

OTHER ANIMALS

Bats

Always wear protective gloves or pick up with a towel. A bat will bite when frightened and could carry Rabies.

Sometimes adult bats are found exhausted or young bats have fallen from their mother, both need a little help. Put the bat in a secure box with small holes in lid, the box should be the size of a shoe box. Scrunch a tea towel and put it at one side for the bat to climb on or into. They like to be able to hang upside down.

The bat can be offered a drink at regular intervals using a small paint brush dipped in pre boiled cool water. Put the box somewhere warm and quiet. A hot water bottle against the outside of the box would help with the warmth.

At dusk take the box outside and put it on its side on top of a wall or ledge, to allow the bat the crawl out and drop off to be able to fly. Make sure it is near the roost or where you found it if it is a baby and the mother should come for it.

Keep watch for cats or just in case the bat can't fly. If after 20 minutes the bat hasn't tried to leave or the mother hasn't come. Take it back indoors to a warm and quiet place and call your local bat organisation or a Phoenix carer straight away, they will advise you what to do next. A bat with a tear in its wing will not be able to fly, but it will heal in time.

If your bat goes to a carer make sure you tell them exactly where you found the bat and if possible where the roost is, a bat will need to be returned to the roost area when recovered.

Birds

In the spring, you may come across fledglings (baby birds) who have fallen from the nest. With care, you can try and put them back in the nest. Unless they are injured, it is best to leave them be. Many species, for example, blackbird fledglings, will leave their nest before they can fly properly. Their parents will feed them for up to 3 weeks.

Perhaps think to keep the cat in for this time!

For adult birds, use a towel or clothing to capture the bird. Wear gloves and be careful of talons and beaks. Never tie the beak with tape. Don't feed it without advice. Place the bird in a box (not a cage), keep it somewhere safe and quiet, and then seek the help of a professional whether this be a Phoenix contact (above), your local vet or one of the contacts below.

Baby Hares and Roe Deer

If you find these alone, please leave them alone. It's entirely natural for the mother to leave them for long periods.