

How to Construct a False Nest to Renest a Nestling Bird:

1. Get a plastic butter tub or similar plastic container (large enough to fit the baby with space for the parents to perch on the side.)
2. Punch holes in the bottom for drainage.
3. If you have the nest, place it inside the container. If you only have part of the nest or do not have the nest, supplement with dried grass, pine needles, leaves, or other natural materials
4. Secure container to tree by nailing it or using another method that is stable (mom will need to be able to land on it). **Recommended height is 10-15 feet from ground.**
5. Place the babies in the container.
6. Go inside and monitor from a window (best option) or back far enough away that you do not prevent the mom from coming to the nest (at least 40 feet).
7. Watch continually rather than just spot check, or you may miss the mom. Watch for at least an hour to see if mom begins caring for the babies. If not, call a wildlife center or rehabilitator.

OR visit our website (<https://www.houstonhumanewildlife.org/>), go to the “Songbirds & Doves” page from the “Found an Animal?” page, and watch the video!

<https://www.houstonhumanewildlife.org/found-an-animal/songbirds/>



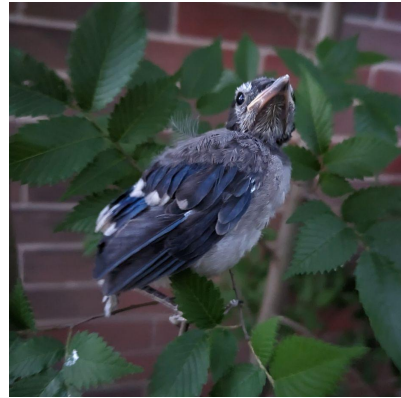
**PLEASE AVOID FEEDING ANY BABY ANIMALS
UNLESS YOU ARE A LICENSED REHABILITATOR.**

What is a Fledgling? It is normal for baby birds to “fledge” from the nest once they are almost fully-feathered and hopping around independently. During this time, they jump out of the nest and are cared for by the parents for up to 10 days while they learn to fly and find food.

Nestling



Fledgling



How to Reunite a Fledgling Baby Bird with the Parents:

1. Return the baby bird to the location where it was found (or the nearest green space to where it was found).
2. Keep all people and pets away from the area.
3. Go inside and monitor from a window (best option) or back far enough away that you do not prevent the mom from coming to the baby (at least 40 feet).
4. **Watch continually rather than just spot check**, or you may miss the mom. Watch for at least an hour to see if mom begins caring for the baby.
5. If the parent does not return, place the baby bird in a cardboard box with airholes and tape the box shut.
6. Call us to schedule an appointment to bring the baby bird in to receive further care at 713-468-8972.
7. **Please avoid feeding baby birds of any age. This can cause damage to their respiratory and digestive systems.**

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