



3 WEEKS OLD



4 WEEKS OLD



5 WEEKS OLD



3 WEEKS OLD







4 WEEKS OLD







5 WEEKS OLD

TRANSITIONAL – WEEK 4 WEANING

-  If at good health/weight kittens and puppies can slowly start transitioning onto solid foods by week 5 will be off bottle completely
-  Kittens can have Baby Cat wet food, slowly introduce Baby Cat biscuits soaked and softened mixed with Wombaroo formula .
-  Puppies can have Puppy Biscuits soaked with Wombaroo formula, slowly introducing puppy wet.
-  Kittens and puppies should now have constant access to fresh water with appropriate bowl size



TRANSITIONAL – WEEK 4

-  Kittens will begin to groom themselves and use a litter tray
-  Toilet training can begin for puppies
-  Eye and play co-ordination is developing and littermates will become more active and interactive with each other
-  Puppy socialization should be started including toys and enrichment



EQUIPMENT FOR BOTH KITTEN AND PUPPY





- ☐ Bottles
- ☐ Teats
- ☐ Wombaroo
- ☐ Syringes – 1mL, 5mL, 10mL, 50mL
- ☐ Soft bedding
- ☐ Plush toys
- ☐ Heat source
- ☐ Bottle brush
- ☐ Spill-proof container
- ☐ Soft carrier
- ☐ Shallow litter tray
- ☐ Swabs and fragrance-free baby wipes
- ☐ Kitchen scales
- ☐ Weight + feeding charts
- ☐ Toothbrush
- ☐ Honey
- ☐ Vaseline
- ☐ Puppy pads



SNUGGLESafe DISC

www.vetnpetdirect.com.au

HOUSING

Kittens will live in a carrier generally from birth to 2 weeks of age.

By 3 weeks, kittens should be moved into a medium soft puppy/kitten pen for extra space to move around and start toilet training, it is important warm bedding is still provided.

By week 4 kittens should be moved into a larger play pen.



Puppies will live in a carrier generally from birth to 1 weeks of age.


By 1-2 weeks puppies should be moved into a large crate, it is important warm bedding is still provided .

By week 3 puppies should be moved into a play pen during the day but still crated or confined to a laundry or small room at night.



PUPPY SOCIALISATION PERIOD 4-12 WEEKS

 This puppy development stage is the critical time for learning social skills.

 Social skills are influenced by their litter mates. Puppies begin to interact with their siblings and actively play-fight with each other. Using social signals such as growling, pawing and tail wagging.*biting behavior may occur*

 Physical handling e.g. touching ears, paws, stroking body

 Experiences e.g. new rooms, noises, outside areas

 Toys and enrichments

 4-5 weeks each puppy should have their own feeding bowls.



**WHAT IS THE MOST
IMPORTANT
THING TO TEACH A
NEW PUPPY?**



Video

WOMBAROO - POWDERED FORMULA



PREPARATION AND STORAGE OF FORMULA - KITTEN



Water should be pre-boiled



Prepare formula using only the recommended ratio of powder to water as specified on the Wombaroo box



25mL of pre-boiled, warm water + 1 level scoop of Wombaroo = 30mL of formula



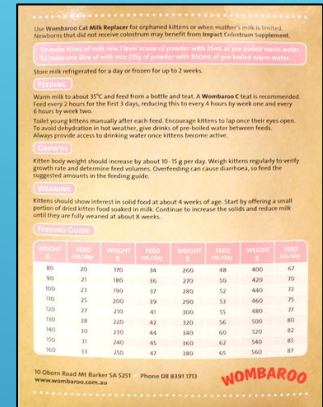
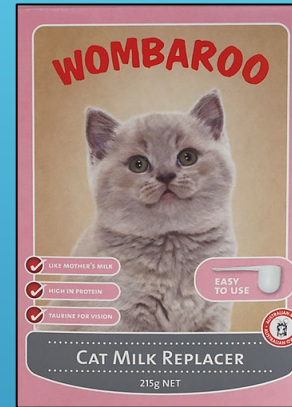
The amount of formula made at one single time will be determined by the number of kittens being fed









Formula is only consumable for 24 hours – leftovers **MUST** be discarded



Formula **MUST** be refrigerated – it cannot be heated, cooled and then reheated



PREPARATION AND STORAGE OF FORMULA - PUPPY

-  Water should be pre-boiled
-  Prepare formula using only the recommended ratio of powder to water as specified on the Wombaroo box
-  25mL of pre-boiled, warm water + 1 level scoop of Wombaroo = 30mL of formula
-  The amount of formula made at one single time will be determined by the number of kittens being fed
-  Formula is only consumable for 24 hours – leftovers **MUST** be discarded
-  Formula **MUST** be refrigerated – it **cannot** be heated, cooled and then reheated



Use Wombaroo Dog Milk Replacer for orphaned puppies or when mother's milk is limited. Newborns that did not receive colostrum may benefit from Impact Colostrum Supplement.

To make 30mL of milk mix 1 level scoop of powder with 25mL of pre-boiled warm water. To make one litre of milk mix 22g of powder with 350mL of pre-boiled warm water.

Store milk refrigerated for a day or frozen for up to 2 weeks.

FEEDING

Warm milk to about 35°C and feed from a bottle and teat. Use Wombaroo SD or LD teats for small and large breeds respectively. Feed every 2 hours for the first 3 days, reducing this to every 4 hours by week one and every 6 hours by week two.

Toilet young puppies manually after each feed. Encourage puppies to lap once their eyes open. To avoid dehydration in hot weather, give drinks of pre-boiled water between feeds. Always provide access to drinking water once puppies become active.

GROWTH

Consistent weight gain is an indication of good health. Weigh puppies regularly to verify growth rate and determine feed volumes. Overfeeding can cause diarrhoea, so feed the suggested amounts in the feeding guide.

WEANING

Puppies should show interest in solid food at about 4 weeks of age. Start by offering a small portion of dried puppy food soaked in milk. Continue to increase the solids and reduce milk until they are fully weaned at about 8 weeks.

| WEIGHT | FEED | WEIGHT | FEED | WEIGHT | FEED | WEIGHT | FEED |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| g | ml/day | g | ml/day | g | ml/day | g | ml/day |
| 80 | 20 | 180 | 36 | 700 | 100 | 1700 | 195 |
| 90 | 21 | 190 | 37 | 800 | 110 | 1800 | 200 |
| 100 | 23 | 200 | 39 | 900 | 120 | 1900 | 205 |
| 110 | 25 | 250 | 46 | 1000 | 130 | 2000 | 210 |
| 120 | 27 | 300 | 55 | 1100 | 140 | 2200 | 230 |
| 130 | 28 | 350 | 60 | 1200 | 150 | 2400 | 250 |
| 140 | 30 | 400 | 65 | 1300 | 160 | 2600 | 265 |
| 150 | 31 | 450 | 70 | 1400 | 165 | 2800 | 280 |
| 160 | 33 | 500 | 75 | 1500 | 175 | 3000 | 295 |
| 170 | 34 | 600 | 90 | 1600 | 185 | 3200 | 310 |

10 Osborn Road Mt Barker SA 5251 Phone 08 8391 1713
www.wombaroo.com.au

WOMBAROO

WEIGHING



WEIGHING YOUR NEONATE



Obtain a starting weight when you collect your neonate.



Weight checks should be done at the same feed/time each day. Don't judge just by looking at them.



A feeding guide can be found on the back of the Wombaroo box



Weight should increase by 5% - 10% each day, however don't become stressed or disheartened if only a small gain has been made



Record results on your Weight + Feeding charts to help keep track of weight gains

Use Wombaroo Cat Milk Replacer for orphaned kittens or when mother's milk is limited. Newborns that did not receive colostrum may benefit from Impact Colostrum Supplement.

To make 10ml of milk mix 1 level scoop of powder with 25ml of pre-boiled warm water.
To make one litre of milk mix 25g of powder with 850ml of pre-boiled warm water.

Store milk refrigerated for a day or frozen for up to 2 weeks.

FEEDING

Warm milk to about 35°C and feed from a bottle and teat. A Wombaroo C teat is recommended. Feed every 2 hours for the first 3 days, reducing this to every 4 hours by week one and every 6 hours by week two.

Toilet young kittens manually after each feed. Encourage kittens to lap once their eyes open. To avoid dehydration in hot weather, give drinks of pre-boiled water between feeds. Always provide access to drinking water once kittens become active.

GROWTH

Kitten body weight should increase by about 10-15 g per day. Weigh kittens regularly to verify growth rate and determine feed volumes. Overfeeding can cause diarrhoea, so feed the suggested amounts in the feeding guide.

WEANING

Kittens should show interest in solid food at about 4 weeks of age. Start by offering a small portion of dried kitten food soaked in milk. Continue to increase the solids and reduce milk until they are fully weaned at about 8 weeks.

FEEDING GUIDE

| WEIGHT g | FEED ml/day | WEIGHT g | FEED ml/day | WEIGHT g | FEED ml/day | WEIGHT g | FEED ml/day |
|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| 80 | 20 | 170 | 34 | 260 | 48 | 400 | 67 |
| 90 | 21 | 180 | 36 | 270 | 50 | 420 | 70 |
| 100 | 23 | 190 | 37 | 280 | 52 | 440 | 72 |
| 110 | 25 | 200 | 39 | 290 | 53 | 460 | 75 |
| 120 | 27 | 210 | 41 | 300 | 55 | 480 | 77 |
| 130 | 28 | 220 | 42 | 320 | 56 | 500 | 80 |
| 140 | 30 | 230 | 44 | 340 | 60 | 520 | 82 |
| 150 | 31 | 240 | 45 | 360 | 62 | 540 | 85 |
| 160 | 33 | 250 | 47 | 380 | 65 | 560 | 87 |

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WOMBAROO

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WOMBAROO

FEEDING



FEEDING YOUR NEONATE PROPERLY

STEP 1: Wash hands for hand hygiene

STEP 2: Boil kettle - allow to cool slightly, water should be warm temperature not boiling hot

STEP 3: Stimulate neonate for urination and defecation with wipes or swabs

STEP 4: Discard dirty wipes/swabs and wash hands for hand hygiene

STEP 5: Make fresh wombaroo kitten milk

STEP 6: Test kitten milk to ensure temperature is luke warm not too hot or cold

STEP 7: Give bottle to neonate

STEP 8: Stimulate neonate for urination or defecation with wipes or swabs

STEP 9: Place milk in refrigerator (discard after 24 hours)

STEP 10: Ensure neonates have clean & warm bedding

STEP 11: Clean Bottle and Teat for sterilisation



WHAT AMOUNT DO I FEED ?



To determine the correct amount of formula to give each feed, you will need to ensure you have collected a current weight for the day



The feeding guide will show the mL/per day to give for each weight



Each amount will also depend on how many feeds you are giving per day



For example; Bear is a 1.5 week old kitten who weighs 160g and needs to be fed every six hours. Using the box, we can see that a 160g kitten needs to be fed 33mL per day. By dividing 33 by 4 (four representing how many feeds needed per day), we can calculate that Bear requires 8.25mL at each feed.

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WOMBAROO

THINGS TO REMEMBER



Neonates should NEVER be fed whilst lying on their back as this can cause aspiration pneumonia



The first few feeds can be difficult as they learn to latch



Overfeeding may be tempting, especially if the neonate is very vocal, but this can lead to diarrhoea or bloat



Each one of the litter receives their own individual amount of formula - not a group average



Neonates can be offered cool, pre-boiled water between feeds if they still seem restless



SAFE FEEDING PRACTICES



Teats need to be pierced correctly so that neonates receive a safe and steady milk flow



Any excess fluid that is not able to be swallowed into the stomach has the potential to go into the lungs and thereby causing aspiration pneumonia, which is often fatal, therefore slow and steady is the best method of feeding.



Milk flows from the nose when the neonate is unable to swallow the quantity being given.



Always ensure the hole in the teat is not too large. They should be checked before each feed as the holes will gradually become larger from use



Never apply pressure to the bottle or teat as they will ingest the milk at its own pace



Patience is essential!



MIRACLE NIPPLE

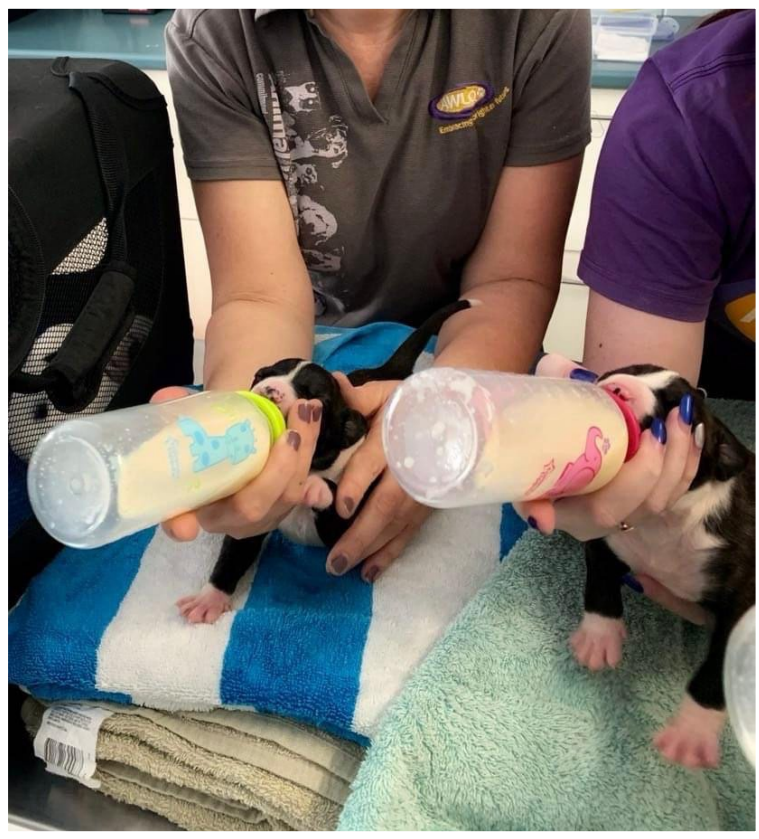
Developed with small animals in mind, this nipple is for use with kittens, puppies and other small mammals. Designed with a kneading pad that allows the animals to knead with their small paws as they nurse as they would do naturally. Made of a flexible latex material that far outlasts other nipples. With less chance of small sharp teeth piercing the nipple, the Miracle Nipple is designed to alleviate the chance of an animal swallowing the entire nipple or biting the nipple in half. Available in 3 sizes; Mini for small newborn mammals, Original for most kitten and toy breed puppies and Large for medium to large breed puppies.



The luer lock syringe can also be purchased O-Ring Syringe (Luer Lock) is primarily stocked as the fit onto any size Miracle Nipple ([Original](#), [Mini](#) or [Large](#)). The silicone o-ring offers smooth gliding and less friction, meaning that puppies and kittens are usually able to suck the plunger down themselves. The plunger does not get tacky like regular syringes, therefore they have better reuse.

<https://www.whelpingsupplies.com.au/product/miracle-nipple-original/>

PUPPY BOTTLES - FOR MEDIUM/LARGE BREEDS



Tommee Tippee Bottles - Newborn slow teat.

-  These bottles work a treat for medium to large breed puppies.
-  Can be purchased from your local supermarket



TOILETING YOUR NEONATE



TOILETING YOUR NEONATE



Kittens and puppies need to be stimulated to toilet – until they can on their own. Their mother would usually do this, so we have to take the place of mum... the first poop is the hardest!



Neonates need to be toileted before and after each feed



To toilet the neonate, take a swab or baby wipe and gently massage the stomach down to the anus and genitals



Bottle fed kittens' poop is smelly, a strange colour and softer than normal – don't be alarmed!



STERILISATION



STERILISING YOUR EQUIPMENT

Sterilisation is imperative to your neonates health

Step One: Rinse bottle with warm water

Step Two: Using a bottle brush, clean all surfaces to ensure all formula is removed from the inside of the bottle

Step Three: Rinse the bottle again

Step Four: Repeat this process with the teat

Step Five: Place items into a heat-safe bowl and pour boiling water to submerge equipment for at least 5 minutes

Step Six: Carefully remove items from water and allow to air dry



CLEANING



GROOMING AND CLEANING



Change bedding as required - physical feel not just visual



Ensure all urine and faeces is cleaned off the puppy or kitten



Use a toothbrush to mimic a mother's tongue and brush along their coat









Keep them clean! You are now the mother of these little ones and the last thing you want is a stinky baby!



WEANING



INTRODUCING SOLID FOODS

-  At 4 weeks of age you should start slowly introducing solids. Food will be provided by the shelter. Only give the brand of food provided to you.
-  Puppies should be supervised with offering soaked biscuits as they could still choke or inhale too much. Kittens should receive a very small amount of wet to start with, dry can be introduced at week 5.
-  Soaked biscuits should be made into a thick, porridge-like consistency mixed with the kitten or puppy formula.
-  Kittens and puppies should now always have fresh water available to them at all times - select appropriate bowl.
-  Some puppies and kittens can take a little longer to express interest in solid foods – that's okay, they will adjust at their own speed, however by 6 weeks they should be eating at least some solids.
-  Kittens should now start toileting on their own, although they may need a little help when first introduced to solids. Ensure a litter tray is provided, and monitor for any signs of constipation



PARASITES, VIRUSES AND ZOOONOTIC DISEASES



ECTOPARASITES (Fleas) - Most kittens or puppies born outside are infested with fleas. It is essential to remove these parasites as soon as possible as fleas in particular are a serious health threat. Fleas ingest blood from the neonate for nourishment, a neonate can die from anemia due to blood loss from flea infestation.

ENDOPARASITES (intestinal worms) - The most common internal parasite found in puppies are: roundworm, hookworm and tapeworm. The common internal parasite found in kittens are: Coccidia and tapeworms.

VIRUSES

Feline Upper Respiratory Tract Disease or known as Cat Flu is an infectious disease affecting the upper respiratory system. Cat flu is extremely contagious and easily spreads from one kitten to another. Unfortunately when neonates catch the virus it can be very critical to their health and its a 50% chance of survival.

Symptoms of cat flu are:

Sneezing, Inappetent, Lethargy, dehydrated, nasal discharge or watery eyes.

If any of these symptoms occur, contact the foster office straight away for advice, if left too long it could be fatal to you kitten.

VIRUSES

Canine Kennel cough or known as Kennel Cough is an infectious disease that affects the respiratory system. Kennel cough is extremely contagious and easily spreads from one puppy to another.

Symptoms of kennel Cough are:

Nasal discharge, dry hacking cough, lethargy, inappetent or vomiting.

If any of these symptoms occur, contact the foster office straight away for advice, if left too long it could be fatal to your puppy.

ZOOONOTIC DISEASES

Ringworm,

Most kittens or puppies born outside are exposed to Ringworm. Ringworm is a zoonotic disease, meaning it is contagious to humans and animals. Infection can come direct from the infected animal, which then can be a carrier to the environment spores. In animals ringworm looks like a grey, dry scaly patch but can also mimic other lesions. When taking on neonates it is very rare but not impossible to catch this disease. Treatment generally takes around 4 weeks and months sometimes years to kill out of the environment.

FADING KITTEN AND PUPPY SYNDROME

Fading kitten and puppy syndrome describes neonates that decline in health and can pass away within about two weeks of birth. Neonatal puppies and kittens are extremely fragile and so there can be many causes of this syndrome including birth defects, inadequate care from the mother, poor health, internal infectious diseases and poor hygiene can often result in septicemia.

The first milk that neonates receive is colostrum. Colostrum is a protein substance high in antibodies that protect neonates from illness during its first few weeks of life. Neonates absorb these proteins during the first 24 to 36 hours after birth. Neonates that do not receive colostrum e.g. bottle feeding from birth due to cesarians or mothers passing way become immune compromised therefore are extremely vulnerable

Unfortunately there is still seemingly a lot left to learn about this syndrome by veterinarians but from personal experience some symptoms include; lethargy, vomiting, hypothermia (cold body temperature), inappetent, low in mobility at older ages.

If you experience any concern with your neonate do not hesitate to contact the foster house or shelter clinic during business hours. After hours vet nurse for after hours emergencies.

SUMMARY



Correct milk preparation steps are vital to your neonates health



Always follow the Wombaroo feeding guide to ensure they are receiving the required nutrients for their weight



Please remember to keep them clean, we wouldn't allow human babies to live in their own filth so that should translate to our furry babies too



These babies are relying on us to provide them with everything that they need to survive – if at any point you begin to rethink what you have signed up for, please ask for help ... don't allow yourself to struggle and not be able to meet their needs



Although it might seem daunting in the beginning, the outcome far outweighs the journey – the sleepless nights and constant worrying will be worth it as you see these little ones flourish and be given their second chance at life, all thanks to your sacrifices



Contact the foster office or Shelter Clinic if any symptoms of cat flu, kennel cough or ringworm occur.



YOU MADE IT!



EDUCATIONAL RECOURSES

Bottle feeding- the kitten lady

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebDPivG16HE>

10 tips for tricky bottle babies

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQZ1IB5vth8>

Additional information on diseases and infections

<https://vcahospitals.com>

Socialization Information - FearFreePets

<https://fearfreepets.com/puppy-kitten-socialization-bingo/>



CONTACT DETAILS

Foster Office Contact Details:

Tuesday – Saturday 8.30 am – 4.30 pm

Closed Sundays, Mondays and Public Holidays

Phone the Foster Office 07 55099020 and leave a message

Also email: fostering@awlqld.com.au

During business hours you can also call AWLQ

Companion Animal Support Centre

07 5509 9000 and ask to be put through

You can also call this number on a Monday for any medical concerns

For any medical concerns relating to a foster animal on Public Holidays or after hours phone the on-call Vet Nurse 0438191242

THANK YOU!

